

ONLINE SERMON
LIVING BEYOND GOOD INTENTIONS
Part 2 of 2
DR. LARRY LAMB – AUGUST 2, 2020

EPHESIANS 5.15

So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise.

Wise people know that delayed gratification proves to be wiser than going full throttle toward unbridled gratification.

2. APPLY PRELIMINARY DECISION-MAKING

*When is the best time to decide to give our best at work?

Before we get to work. People get hired for what they can do and fired for who they are.

*When is the best time to decide to not have three plates of food?

Before eating.

*The best time to decide to stop drinking is not sitting on a stool at the bar while contemplating the empty glass.

PROVERBS 9.9

Instruct the wise, and they will be even wiser. Teach the righteous, and they will learn even more.

THINK STEPS

1. Get serious about pruning. Prune back to become a flourishing you.
Pruning isn't about death, but life.

- * Prune a **habit** that is damaging.
- * Prune a **decision** that creates a faulty foundation.
- * Prune a **relationship** that is draining or even sinful.

2. We need an outspoken person that we've given an all-access pass to our lives. They will be relentless with their guidance and prayer.
The key: You feel safe with this person.

People don't drift toward wisdom; it is pursued by asking a Holy God for it without shame.

EPHESIANS 5.15

So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise.

Dear God,

I know that I am on the wrong path. I admit that I am a sinner on the road headed away from You. I want to turn around and journey with You on the road to eternal life. I know that I cannot do that by myself. I know that You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to die for my sins. Right now, I trust in Jesus as the only One who can provide true life, the life that is found in You. I trust in Jesus as the One who did for me what I cannot do for myself. I trust in Jesus as the only One who can place me in an eternal relationship with You. In Jesus' Name. Amen.