

### **New Year New You. Week 3.**

**If you want a new you... you need “the right people.”**

*“If you want to make a success of 2021 you’re gonna need GOOD friends not TOXIC people.*

Life would be so much easier with **the good friends.**

Life IS so much harder with the **WRONG people** in your life.

**It’s critical in life to think through the “people” aspect of how you live. Like who are we doing life with.**

I know it’s easy for us to think success lies in ideas, execution, education, money, work... **but the key to real success in life is always people.**

What you accomplish in life is often most powerfully shaped by who you allow into you life. If you let toxic people in, you pay a staggering price.

Big idea.

**THERE ARE THREE KINDS OF PEOPLE.**

**Wise people, foolish people and evil people.**

**Essentially the difference between evil, wise people and foolish people comes down to how they deal with truth... of God and His word.**

*How people respond to the truth of God’s word determines how God responds to them and **it should determine how we choose to interact with people when it comes to relationships.***

**The wise.**

**Wise people encounter truth and *change* as a result.**

**Embracing the TRUTH is the key diagnostic of the wise person.**

**When truth present itself, the wise person and sees the light takes it in and makes adjustments.**

**They learn and grow and get better.**

#### ***Proverbs 9:8-10 New Living Translation***

*8 So don’t bother correcting mockers; they will only hate you. But correct the wise, and they will love you. 9 Instruct the wise, and they will be even wiser, Teach the righteous, and they will learn even more. 10 **Fear of the Lord is the foundation of wisdom,** Knowledge of the Holy One results in good judgment.*

## **The foolish**

**Foolish people encounter truth and don't change. Instead, they try to adjust the truth so they don't have to adjust to it.**

They don't learn and rarely change, one clinical Pyschologist **John Townsend** puts it this way , "foolish people have a flat learning curve. As a result, they tend to wreak a lot of havoc and cause damage in their own lives and the lives of others."

## **Matthew 7:26 New Living Translation**

26 But anyone who hears my teaching and doesn't obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand.

## **The evil.**

**Evil/wicked people want nothing at all to do with the truth of God and His word.**

**Finally, as hard as it is to admit, some people really are evil.**

They intend to harm you.

They want to take you down.

They don't want to see you succeed,  
they don't want to see you follow God's plan.

And as hard as it is to believe, they don't have your best interests at heart and want to see you fail.

## **Psalms 10:2-4 New Living Translation**

2 The wicked arrogantly hunt down the poor. Let them be caught in the evil they plan for others. 3 For they brag about their evil desires; they praise the greedy and curse the Lord. 4 The wicked are too proud to seek God. **They seem to think that God is dead.**

**Here's the thing you can't deal each of them the same way... they each require a different strategy.**

**Simple strategies.**

### **#1 Evil People.**

**Love them but don't let them in.**

**Eliminate evil people... from your life.**

It's not your job to try to change evil people... its your job to eliminate them from positions of influence, intimacy or proximity in your life.

**Love them from a distance**

**2 Timothy 4:14-15 Amplified Bible**

**14 Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; [but that is no concern of mine, for] the Lord will repay him according to his actions. 15 Be on guard against him yourself, because he vigorously opposed our message.**

## **#2 Foolish people.**

**Let them in, love them but don't let them close.**

Set a boundary. A boundary is not a weapon, it's a wall... to keep you safe. Keep the good in keep the bad out.

Here's why... If you let that foolish person too close... their foolishness will soon be part of your life.

## **Proverbs 14:24 New Living Translation**

24 The crown of the wise is their wealth, but the folly of fools brings folly.

**Some of us our biggest problem is that we have unwittingly given foolish people unlimited access to our lives... and they are hurting and hindering our progress bc it's just what they do.**

**Limit the fools in your life**

**Limit access.**

**Limit their voice {advice/counsel received}**

**By limiting time spent**

**The key to fools is to limit the number and limit their impact.**

**Otherwise, the cost is simply too great. Whether they mean to do damage or not, foolish people can do a lot of damage.**

## **Proverbs 29:9 New Living Translation**

9 If a wise person takes a fool to court, there will be ranting and ridicule but no satisfaction.

## **#3 Wise people...**

**Let them in! Invite them in! Be vulnerable and transparent.**

*You need as many wise people as possible in your life if you are going to change. You won't change all by yourself.*

## **Proverbs 24:6 The Passion Translation**

6 Wise strategy is necessary to wage war, and with many astute advisers you'll see the path to victory more clearly.

## **Proverbs 13:20 The Passion Translation**

20 If you want to grow in wisdom, spend time with the wise. Walk with the wicked and you'll eventually become just like them.

**We have to learn to judge every relationship by one standard: “Is this wise?”**

**Take a look in the mirror. Be the wise.**

**WIM The first place to look for wisdom, foolishness, and evil in our lives and our relationships ...is the least comfortable place to look: in the mirror.**

**James 1:23-24 The Passion Translation**

23 If you listen to the Word and don't live out the message you hear, you become like the person who looks in the mirror of the Word to discover the reflection of his face in the beginning.[a] 24 You perceive how God sees you in the mirror of the Word,[b] but then you go out and forget[c] your divine origin.

**Here's the surprise.”You really won't have to kick anyone out of your life when you are the wise. When your soul is ultra-healthy, toxic people will leave when they can't get traction or validation from you.”**