

**“Conditions and Protections”, Proverbs 2:1–11
Pastor Shawn Newberry, August 16, 2026**

Big Idea: God calls us to actively seek His wisdom, receive it into our hearts, and then walk according to it. The result is a life guarded and directed by God.

I. SEEK WISDOM — vv. 1–4

“If you receive my words... if you call out for insight... if you seek it like silver...”

A. Treasure God’s Wisdom — vv. 1–2

- What we **desire reveals what we value**.
- We long for, invest in, and pursue what we treasure.
- Wisdom is available, but we must make our ears **attentive** and incline our hearts toward understanding.
- **“I know that” does not equal “I do that.”**
- Inclining the heart means moving truth from **information to conviction and application**.
- God transforms us through the renewing of our minds (Rom. 12:2).

B. Search for Understanding — vv. 3–4

- Seek wisdom **like silver** and **hidden treasure**.
- We must remain lifelong learners—there is always room to grow.
- The closer we grow to God, the more we are transformed into His likeness (2 Cor. 3:18).
- We grow in wisdom **theologically, relationally, financially, morally, spiritually, and in love**.
- The Christian life is a lifelong pursuit of knowing God.

Principle: *Wisdom is available to everyone, but its treasures belong to those willing to seek it.*

II. RECEIVE WISDOM — vv. 5–8

“For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding...”

A. Wisdom Comes from the Lord

- We seek wisdom, but ultimately **the Lord gives wisdom**.
- True wisdom comes from God’s Word—not merely worldly understanding.
- God’s wisdom reflects His character and produces patience, kindness, gentleness, generosity, humility, peace, hope, unity, and love.

B. We Receive So That We Can Share

- Paul **received** truth from the Lord and **delivered** it to others (1 Cor. 11:23; 15:3).
- You cannot take someone where you have never been.
- You cannot teach what you do not understand.
- You cannot model what you refuse to apply.

Key Truth: **We receive so that we can share.**

C. Wisdom Protects Us

- God is a **shield** to those who walk in integrity.

- His wisdom protects us relationally, financially, spiritually, and morally.
- **The right thing is not always popular or easy—but it is always right.**
- A life shaped by wisdom becomes a testimony to others.
- Our lives can point people toward the hope found in Christ (1 Pet. 3:15–16).

Principle: *God’s wisdom does not merely inform us—it guards us and equips us to help others.*

III. WALK IN WISDOM — vv. 9–11

“Then you will understand righteousness and justice and equity, every good path...”

A. Wisdom Shows Us the Right Path

- **You walk where you are looking.**
- Understanding asks: What does this mean? What is really happening? What is the best way to respond?
- Wisdom teaches us **righteousness, justice, equity, and every good path.**

B. Wisdom Changes the Heart and Soul

- The **heart** is where we think, understand, plan, desire, choose, believe, and trust.
- The **soul** expresses our living self—our inner person.
- God’s wisdom changes the heart and produces a different kind of life.
- Following God brings **inner joy, peace, and satisfaction** greater than following our own desires.

C. Wisdom Gives Us Discretion — a Plan for Life

- Discretion means having a **plan**.
- Have a plan for temptation.
- Have a plan for spiritual growth.
- Have a plan to live above reproach.
- But discretion is not only about **what to avoid—it is about what to grab hold of.**
- Pursue Scripture, prayer, discipleship, spiritual growth, and God’s calling.
- Know what deserves your **yes** and what deserves your **no**.

Conclusion — The Pattern of Wisdom

SEEK WISDOM — Pursue God’s truth.

RECEIVE WISDOM — Allow His truth to transform and protect you.

WALK IN WISDOM — Build your life around what God has revealed.

Proverbs 2:1–11 teaches that biblical wisdom is not merely information to know but truth from God that must be sought, received, and lived out. We seek wisdom by treasuring God’s Word, remaining teachable, and pursuing understanding as diligently as someone searching for hidden treasure; yet wisdom ultimately comes from the Lord, who uses it to transform our character and guard our lives. As wisdom moves from our ears to our hearts, it changes how we think, desire, choose, and respond, enabling us to discern righteousness, justice, and the best path forward. God’s wisdom also gives us discretion—a purposeful plan for resisting temptation while intentionally pursuing Scripture, prayer, discipleship, holiness, and God’s calling. Ultimately, we receive wisdom so that we can share it: as God’s truth transforms and protects our lives, we become equipped to model that wisdom for others and point them toward the hope found in Christ.