

"The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice."
Proverbs 12:15

This is a fundamental contrast between the self-assured fool and a wise person. A fool is characterized by a strong belief in their own self-righteousness, often due to self-confidence that is misplaced when not grounded in Truth. This self-reliance stems from a lack of humility and inability to recognize personal blind spots, which are inherent in human nature due to our fallen state. In contrast, wisdom is demonstrated by the willingness to listen to counsel from others, acknowledging that one does not have all the answers. The wise person values the input of trusted friends, family, mentors, or spiritual leaders, understanding that such guidance can prevent costly mistakes and lead to better decisions.

This principle extends beyond personal decisions and includes how we interact with others. A fool reacts immediately to insults, while the prudent chooses to overlook them, focusing on greater goals rather than personal grievances. Similarly, the wise person is careful with their words, recognizing that reckless speech can cause lasting harm, whereas gentle words bring healing and Truth. This verse also serves as a reminder of God's role in guiding us, even when we act foolishly. God often uses the voices of others to draw us back to Him, reflecting His patience and love. Embracing humility and being open to advice is not a sign of weakness but a mark of true wisdom, leading to a life of discernment, peace, and alignment with God's will.

This kind of wise counsel in Proverbs 12:15 is all throughout the book of Proverbs. Over and over again, we see encouragement and exhortation to listen to wise counsel. Seek advice and surround yourself with many counselors. Because ultimately, we cannot trust ourselves. We can only trust in God, and many times God uses others in our lives to help us see things we cannot see. We all have blind spots. God uses the people in our lives to help us see that which we cannot see on our own.

It is good to seek out Godly advice from others who are in God's Word and have a God-centered view of the world because there are all kinds of things that may look right in our own eyes. Because of our depravity, we do not see perfectly. We all have blind spots, and we need Godly people to encourage us and challenge us in many ways, to be able to do what is right in God's eyes.

"Listen to advice and accept discipline, so that you may be wise the rest of your days."
Proverbs 19:20

STUDY
COMPANION
WEEK SEVEN



"IT'S NOT YOU,
IT'S ME"

MESSAGE NOTES & VERSES

WHAT STEPS CAN YOU TAKE THIS WEEK TO
APPLY WHAT YOU LEARNED AS A COUPLE?

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE:

*"Many are the plans in the mind of a man,
but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand."
Proverbs 19:21*

NOTES

OUR PRAYERS