

Three Fundamental Overall Truths

I. Fools Love Stupidity

Sadly, people who are foolish love and glorify wrong and stupid things. Because they love and glorify wrong things, they continue in them. It's a trap. Their love for stupidity keeps them foolish.

Proverbs 1:22 (NIV) ²² “How long will you who are simple **love** your simple ways? How long will mockers delight in mockery and fools hate knowledge?

Proverbs 10:23 (NLT) ²³ Doing wrong is **fun** for a fool, but living wisely brings pleasure to the sensible.

Proverbs 12:15 (NLT) ¹⁵ Fools think their own way is right, but the wise listen to others.

Romans 12:2 (NLT) ² Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, **which is good and pleasing and perfect.**

II. Wisdom is a Treasure That Brings Life!

James 3:17 (NLT) Wisdom Brings Life¹⁷ But the wisdom from above is first of all pure. It is also peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. It is **full of mercy and the fruit of good deeds.** It shows no favoritism and is always sincere.

Proverbs 3:13–18 (NLT) ¹³ Joyful is the person who finds wisdom, the one who gains understanding. ¹⁴ For wisdom is more profitable than silver, and her wages are better than gold. ¹⁵ Wisdom is more precious than rubies; nothing you desire can compare with her. ¹⁶ She offers you long life in her right hand, and riches and honor in her left. ¹⁷ She will guide you down delightful paths; all her ways are satisfying. ¹⁸ Wisdom is a tree of life to those who embrace her; happy are those who hold her tightly.

III. Wisdom is Available

a. Wisdom is calling (see psalms 9 above) – God Himself, wants you to walk in wisdom!

b. Fear of Lord is the foundation of wisdom

Proverbs 9:10 (NLT) ¹⁰ Fear of the LORD is the foundation of wisdom. Knowledge of the Holy One results in good judgment.

c. Wise can become wiser

Proverbs 9:9 (NLT) ⁹ Instruct the wise, and they will be even wiser. Teach the righteous, and they will learn even more.

Proverbs 1:5 (NLT) ⁵ Let the wise listen to these proverbs and become even wiser. Let those with understanding receive guidance

How You Can Live in Wisdom:

1. Defeat Pride

– (Repent, Change, Decide, Choose)(Know God & Respect God)

James 4:6–10 (NLT) ⁶ And he gives grace generously. As the Scriptures say, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” ⁷ So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world. ⁹ Let there be tears for what you have done. Let there be sorrow and deep grief. Let there be sadness instead of laughter, and gloom instead of joy. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor.

Proverbs 18:12 (NLT) ¹² Haughtiness goes before destruction; humility precedes honor.

2. Fear The Lord, (A Serious Respect For The Lord)

Proverbs 9:10 (NLT) ¹⁰ Fear of the Lord is the foundation of wisdom. Knowledge of the Holy One results in good judgment.

3. Be Humble & Receive Understanding and Wisdom

Proverbs 11:2 (NLT) ² Pride leads to disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.

Proverbs 18:15 (NLT) ¹⁵ Intelligent people are always ready to learn. Their ears are open for knowledge.

4. Trade Foolishness for Wisdom

Proverbs 10:23 (NLT) ²³ Doing wrong is fun for a fool, but living wisely brings pleasure to the sensible.

Proverbs 16:16 (NLT) ¹⁶ How much better to get wisdom than gold, and good judgment than silver!

5. Ask God

James 1:5–6 (NLT) ⁵ If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking. ⁶ But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind.

6. Seek and Learn

Proverbs 2:1–11 (NLT) *The Benefits of Wisdom* ¹ My child, listen to what I say, and treasure my commands. ² Tune your ears to wisdom, and concentrate on understanding. ³ Cry out for insight, and ask for understanding. ⁴ Search for them as you would for silver; seek them like hidden treasures. ⁵ Then you will understand what it means to fear the Lord, and you will gain knowledge of God. ⁶ For the Lord grants wisdom! From his mouth come knowledge and understanding. ⁷ He grants a treasure of common sense to the honest. He is a shield to those who walk with integrity. ⁸ He guards the paths of the just and protects those who are faithful to him. ⁹ Then you will understand what is right, just, and fair, and you will find the right way to go. ¹⁰ For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will fill you with joy. ¹¹ Wise choices will watch over you. Understanding will keep you safe.

7. Submit and Listen

a. Wise people

Proverbs 19:20 (NLT) ²⁰ Get all the advice and instruction you can, so you will be wise the rest of your life.

b. God-given leaders

c. Gifted family

d. Holy Spirit

Isaiah 11:2 (NLT) Messianic Prophecy

² And the Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

Let those Around Us See Christians Move From Foolishness To Wisdom!

Ephesians 5:15–17 (NLT) *Living by the Spirit's Power*

¹⁵ So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. ¹⁶ Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. ¹⁷ Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do.

Colossians 3:16a (NLT) ¹⁶ Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives.

Luke 21:14–15 (NLT) ¹⁴ So don't worry in advance about how to answer the charges against you, ¹⁵ for I will give you the right words and such wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to reply or refute you!

James 3:13 (NLT) *True Wisdom Comes from God* ¹³ If you are wise and understand God's ways, prove it by living an honorable life, doing good works with the humility that comes from wisdom.

Discussion Questions or Prayer Thoughts

- Have you noticed that the foolish glorify or love stupidity or things they have done that are “wrong”?
- Have you realized Wisdom really is a treasure? Do you realize God wants you to ask for it, seek it, and have it?
- Those who don't fear (have a serious respect) for God have trouble moving into God's wisdom. Why should we or do we have a serious respect for God?
- If we are proud or prideful, we have trouble receiving additional wisdom. If we are humble, we can recognize the things God wants to teach us.
- Is there any part of your life where you actually love foolishness?
- How does God want you to obtain His wisdom? What actions should you focus on doing?
- Are you an example to people of God's amazing wisdom in your life?