

The Beginning of Wisdom

Proverbs 1:1-7, 2:1-11, 12, 16, 20, 4:7-9

Your Need for Wisdom and
How to Receive it.

1.1-7

The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel: for gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight; for receiving instruction in prudent behavior, doing what is right and just and fair; for giving prudence to those who are simple, knowledge and discretion to the young— let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance— for understanding proverbs and parables, the sayings and riddles of the wise.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction

2.1-11, 12, 16, 20

My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding — indeed, if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.

For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. He holds success in store for the upright, he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless, for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones.

Then you will understand what is right and just and fair—every good path.

For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul. Discretion will protect you, and understanding will guard you.

Wisdom will save you from evil people...

Wisdom will save you also from the immoral woman...

Thus you will walk in the ways of the good and keep to the paths of the righteous.

4.7-9

The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom.

Though it cost all you have, get understanding.

Cherish her, and she will exalt you; embrace her, and she will honor you.

She will give you a garland to grace your head and present you with a glorious crown.”

**“At TED brilliance is rampant!
The good news is that you
don’t need to be brilliant to be
wise. The bad news is that
without wisdom, brilliance isn’t
enough. [Brilliance] is likely
to get you and other people
into as much trouble as
anything else.”**

-Barry Schwartz: Our Loss of Wisdom (TED TALK)

**Raw Intelligence is knowing
“THAT”**

**Emotional Intelligence
(wisdom) is knowing “HOW”**

Not just how, but why and when.

**Wisdom: Doing the right thing in
the right time in the right way.**

I see some Christians dating non-exclusively or serial dating such as going through 6 different girls in six months. Is that healthy? Is that godly? Is that protecting their brother or sisters heart?

What are Biblical physical boundaries in dating and why are physical boundaries in dating important for maturing in Christ?

Is it ok to date someone who is less spiritually "mature" or prioritized God less? Should we be on the same level or similar or is it ok to have a wide discrepancy?

**Wisdom is practical
theology for living a
day-to-day godly life in
a complicated world.**

-Duvall, Hays. Grasping God's Word

Wisdom...

**“for doing what is right
and just and fair
(virtuous).”**

Prov 1.3

**What is right and just
and fair?**

**“There is a way that
appears to be right, but in
the end it leads to death.”**

-Prov 14.12

Prov 10.4 Lazy hands make for poverty, but diligent hands bring wealth.

Prov 14.20 The poor are shunned even by their neighbors, but the rich have many friends

Prov 14.21 It is a sin to despise one's neighbor, but blessed is the one who is kind to the needy.

Prov 14.31 Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.

“The Lord brought me forth as the first of his works,
before his deeds of old; I was formed long ages ago,
at the very beginning, when the world came to be.

When there were no watery depths, I was given birth,
when there were no springs overflowing with water;
before the mountains were settled in place, before the hills,
I was given birth, before he made the world or its fields
or any of the dust of the earth.

I was there when he set the heavens in place, when he
marked out the horizon on the face of the deep, when he
established the clouds above and fixed securely the
fountains of the deep,

when he gave the sea its boundary so the waters would not
overstep his command, and when he marked out the
foundations of the earth.

Then I was constantly at his side. I was filled with delight
day after day, rejoicing always in his presence, rejoicing in
his whole world and delighting in mankind.

“Now then, my children, **listen to me!** (Prov 8.22-32)

**The goal of biblical
wisdom from God is
deep and abiding
character.**

**The right thing at the wrong
time is wrong:**

Prov 27.14

**If anyone loudly blesses their
neighbor early in the morning,
it will be taken as a curse.**

Wisdom is a combination of knowing the law (say thou shall not steal), understanding the law (how is it to be applied in various circumstances) contemplating the meaning and reason for the law (what does stealing do? what is the importance of personal property?), and living on the path to where the law points (be respectful, just, generous, honest).

Getting Wisdom:

Proverbs 2:2-5

**turning your ear to wisdom and
applying your heart to understanding-
indeed, if you call out for insight and
cry aloud for understanding,
and if you look for it as for silver and
search for it as for hidden treasure,
then you will understand the fear of
the Lord and find the knowledge of
God.**

While Jesus was having dinner at Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were eating with him and his disciples, for there were many who followed him. When the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw him eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples: "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

On hearing this, Jesus said to them, **"It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."**

Mark 2.15-17

“In God you come up against something which is in every respect immeasurably superior to yourself. Unless you know God as that—and, therefore, know yourself as nothing in comparison—you do not know God at all. As long as you are proud, you cannot know God. A proud man is always looking down on things and people; and, of course, as long as you are looking down, you cannot see something that is above you.”

-Lewis, Mere Christianity

**“in Christ are hidden
all the treasures of
wisdom and
knowledge”
Colossians 2.3-4**