

**A wise son brings joy to his father,  
but a foolish son is a grief to his mother**  
**Proverbs 10:1 – A Proverbial Story**  
**By Ted Hildebrandt with Chatgpt**

In a little village surrounded by shimmering green forests, there lived a boy named Leo. Leo was ten years old, curious as a squirrel, and loved asking questions about everything he saw. His father, Hugo, was a kind and hardworking carpenter who made beautiful wooden furniture and toys for the whole village.

One sunny morning, while Leo was exploring the woods, he stumbled upon something unusual — a tall, ancient tree with leaves that shimmered like emeralds. To his surprise, the tree spoke!

“Hello, young Leo,” the tree boomed gently.

Leo’s eyes widened. “A talking tree? How is that possible?”

The tree chuckled. “I am the Wisdom Tree. I’ve been standing here for hundreds of years. I speak only to those who seek knowledge and wisdom with a kind heart.”

Leo’s face lit up. “That’s me! I want to know everything!”

The tree nodded. “Then listen closely. Today, I shall teach you an important proverb: *A wise son brings joy to his father*. Do you know what that means?”

Leo thought for a moment, then shook his head. “Not really.”

“It means,” said the tree, “that when a child makes good, thoughtful choices and shows kindness and courage, it makes their parents proud and happy.”

Leo scratched his head. “I think I get it... but how do I become wise?”

“By listening, learning, and choosing what is right, even when it’s hard,” the tree replied.

Just then, Leo heard a rustling in the bushes. Out popped his friend Max, holding a small, injured bird. “Leo! I found this bird, but I don’t know what to do!”

Leo remembered what the tree had just told him. He carefully took the bird and examined its broken wing. “We should take it to Mr. Simon, the animal doctor,” Leo said.

“Why not just leave it here so we can keep playing,” Max argued.

Leo shook his head. “No. Doing what’s right is more important than having more fun.”

Max sighed, but followed Leo to Mr. Simon’s cottage. The old doctor smiled as he carefully bandaged the bird’s wing. “Good work, Leo. You made the wise choice.”

When Leo returned home, his father was waiting. “Where have you been, son?”

Leo told him everything about the talking tree, the injured bird, and the decision he made. Hugo’s face beamed with pride “I’ve talked to that old oak tree a time or two myself. “I’m so proud of you, Leo. You’ve shown kindness, courage, and wisdom today. You’ve brought joy to my heart.”

Leo grinned, feeling warm inside. He glanced out the window toward the forest and thought he saw the Wisdom Tree’s leaves shimmering, as if it were smiling too.

From that day on, Leo remembered the tree’s lesson, always trying to make wise choices. And every time he did, his father’s heart was filled with joy. The ancient proverb from the Bible was right: **A wise son brings joy to his father, but a foolish son is a grief to his mother. Proverbs 10:1**

