

THE IMPORTANCE OF GAINING GODLY WISDOM



**In the book of Proverbs we read,
“He who gets wisdom loves his own soul; He who
keeps understanding will find good.” (Proverbs 19:8)**

**To realise our full potential in life we need God’s
continual guidance and wisdom because life is full of
important choices to make – God always knows what is
best for us in every area of our life and what He has
planned for our life – A life full of purpose and meaning**

When asked in a visitation by the LORD in a dream what he wanted, King Solomon asked for wisdom. He knew the great responsibility he had in being King of Israel and that He needed God's help and wisdom

We see this in the book of 1 Kings:

“At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask! What shall I give you?” **(1 Kings 3:5)**



“Now, O LORD my God, You have made Your servant king instead of my father David, but I am a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in.

“And Your servant is in the midst of Your people whom You have chosen, a great people, too numerous to be numbered or counted.” **(1 Kings 3:7-8)**

“Therefore give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?”

“The speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.”



“Then God said to him: Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked long life for yourself, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have asked the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern justice, **(1 Kings 3:9-11)**

“behold, I have done according to your words; see, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you.

“And I have also given you what you have not asked: both riches and honour, so that there shall not be anyone like you among the kings all your days.”

(1 Kings 3:12-13)



An example of Solomon's Wisdom

A Wise Ruling (1 Kings 3:16-28)

Now two prostitutes came to the king and stood before him. One of them said, "My Lord, this woman and I live in the same house. I had a baby while she was there with me. The third day after my baby was born, this woman also had a baby. We were alone; there was no one in the house but the two of us".

"During the night this woman's son died because she lay on him. So she got up in the middle of the night and took my son from my side while I your servant was asleep. She put him by her breast and put her dead son by my breast. The next morning, I got up to nurse my son—and he was dead! But when I looked at him closely in the morning light, I saw that it wasn't the son I bore."

The other woman said, "No! The living one is my son; the dead one is yours."

- Life is full of important choices



- We have a very real adversary who is out to destroy all the good things that God has planned for our life and who is continually seeking *to pull us away from living for the Lord*
- There is no better place than being in the centre of God's will for our life

- We can get advice from many different sources but what we need is to gain godly wisdom that will help us to make good choices so that we can build our lives on a firm foundation



- GOD'S PLAN FOR OUR LIFE UNFOLDS OVER TIME

You're Unique & God has Plans for You

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." Ephesians 2:10 AMP



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The Apostle Paul wrote,

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:10)

In the book of Psalms we read,

“The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD and He delights in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; For the LORD upholds him with His hand.” **(Psalm 37:23-24)**



For this reason we continually need wisdom to know:

i) What to do in each season of our life



ii) When to do things

(God's timing is always perfect),

and

iii) How to do things best

(God's ways are higher than our ways)



The bible says a lot about the importance of gaining godly wisdom

- In the book of Hosea we read, “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge...” (Hosea 4:6)

- In the book of Proverbs we read,

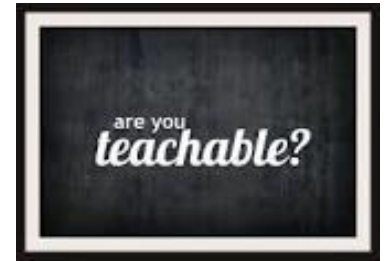
“Receive my instruction, and not silver,
And knowledge rather than choice gold;
For wisdom *is* better than rubies,
And all the things one may desire cannot be
compared with her.” (Proverbs 8:10-11)



- It is always important to remind ourselves that **God knows what is best for us IN THE LONG RUN** - God sees the bigger picture and knows what and who we need in our life to fulfil our God given destiny
- Often our preparedness to make short term sacrifices and to wait for God's timing is what positions us to receive God's favour and blessing upon our lives in the long run
- It is as we continually trust the Lord during the wilderness seasons of our life that we eventually see the breakthroughs and miracles in our life



So how can we consistently gain godly wisdom so that we can continually make right choices in life so that we fulfil our God given potential in Christ



1) We need to have a teachable spirit

We need to be prepared to have godly people speaking into our lives - people that will speak correction into our life if need be, because they do not want us to make poor choices in life - Not just people who will say what we want to hear

In the book of Proverbs we read, “Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.” (Proverbs 27:6)

In the book of Proverbs we read,

“Give *instruction* to a wise *man*, and he will be still wiser; Teach a just *man*, and he will increase in learning.” **(Proverbs 9:9)**



- **Being teachable helps us to learn from the experiences of others, so that we can make better choices in life and realise our full potential in life**
- **Having a teachable spirit will also invariably save us from much hardship and pain in life that comes from making wrong choices in life**

2) We need to continually ALLOW the LORD to lead us and to direct our steps in life

- We must purposely choose to allow God to direct our steps in life
- **God knows what is best for us and what He has planned for our life**
- We need to simply learn to commit our plans to the Lord on a daily basis
- **In the book of Proverbs we read,**
“Commit your works to the LORD, and your thoughts will be established.” **(Proverbs 16:3)**



It is so important that we allow God to be involved in every area of our life – God knows what is best for us in every aspect of our life



In the book of Proverbs we read,

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.” **(Proverbs 3:5-6)**

We must simply allow the Holy Spirit to guide and direct our steps in life – This is a great key to continually making choices that are in line with God’s unfolding plan for our life

The Holy Spirit will always caution us if we are about to make a wrong choice in life

Jesus Himself said,

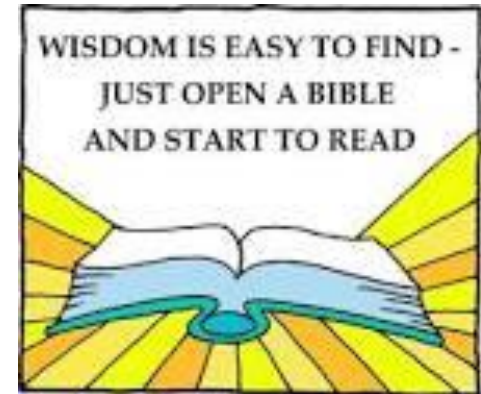
“However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.”

(John 16:13)



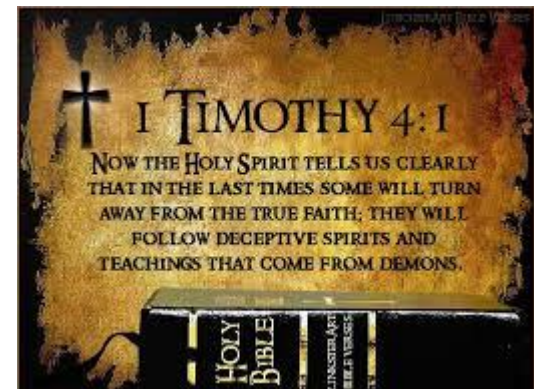
3) We need to continually make time to spend in God's Word – The bible is full of wisdom for life

- The bible is full of wisdom to help us to do life well



- As we apply God's Word to our life we build our lives on a firm foundation

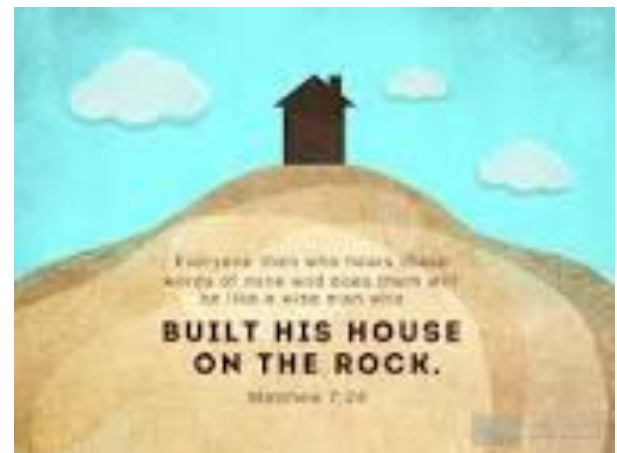
- Rejecting God's Word will lead to deception in our life



Jesus Himself said,

“Therefore, whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the **rock**; and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

(Matthew 7:24-25)

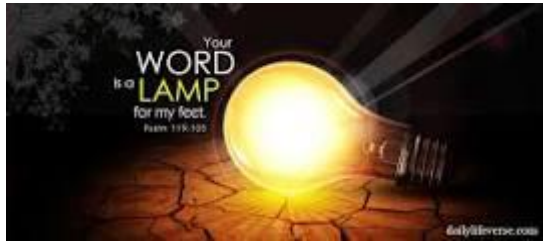


“But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand; and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.” (Matthew 7:26-27)



Gaining wisdom from God’s Word and applying it to our life, will help us to remain strong during the trials and temptations of life. It will also help to prevent us from making wrong choices in life that could cause us much pain and suffering

- God will speak clarity and direction into our lives through His Word. (A RHEMA word in season as the Holy Spirit *highlights a passage of Scripture that relates to our current situation*)



- **The Psalmist wrote, “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” (Psalm 119:105)**
- **God will continually give us guidance and direction for our life through His Word that relates to our current circumstances to help us to make right choices in life**

- What the Holy Spirit directs us to do in life will never contradict God's Word.



- So if we think that the Holy Spirit has told us to do something, but it contradicts the Word of God, it wasn't the Holy Spirit speaking to us
- The Word of God therefore helps us to test and authenticate what we believe the Holy Spirit has said to us and to confirm whether or not the counsel that we have received from others is godly wisdom or not

4) We need to lead a lifestyle of prayer where we continually involve God in all that we do in life

- Gaining God’s wisdom helps us to consistently make good choices in life. This is a great key to enjoying the life and life more abundantly that Jesus spoke of
- **This is why the Apostle Paul emphasised the importance of having a lifestyle of prayer**
- **The Apostle Paul wrote,**
“pray without ceasing,”
(1 Thessalonians 5:17)



- Bad choices in life have the potential to have life-long implications



- The enemy loves to complicate the lives of believers to negatively affect their ability to live for the Lord and to stop them from making a great impact in this world for eternity
- God is always willing to give us wisdom to help us in life so that we can fully appropriate all that He has planned for our life

In the book of James we read,

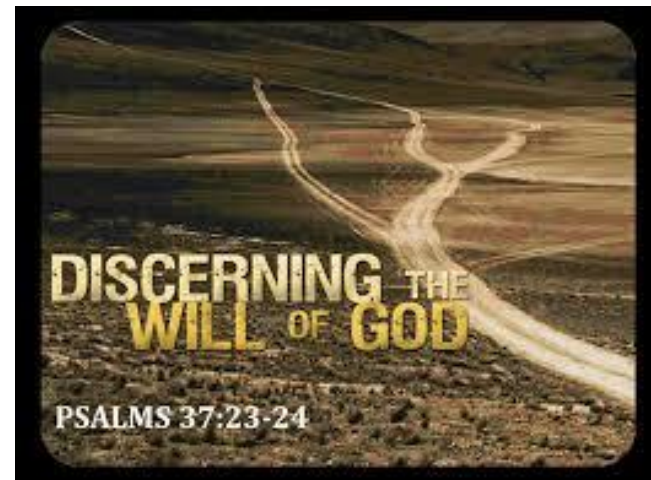
“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.”

(James 1:5)



We continually need God’s wisdom to know what to do, when to do things and how to do things if we are to see all that He has planned for our life come to pass – PRAYER HELPS US TO RECEIVE ONGOING GUIDANCE FROM THE LORD

Prayer helps us to continually gain wisdom from God to make choices in life that help us to stay in the will of God for our life



The Apostle Paul wrote,

“See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.” (Ephesians 5:15-17)

Continually remaining in the will of God for our life is a great key to experiencing God's ongoing favour and blessing upon our life



In the book of Proverbs we read,

**“The blessing of the LORD makes *one* rich,
And He adds no sorrow with it.” (Proverbs 10:22)**

Doing things God’s way and following His plan for our life, is a great key to enjoying the peace of God which surpasses all understanding

- Making time to spend ALONE with the Lord on a regular basis is crucial



- Daily we need wisdom to do life well and to see God's plan for our life unfolding.
- Spending time with the Lord each day helps us to gain His perspective for our life. This is a great key to seeing our days running more smoothly and helps us to recognise God given opportunities when they come our way in life

- Spending time **ALONE** with the **LORD** is a great key to hearing from God – We must not get too busy in life
- **It is in isolation that we receive revelation from God**
- One God idea has the potential to turn our circumstances around
- **How important it is that we continually make time to hear from God so that we can receive His counsel and guidance for our life**



In the book of Jeremiah we read,

**“For who has stood in the counsel of the LORD,
And has perceived and heard His word? Who has
marked His word and heard it?” (Jeremiah 23:18)**



The word of the LORD came to the Prophet Jeremiah in prison,

**“Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.”
(Jeremiah 33:3)**

CALL
TO ME AND I WILL
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JEREMIAH 33:3



The Apostle Paul prayed for God to give the Christians in Ephesus spiritual wisdom and understanding

The Apostle Paul wrote, “Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,” **(Ephesians 1:15-17)**



How we too need to pray for wisdom from God especially given the days that we are now living in

5) We need to connect with AND allow other godly mature believers to speak into our life

- Being connected to other mature Christians is a great key to growing in our walk with the Lord and to gaining spiritual insight
- **The people that we associate with in life will greatly determine the degree to which we fulfil our full potential in Christ**
- Being planted in a loving bible based church is crucial given the days that we are now living in – We are now seeing a great increase in lawlessness in our world as was foretold by Jesus Christ



- Without regular fellowship with other believers our passion for the things of God will quickly grow less fervent



- The values of the world are now in so many ways so contrary to the truth contained in God's Word
- Without regular fellowship with other believers the ways of the world can begin to negatively influence the way that we live our life. This is especially the case for those who are new believers

- There is a cleansing effect when we gather together with other Christians as we become accountable both before God and to other believers



- God's presence helps to bring conviction and change to our lives when we meet with other believers.
- The Holy Spirit also ministers to us through other Christians when we fellowship with other believers.

The Apostle John wrote,

“But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.” (1 John 1:7)

The bible makes it clear that there is wisdom in a multitude of counsellors – *Having godly mentors and mature Christians in our life helps us to receive godly counsel and to be accountable to others*

In the book of Proverbs we read,

**“Where there is no counsel, the people fall; But in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.”
(Proverbs 11:14)**

“Without counsel, plans go awry, But in the multitude of counsellors they are established.” **(Proverbs 15:22) AND**



6) The importance of having a healthy fear of God

(It helps us to have healthy boundaries in what we do and don't do in life)

- When we love the Lord and have a healthy fear of God, we will always seek to live in a way that glorifies God

What is a healthy fear of God?

- *The awesome reverence of God deriving from being sensitive to His glorious, holy and majestic Person resulting in respect and obedience.*
- *Reverence is a feeling or attitude of deep respect tinged with awe (dictionary.com)*



- Having a healthy fear of God stops us from making poor choices that could cause us to stumble and fall in our walk with the Lord

- Having a healthy fear of God causes us to seek the Lord for His counsel when we are feeling convicted of an intended course of action or are uneasy about a certain situation
- **In the book of Proverbs we read,**
“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, But fools despise wisdom and instruction.” **(Proverbs 1:7)**



- Having a healthy fear of God will cause us to avoid those things that would pull us back into old patterns of sin



- **In the book of Proverbs we read,**
“Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and depart from evil. It will be health to your flesh, And strength to your bones.” **(Proverbs 3:7-8)**

So in conclusion six keys that can help us to gain godly wisdom in life to enable us to make good choices in life are:

1) We need to have a teachable spirit



**2) We need to continually ALLOW the LORD to lead us and to direct our steps in life
(This needs to be a daily choice)**

3) We need to continually make time to spend in God's Word – The bible is full of wisdom for life

- 4) We need to lead a lifestyle of prayer where we continually involve God in all that we do in life**
- 5) We need to connect with AND allow other godly mature believers to speak into our life**
(There is wisdom in a multitude of counsellors),
and
- 6) The importance of having a healthy fear of God**
(It helps us to have healthy boundaries in what we do and don't do in life and helps us to make right choices in life that enables us to realise our *full potential in Christ*)



So may I finish by encouraging you to always seek after godly wisdom so that you will build your life on a firm foundation and see all that God has planned for your life coming to pass. *I will finish with one last Scripture from the book of Isaiah:*

“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.” **(Isaiah 55:8-9)**

