

## WORDS OF WISDOM

### ❖ The PURPOSE of Proverbs.

*The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel: <sup>2</sup> for gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight; <sup>3</sup> for receiving instruction in prudent behavior, doing what is right and just and fair; <sup>4</sup> for giving prudence to those who are simple, knowledge and discretion to the young— <sup>5</sup> let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance— <sup>6</sup> for understanding proverbs and parables, the sayings and riddles of the wise.*

Proverbs 1:1-6 (NIV)

### ❖ The BENEFITS of Wisdom:

- It keeps you from bad DECISIONS.

*Then you will understand what is right and just and fair—every good path. <sup>10</sup> For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul. <sup>11</sup> Discretion will protect you, and understanding will guard you.*

Proverbs 2:9-11 (NIV)

- It keeps you from bad PEOPLE.

*Wisdom will save you from the ways of wicked men, from men whose words are perverse, <sup>13</sup> who have left the straight paths to walk in dark ways, <sup>14</sup> who delight in doing wrong and rejoice in the perverseness of evil, <sup>15</sup> whose paths are crooked and who are devious in their ways. <sup>16</sup> Wisdom will save you also from the adulterous woman, from the wayward woman with her seductive words, <sup>17</sup> who has left the partner of her youth and ignored the covenant she made before God. <sup>18</sup> Surely her house leads down to death and her paths to the spirits of the dead. <sup>19</sup> None who go to her return or attain the paths of life.*

Proverbs 2:12-19 (NIV)

- It keeps you from bad PLACES.

*Do not set foot on the path of the wicked or walk in the way of evildoers. <sup>15</sup> Avoid it, do not travel on it; turn from it and go on your way. <sup>16</sup> For they cannot rest until they do evil; they are robbed of sleep till they make someone stumble. <sup>17</sup> They eat the bread of wickedness and drink the wine of violence. <sup>18</sup> The path of the righteous is like the morning sun, shining ever brighter till the full light of day. <sup>19</sup> But the way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know what makes them stumble.*

Proverbs 4:14-19 (NIV)

### ❖ The PATH to Wisdom:

- TRUST God's ways over our OWN

*Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; <sup>6</sup> in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. <sup>7</sup> Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and shun evil. <sup>8</sup> This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones.*

Proverbs 3:5-8 (NIV)

*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.*

Proverbs 9:10 (NIV)

- SEARCH for Wisdom.

*... indeed, if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, <sup>4</sup> and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, <sup>5</sup> then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God. <sup>6</sup> For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. <sup>7</sup> He holds success in store for the upright, he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless, <sup>8</sup> for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones.*

Proverbs 2:3-8 (NIV)

*The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding. <sup>8</sup> Cherish her, and she will exalt you; embrace her, and she will honor you.*

Proverbs 4:7-8 (NIV)

- HANG on to Wisdom.

*My son, do not let wisdom and understanding out of your sight, preserve sound judgment and discretion; <sup>22</sup> they will be life for you, an ornament to grace your neck.*

Proverbs 3:21-22 (NIV)

*Hold on to instruction, do not let it go; guard it well, for it is your life.*

Proverbs 4:13 (NIV)