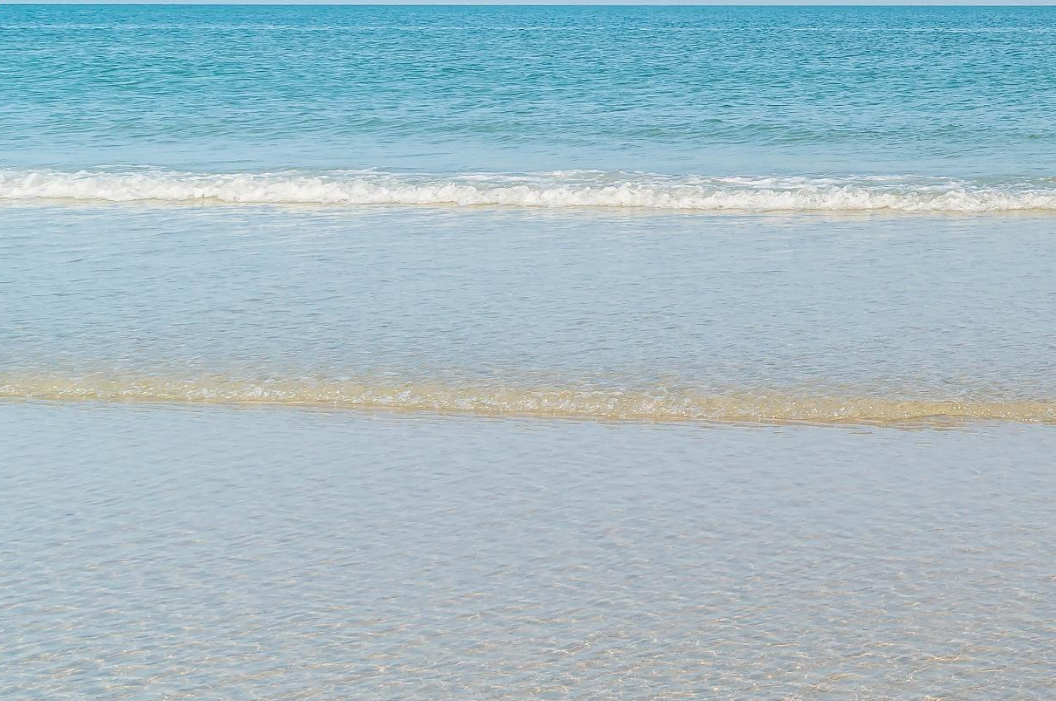


“Wisdom”
&
“Opinions”
are

**OPPOSITES**

3 Test Questions!



Purpose of Booklets

These are **short starter** Studies on **sensitive** subjects that **stir & stimulate** you toward **biblical, practical** information that show that **Jesus** has **great Answers** to some of life's **hardest Questions**.

At www.FamilyBibleStudies.TIPS & the Family Bible Study App each booklet is a free download along with a short podcast explaining each booklet.

The website and App also has:

***“One Terrific Tip to make
Family Bible Studies
Everyone’s FAVORITE time of the week!”***

The website and app also give lists of different **categories** for the booklets as well as ways to use the booklets in:

1. Bringing **friends** to **Christ**
2. As a resource for **Pastor’s sermons**
3. **Small group** Bible studies in a **church**
4. As a **Resource** for Christian **counselors**
5. Bible studies with **friends** or **co-workers**
6. For your own **personal growth & bible** study
7. Christian **business owners** to serve their **customers** or **employees**

What if I **don’t agree** with **what I read**?

There is always a good chance that I am wrong or that I have poorly communicated. I always encourage each person to research on your own. It may be that your research helps me and others to find God’s heart more clearly.

We all seek His truth by the two Bible measures of:

1. What is **clear** and **consistent** in **God’s Word** and
2. What bears the **fruit** of **Jesus** in the lives of those who follow that application?

In heaven, all of God’s purposes in God’s Word will be clear and our actions will be aligned with God’s Word. I constantly ask myself, what will we **act** like and **believe** when we are in **heaven**. This is my goal in these booklets.

“Thy kingdom come; thy **will** be **done** on **earth** as it is in **heaven**”

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Definitions of Wisdom and Opinions

Wisdom

All of Proverbs chapters 8 & 9 are about God's Wisdom.

The definition of wisdom is to “**UNDERSTAND God's Perspective.**”

Prov. 9:10 The **Fear** of the **Lord** is the **Beginning** of **Wisdom**,
and **Knowledge** of the **Holy One** is **Understanding**.

Prov. 4:7 The **Beginning** of **Wisdom** is this: **Get Wisdom**.
Though it **Cost All** you **Have**, get **Understanding**.

Prov. 2:6 For the **Lord** gives **Wisdom**; from **His Mouth** come
Knowledge and **Understanding**

Opinions

The Bible makes it clear that:

1. the **MOTIVE** of strong opinions is to try to **IMPRESS** others
2. and that “*Opinions*” are the **OPPOSITE** of “*Wisdom*”!

Prov. 18:2 **Fools** find **No Pleasure** in **Understanding** but
DELIGHT in **Airing** their **Own OPINIONS**.

Is. 5:21 Doom to you who **Think You're So Smart**, who
hold such a **High Opinion** of yourselves!

The definition of an opinion is:

“**A Strong Stance on PARTIAL Knowledge!**”

I Cor. 2:12 We don't have to rely on the
world's **Guesses** and **Opinions**

II Tim. 4:3 You're going to find that there will be times when
people will have **No Stomach** for **Solid Teaching**, but will
Fill Up on **Spiritual Junk Food**—
catchy **OPINIONS** that tickle their fancy.

Humility and an Eternal Perspective!

Humility – God’s HIGHEST Value!

After I gave everything in my life to Jesus Christ in July 1977, my entire being wanted to please Jesus and to understand what HE wanted in my heart attitudes.

The 1970s were a confusing time in the Body of Christ. There was great division between major factions of sincere Christians.

There were three main groups.

1. The FAITH movement said that FAITH is the most important thing.
2. The DISCIPLESHP movement said that DISCIPLESHIP is the most important thing.
3. The LOVE movement said that operating in the LOVE of God is the most important thing.

Within a year after becoming a Christian I was in Bible College and within three years I was in full time ministry. This gave me lots of time to do Bible Research. Over 5-7 years, I read the Bible, cover to **cover 10-15 times**. Each time I found a verse that mentioned a specific **ATTITUDE** was **important** to God, I **highlighted** it and **marked** it.

After the first time reading the Bible cover to cover, I was SHOCKED at what I found. I found HUNDREDS of verses that said that HUMILITY is the single most important attitude that God desires.

The Bible made it clear that Humility is the Doorway to Faith, the Doorway to Love and the Doorway to all Biblical Discipleship.

*Isaiah 66:2 Declares the Lord, "This is the **one I esteem**, he who is **humble** and **contrite** in spirit and **trembles at my word**."*

Because this was so shocking, I read the Bible cover to cover over ten more times to confirm that I was not missing anything. Eventually, I typed out a document of over 200 different Bible passages about how humility is the start of every other correct attitude.

Heaven – where our MOTIVES are Judged!

In my study of humility, I found a very specific **FOCUS point** for all decisions, attitudes and conclusions. When I get to heaven – I will stand before Jesus and he will expose **EVERY MOTIVE** in my heart. That is why I **CONSTANTLY** ask Jesus to expose to me any wrong motives.

Judgement of NON-Christians

In heaven, **NON-Christians** will face the horrible judgement of being shown all of their sins and the billions of times they disobeyed their conscience before they are cast into Hell forever.

Sadly the Bible says that many or most of those who **Consider** themselves **Christians** will find out **TOO LATE** that they are **NOT** Christians and are condemned to Hell for Eternity. The bottom line of being a Christian is very clear in the Bible. To be a Christian I must:

- *“Die to the Lie that anything of Self will ever Satisfy!”*
- I then ask Jesus to live through me so that the single consuming purpose of my life is to bring others to heaven.

This is the very clear Bible **MINIMUM** for being a Christian. This subject is covered in-depth in the booklet: *“Will Halfway Christians go to Hell?”*. This White Throne judgement is for those who are **NOT** truly Christians.

Judgement of Christians!

The Bible is also very clear that **ALL True Christians** will go through a **Different** judgement. We will all have our **MOTIVES** Judged when we stand before **Jesus** at the Judgement Seat of Christ.

This is a time of both correction and praise, so that we can each enter heaven cleansed from all unconfessed sin and filled with truth.

*II Cor. 5:10 For we **Must ALL Appear** before the **Judgment Seat of Christ**, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body. whether good or bad.*

*I Cor. 4:5 Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait until the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will **EXPOSE** the **MOTIVES** of the heart.*

The **Three Test Questions** that you are preparing to study are the Best Biblical pathways to having our motives exposed and cleansed.

Test Question # 1

Does my passion in this subject align
with an eternal perspective?

In other words:

“Will This be **IMPORTANT** in Heaven?”

Jesus words throughout the gospels constantly challenge us to evaluate EVERYTHING on the earth with this question.

“Will This be **IMPORTANT** in Heaven?”

Jesus opened his prayer teaching with these words:

*“Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will be Done
On **Earth** as it is in **Heaven**?”*

Jesus was giving us the **evaluation** tool for every **passion**, **focus**, **emotion** and **direction** of our lives.

This focus **constantly challenges** us to be **cautious** and **careful** to **NEVER Invest** our **EMOTIONS** into things that will **NOT** be important in heaven

In heaven, we will **LOOK BACK** on our earthly life and **WISH** that we had **invested** our **best energy** and **focus** every day into **bringing others** to **heaven** with us.

This first question makes us careful to **AVOID** strong opinions on things that will **NOT** be Important in Heaven.

Test Question # 2

*Do I **LOOK** for the **BEST**
&
find **VALID POINTS**
in those who
DISAGREE with me?*

Two Legal Concepts!

This second question is a second antidote to being “**Opinionated**”.

There are **two legal concepts** that help us to understand why it is so important to:

*“Look for the **BEST** & find **VALID POINTS**
in those who **DISAGREE** with me.”*

Those two legal concepts are:

1. Critical Thinking
2. Confirmation Bias

Critical Thinking

In law school, new students are forced to argue BOTH sides of a legal or political issue. This skill is called “*Critical Thinking*”.

Students are graded on their ability to find valid, persuasive positives in BOTH sides of a legal or political discussion.

In **EVERY** legal or political discussion I have seen over the past 50 years, there was always positive, valid points on **BOTH** sides and things I can learn from BOTH sides.

This ability to operate in “*Critical Thinking*” is a very **EASY** assignment for a humble person.

Sadly in our current world this is very hard for many young adults. They have been trained by media to take strong stances on partial knowledge.

When I am **BLIND** to any positives or valid points in those who **disagree** with me, scientists call this an “*Amygdala Hijack*”. That is where the emotional center of the brain has shut down all logic and ability to **THINK**!

Deciding to

*“Look for the BEST & find VALID POINTS
in those who Disagree with me”*

is the **Highest** test of **Humility**.

There are hundreds of scriptures that emphasize this subject.

Here are a few.

Mt. 5:25-26 **Settle matters quickly** with your **adversary** who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still together on the way, or your adversary may **hand you over to the judge**, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into **prison**. Truly I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.

Prov. 18:13 To **answer before listening**—that is **folly** and **shame**.

Prov. 13:10 **Pride** only breeds **quarrels**,
but **wisdom** is found in those who **take**

Zeph. 3:2,11,12 She obeys no one. She **accepts no correction**...
I will remove from this city those who **rejoice** in their **pride**.
Never again will you be **haughty** on my holy hill.
But I will **leave within you** the **meek** and **humble**.

Prov. 28:26 He who **trusts in himself** is a **fool**,
but he who **walks in wisdom** is kept **safe**.

Ja. 3:17 (KJV) **Wisdom** that comes from above is **easily entreated**.
(Amplified) Willing to **yield to reason**.

Prov. 17:19 He who **loves a quarrel loves sin**.

Prov. 12:15 The **way** of a **fool seems right** to **him**
but a **wise man listens to advice**.

Prov. 9:8 Do **not rebuke mockers** or they will **hate** you;
rebuke the **wise** and they will **love** you.

Confirmational Bias

Sadly most people spend more time in media than in God's Word.

You can almost measure how "*Opinionated*" each person is when you compare their time in media compared to their time in God's Word.

You may already know that the internet is programmed with **algorithms** that guide all of your research toward **Your PREFERENCES!**

This guides people toward "*Confirmational Bias*"!

We:

- **LOOK** for information that **CONFIRMS** our Assumptions and
- we **AVOID** any information that may **DISAGREE** with our Assumptions.

Sometimes this is because of Algorithms but it is also often by choice.

Starting Cure for Confirmational Bias

Here is a fascinating question to ask any AI on a subject where you are battling being opinionated.

Ask AI:

*"Help me to find value
from a **Christian perspective**
in people who look at this **issue** from **this side**."*

This answer to this AI question almost always surprises "*Opinionated*" people! When you look for good and want to learn from others, it is not hard to find some positives in their values.

The MASSIVE Blessing when you Answer this Question!

Almost instantly, when you find positives and value in the perspective of people who disagree with you, massive blessings are poured into your soul.

1. You immediately feel **Compassion** for them and **Care More** for them than you do about the issue.
2. You quickly **Tire of Worldly Wasteful Arguments** and you long for **Heaven** and **Eternity**.

Test Question # 3

*In the **last week**, **whom** have I **served**
with a **heart** to **bring** them to **Jesus**?*

Normal Christians

For **Normal** Christians we would list almost **every human interaction** in the past week. With every person we see, we are constantly looking for two things.

1. How can I **Encourage** you, **Serve** you, or be **Kind** to you so that you may **see Jesus** in me?
2. Secondly, I am **Watching** for any **Crisis** or point oR **Hunger** in your life that may **Open** the **Door** for me to:
 - a. **Invite** you to **Church**,
 - b. **Pray** for you or to
 - c. **Open** a **Discussion** that may help you **Investigate Jesus**.

For **Normal** Christians, every **moment**, every **interaction** and every **person** is an opportunity to live out our eternal purpose.

Lose your Eternal Purpose – Lose your Soul!

The **Instant** we **Lose** this perspective a lot of **TERRIBLE** things happen.

1. **Church** is no longer **Important** or **Essential**.
2. God's **Word** is no longer food I **Have** to **Eat** every day.
3. **Media** becomes the **Dominant Influence** in my life.

Conclusion – the Goal of Media

Media wants our minds and emotions **Consumed** with **Worldwide** subjects where we will **NEVER MAKE** any **DIFFERENCE**. When we lose our eternal purpose, we try to find value in our souls by immersing ourselves in **BIG** subjects where we can **NEVER** make any **difference**.

We become quick to spout lots of “*Opinions*” to try to impress others.

Since we can **Not** have **Any Effect** on these subjects our “*Opinions*” are **Never Tested** and we become **More Full** of **Ourselves**. The saddest part is that the person **NEXT** to us in our work, school, neighborhood is **NOT IMPORTANT** to us because our minds are filled with “*Opinions*” on worldwide issues.

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