

Walking in Wisdom Six Practices for Everyday Life

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge."

— Proverbs 1:7

Wisdom is more than knowing the right thing. It is learning to live in accordance with God's will.

Every day, we are being formed. Our phones, our work, our relationships, our habits, our entertainment, and the voices we listen to all shape what we love and how we live. The question isn't whether we are being formed. The question is:

Who or what is forming us?

The book of Proverbs invites us to become people whose hearts are shaped by God's wisdom. The following six practices are simple ways to slow down, pay attention, and allow God to form us into people who trust Him and walk in His ways.

Insights and prayer:



1. Ask for Wisdom

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

— James 1:5

Wisdom begins with humility. We don't have all the answers, and we don't have to.

Before you check your phone or begin your day, pause and pray:

"Lord, give me Your wisdom today. Help me to walk in Your ways rather than my own."

Then, sometime during the day, pause for sixty seconds and ask:

- Am I responding with God's wisdom or merely reacting?
- Am I trusting my own understanding or acknowledging the Lord?
- Is my heart growing in humility or self-reliance?

At the end of the day, ask:

What voices most influenced me today? Where did I see God's wisdom at work?

Where did I rely on my own understanding?

Confess where you've wandered, receive Christ's forgiveness, and thank Him that He is faithfully leading you.

Insights and prayer:

2. Let Your Words Give Grace

"A soft answer turns away wrath."

— *Proverbs 15:1*

Our words have tremendous power. They can bring life or death, healing or hurt.

Jesus reminds us that our words reveal what is happening in our hearts: "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks."

So before responding in a difficult conversation, pause and ask:

"Will these words bring life or death?"

Look for opportunities to:

- Offer a gentle answer instead of a sharp one.
- Encourage someone who needs it.
- Build someone up rather than tear them down.
- Confess and ask forgiveness when your words have wounded someone.

Ask the Holy Spirit to shape your heart so that your words increasingly reflect Jesus.

May our homes, workplaces, friendships, and church become places where our words consistently give grace.

Insights and prayer:

3. Commit Your Work to the Lord

"Commit your work to the LORD."

— *Proverbs 16:3*

Work is a good gift from God. Through our ordinary work, God allows us to participate in His work in the world.

But a good gift can become a bad master.

We can begin working to prove our worth, establish our identity, or find our ultimate purpose. Productivity can become an idol.

So before you begin your work each day, pause and pray:

"Lord, today I take this day and give it to You. I surrender it to You."

Then ask:

"How can I use the gifts and talents God has given me right where I am to serve Him and serve others?"

Whether you love your job, hate your job, are thriving, or are struggling, your work matters to God.

You don't have to make your work your identity, and you don't have to view it as meaningless.

Commit it to the Lord.

Insights and prayer:

4. Guard Your Heart

"Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life."
— Proverbs 4:23

Your heart is constantly being formed.

The question isn't whether your desires are being shaped. They are.

Who or what is shaping them?

Pay attention this week to the things that form your desires. What are you consuming? Who are you listening to? What habits are becoming normal? Where does your attention naturally go?

Then intentionally give yourself to practices that turn your heart toward Jesus.

Participate in worship.

When you confess your sins, confess them.

When you hear God's Word, listen.

When you sing, sing.

When you receive Communion, receive it as the gift of Jesus that it is.

Don't simply consume worship. **Participate in it.**

And consider other practices that turn your heart toward Jesus: Scripture, prayer, confession, silence and solitude, generosity, or fasting.

You aren't doing these things to earn God's love.

You already have it.

The Spirit is at work in you, slowly reordering your heart and teaching you to desire Jesus above everything else.

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Insights and prayer:

5. Love Difficult People

"Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."
— Matthew 5:44

Hard relationships are inevitable.

Some people need distance and wise boundaries. Some have wronged us and become enemies. Others are simply foolish and require patience.

Wisdom means learning to discern the difference.

But whatever the situation, Jesus calls us to begin with ourselves.

Before focusing on the speck in someone else's eye, examine the log in your own.

Think about the difficult relationships in your life and ask:

- Is there someone I need to avoid because they continually sow destruction?
- Is there an enemy whom God is calling me to love, serve, or pray for?
- Is there a foolish person who requires patience and wise boundaries?
- What is the log in my own eye that Jesus is inviting me to address?

The pathway toward reconciliation begins with repentance.

And remember: while we were still God's enemies, Jesus loved us, pursued us, and reconciled us to the Father through His cross.

May His grace shape the way we live with even the hardest people in our lives.

Insights and prayer:

6. Release the Need to Know

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."
— Proverbs 3:5–6

When we face a big decision, we often want God to give us a detailed map.

Which job?

Which house?

Which school?

Which relationship?

Which opportunity?

Which direction?

But biblical wisdom isn't about gathering enough information to guarantee that we make the perfect decision. It is about becoming the kind of person whose heart has been formed by God's wisdom—someone who can pray, seek counsel, think carefully, make a decision, and then trust God with what we cannot control.

Earlier in Proverbs 3, we are told:

"Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you."

So don't only ask what God wants you to do with the future.

Ask:

"What would it look like to live with steadfast love and faithfulness today?"

Not tomorrow.

Not once you have the whole plan figured out.

Today.



Maybe it means choosing patience when you want to be frustrated.

Maybe it means telling the truth when it would be easier not to.

Maybe it means forgiving someone.

Maybe it means making time to pray.

Maybe it means faithfully doing the small thing God has put in front of you.

Each day, pray:

**"Jesus, I don't need to know the whole path. Help me trust You with the next step.
Show me what steadfast love and faithfulness look like today."**

Then ask:

What would it look like for me to trust God with this today?

How can I live with steadfast love and faithfulness today?

Insights and prayer:



Conclusion: Becoming Wise

The goal of wisdom isn't simply to create informed people.

It is to create formed people.

People whose hearts are being shaped by the wisdom and character of God.

So ask yourself:

What is forming me?

What am I becoming?

And most importantly:

Am I becoming more like Jesus?

We don't practice these things to earn God's love. We practice them because in Christ, we already have God's love.

Jesus is faithful even when we aren't.

So we can ask for wisdom.

We can speak words that give grace.

We can surrender our work.

We can guard our hearts.

We can love difficult people.

And we can release our need to know exactly where every path leads.

Because ultimately, the Christian life isn't about our ability to perfectly discern every path.

It is about trusting the One who walks the path with us.



"Trust in the LORD with all your heart... In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

— Proverbs 3:5–6

Insights and prayer: