

SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

Why Wisdom Matters

With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor
January 9, 2022



How do we live wise and fulfilled lives?

- **A Proverb is a wise saying or maxim, where truth can be expressed obscurely (ie. riddle).**

Proverbs 1:1 (NLT) “These are the proverbs of Solomon, David’s son, king of Israel.”

2 Chronicles 1:10 (NLT) “Give me the wisdom and knowledge to lead them properly, for who could possibly govern this great people of yours?”

1 Kings 3:16-28

What is the purpose of the Book of Proverbs?

Proverbs 1:2-3 (NLT) “Their purpose is to teach people wisdom and discipline, to help them understand the insights of the wise. ³ Their purpose is to teach people to live disciplined and successful lives, to help them do what is right, just, and fair.”

- **The purpose of Proverbs is to teach people Godly wisdom so we live disciplined and successful lives.**

Who is Proverbs for?

Proverbs 1:4 (NLT) “These proverbs will give insight to the simple, knowledge and discernment to the young.”

- **Wisdom is for the inexperienced so we can live successful lives.**
- **Life is a teacher & we will all make mistakes but we don’t have to make EVERY mistake.**

Proverbs 1:5-6 (NLT) “Let the wise listen to these proverbs and become even wiser. Let those with understanding receive guidance ⁶ by exploring the meaning in these proverbs and parables, the words of the wise and their riddles.”

- **Wisdom is for the experienced so we become even wiser.**

- **We are never so wise that we can’t learn.**

How is your learning posture?

Are you seeking and reflecting on God’s wisdom within the faith community?

Where does wisdom come from?

Proverbs 1:7 (NLT) “Fear of the Lord is the foundation of true knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.”

- **Godly wisdom has its foundation in God.**

Proverbs 1:7 (AMP) The [reverent] fear of the Lord [that is, worshiping Him and regarding Him as truly awesome] is the beginning and the preeminent part of knowledge [its starting point and its essence]; But arrogant fools despise [skillful and godly] wisdom and instruction and self-discipline.

- **Worshipping God is the starting point and essence of true wisdom.**

1 Corinthians 1:30-31 (NLT) “God has united you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made him to be wisdom itself. Christ made us right with God; he made us pure and holy, and he freed us from sin.³¹ Therefore, as the Scriptures say, “If you want to boast, boast only about the Lord.”

Big Idea: Wisdom is the Christ-empowered skill to live for the glory of God.

Jesus is our wisdom. And in his grace, he freely offers it to us. “I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently find me” (Prov. 8:17). If we go to Jesus for help, we will not find a cold shoulder. We’ll find nothing but love. Nothing but grace. Jesus sits on a throne of grace; not one of finger-wagging and tsk-tsks. “Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need” (Heb. 4:16) The Proverbs are the practical righteousness of Christ, his life, played out in our sanctification. Wisdom isn’t a nebulous concept, or ancient advice for life. Wisdom is draped in Nazarene flesh. Wisdom is the Ancient of Days. And now, by the gospel of grace, Jesus is our wisdom, and our righteousness, and our sanctification. J.A. Medders

So how do you grow in wisdom today?

- **Pursue wisdom by embracing a humble, learning posture.**

- **Pursue your relationship with Jesus Christ.** Proverbs Challenge

- **Pursue relationships with wise people who will make you more like Christ.**



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we
live out our identity as a
Family of Servants on Mission.

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Why Wisdom Matters

#1 of 11 - January 9, 2022

- 1) Last week we looked at the relationship between our spiritual growth and a successful and fruitful year. Where did you see God working in your life in this regard this past week? How did your action step go?
- 2) Read Proverbs 1:1-7. What is the **Context** for this passage? Where is this taking place in the book as a whole (what comes before or after)? Who is the writer and who are the recipients? Where does it fit in the Bible? What's the theme of this chapter, or passage? What's the historical and cultural context?
- 3) **Observation:** What "jumps out" in this passage? What interesting details do you observe? Is anything repeated? What questions come up about the passage? What is the major theme in the passage?
- 4) **Meaning:** What was the meaning for the original recipients? What meaning is inferred in this passage for us and what does this tell us about wisdom and how people grow in wisdom?
- 5) How is wisdom connected to Jesus Christ? Read 1 Corinthians 1:30-31. What are the implications for us as people who desire to follow Christ? What does it look like for you to live a wise life committed to the glory of Christ?
- 6) **Application:** How is God speaking to you through this passage? (Take some time for Listening Prayer). How does this passage call on you to change the way you live as you enter 2022? What will you do this week as a result of this teaching? What aspect of this teaching do you need to pass on to others?



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