

SUBJECT: Seek Wisdom

BIBLE BASIS: Lesson Scripture:
Proverbs 2:1-5

BIBLE TRUTH:
Obedience to God brings godly wisdom

MEMORY VERSE: Proverbs 3:13

Lesson Aim:
**That we will learn blessings come
from acquiring godly wisdom**

Introduction

- What is the difference between a wise person and a foolish person? In the book of Proverbs, the difference usually has nothing to do with education. Many of us can name someone with a college degree who acts like a fool on a regular bases. We may be able also to point to a person who never graduated from high school , yet has good judgment or wisdom.
- In proverbs, wisdom is a matter of how one responds to the will of God. The wise person is the one who knows right from wrong from Gods perspective an chooses to do the right thing. The foolish person is the one who knows right from wrong from Gods perspective and chooses to do the wrong thing.
- So foolishness is not a matter of ignorance and wisdom is not a matter of education. Both the wise and the foolish are assumed to be educated in the ways of God, knowing right from wrong. The fools consistently disregards Gods standard and freely do the wrong thing. (Sin)
- The key word for the book of Proverbs is wisdom. Wisdom is a matter of the heart, not the mind alone. James. 3:13-17
- In proverbs, wisdom is actually pictured as a lovely woman who calls to men to follow her into a life of blessing and success. Prov.8:1-5

The Three If's

- Proverbs 2:1-5 My son, **if** thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; [2] So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; [3] Yea, **if** thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; [4] **If** thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; [5] Then shalt thou understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God.
- Solomon was eager to teach his children how to live as God intended them to. He mentions three ifs that will lead to understanding the fear of the Lord and the knowledge of God which leads to wisdom. Job. 28:28, Ps.1:7
- The first if is: you must be receptive to the truth if it is to take root. Once you hear it you needs to hide it so it is available when you need it. Ps. 119:11
- To incline thine ear unto wisdom means we must actively listen to wisdom. Wisdom must pass through the ear gate to the heart to impact our lives. Rom. 10:13-17, Prov. 4:23
- The second if is: you must actively participate in the pursuit of wisdom. It should dominate our lives and involve much study along with prayer. 2Tim 2:15, James 1:5-8
- The third if is: you must seek wisdom as if it were a silver mine. To often we profess our desire to know Gods ways but show little passion for it. Heb. 11:6,

Wisdom Of The Heart Not The Head

- Proverbs 3:1 My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: [2] For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee. [3] Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: [4] So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.
- Solomon realizes the danger of our children only having a head knowledge of God and forgetting what we taught them in their youth. Ecc. 12:1.
- We must ask the Sprit to write the Word on our hearts less we forget. James 1:21
- Gods desire is that the moral law be deeply etched into the hearts of His people. This was the blessing that was spoken of in the prophecies of the New Covenant. Jer.31:33-34, Heb 8:10-13
- We are reminded of the promise of a long life and peace that wisdom will bring to both the faithful and their children. Eph. 6:1-3
- We must receive the Word every opportunity we have in class, in church services, through reading. 1Tim 4:13, 2:15,
- The better you know your Bible, the better you will know Gods will for your life. Matt 4:4, 1Thes. 5:18, 2Corn 3:1-2,
- The keys to godly behavior are given here: mercy and truth. The person who lives a merciful and truthful life will find favor with God and people. To be merciful is to have a forgiving spirit and not be mean spirited or judgmental. Mat. 18:20-22

In God We Trust

- [5] Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. [6] In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.
- It is hard to conceive of better advice as one seeks to navigate this treacherous world.
- Solomon does not teach that Christians should not think and consider the facts when making decisions. Rather, it means that we should not trust our own understanding from our prospective only: we must ask God to direct us. Prov. 12:15, Prov.14:12, How prone we are to trying to figure things out on our own! We take Gods gifts of the mind and use that mind to exclude Him! God wants us to think, but we need to make sure all our reasoning are laid before Him and guided by the Spirit. Isa. 55:8-9
- At the heart of every godly life is faith. We cannot make it on our own strength or intellect. We cannot see God with our eyes. 2Corn. 4:18
- We must put ourselves in His care. Trusting Him as a child does his father. This trust must not be half-hearted. 1Peter 5:6-7, James 1:5
- If we really trust God, we will not lean or depend or fall back on our own understanding, but, we will obey Him. Act 5:32.
- We may think that our own wisdom is sufficient, but it is not, we need the wisdom of God. 1Cor. 2:3-8, John 15:5

Wisdom The Hidden Treasure

- Proverbs 3:13 Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. [14] For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold. [15] She is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her. [16] Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honour. [17] Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. [18] She is a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her: and happy is every one that retaineth her.
- Proverbs teaches us that wisdom and understanding will ultimate bring happiness and be **more** rewarding than wealth. This does not mean that wealth and wisdom are incompatible. We can be wise wealthy and happy. We can be wise, poor, and happy. We cannot be foolish wealthy and happy.
- The truths of the Word must be dug out and put through the furnace of personal experience. Wisdom must be minted into spiritual coins that we can keep in our treasury for future use. Matt. 13:52.
- Solomon went on to say that wisdom from above can produce length of day, riches, and honor. This promise had been given to him by God at Gibeon early in his reign. 1 King 3:5-14
- Solomon says wisdoms price is far above rubies and is able to do for you beyond what you could ever ask or think. Eph. 3:20

Case Study

- God will never violate your will. God created us, freewill moral agents, to decide for ourselves. Gen. 2:16-17
- Power is the ability to walk away from something you desire to protect something else you love. Joseph was not turned off by Potephers wife. Its not that he didn't want to, but he loved God more than he loved himself. John 14:15, Pro. 6:20
- Samson could have walked away from Delilah but he didn't. He decided to obey the lust of the flesh. Gal 6:7-8
- Men decide their habit, habits decide their future. What you do daily determines what happens in your future. Matt. 4:4
- Champions make the decisions to create the future they desire. Losers make decisions that effects their present. The rich young ruler made a short term decision which had long term consequences. Mar 10:17-22
- The seasons of your life will change every time you decide to use your faith . The timing of the seasons are decided by you, obedience shortens the time.
- Those who don't respect your time will not respect your wisdom either. You will not be an achiever without the management of time.
- Will God allow you to experience failure? Yes or no Pro.16:18, 1John 2:16, Luke 22: 31-34

Case Study

- What you fail to master in your life will eventually master you. God told Saul to kill all the Amalekites, he didn't and the Amalekites ended up killing Saul. The waves of "yesterday disobedience will return on shores of your tomorrows.
- God will never advance your next instruction beyond your last act of disobedience. This is why the lamp is on our feet and not on our heads. Ps. 119:105
- You will never outgrow warfare so you must learn to fight. We fight for the position of victory We don't fight for survival we fight for possession., 1Corn. 15:57, 2Corn 10:4, 1Tim 6:12
- Wisdom is the principle thing it determines winning and losing.
- The difference between right and wrong, sorrow and joy, prosperity and poverty, peace and confusion, is wisdom.
- Those who created the pains of your past don't control the pleasure of your tomorrows, study principles not people.
- What you make happen for others, God said, I will make happen for you. Eph 6:8
- Jesus, in the garden, was willing to suffer in the present for what he saw in his future. Heb 12:1-2