

Ask It



Introduction

We're teaching on the one question that changes everything: what is the wise thing to do? In the earlier session, we suggested that we look at the question three different ways: in light of our past experience, our present experience and we left off looking at it in light of what we'd like to see in the future.

1. In light of my _____ hopes and dreams, what is the wise thing to do?
(Proverbs 21:5, Proverbs 19:2)
2. The future is what brings today's choices into _____.
(Proverbs 4:7)
3. Today's _____ must be evaluated in light of how they will impact and shape tomorrow.
4. Asking our question with the future in mind casts a light on the _____ of our options.
5. Tomorrow will, in fact, be shaped by _____.

So let's get specific.

- In light of where you want to be **financially** in ten years, what's the wise thing to do right now? What do you need to start or stop doing financially?
- If you are **single**, in hopes of one day finding the person of your dreams, what is the wise way to conduct your relationships now? What are you doing that has the potential to rob you of your preferred future?
- If you are **married** and your dream is to finish life together with your spouse, what options do you need to take off the table? What's out there that could steal your dream?
- In light of how you envision your relationship with your **children**, what is the wise thing to do now? What practices would you be wise to incorporate now into your parenting repertoire? Where do you need to reprioritize?

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→ In light of your past experience, current circumstances, and future hopes and dreams, what is the wise thing to do financially? Relationally? Morally? Professionally? Spiritually?

For Reflection:

What are some of the past decisions you have made that you regret the most? How did poor planning or self-deception contribute to those mistakes? Besides yourself, who was hurt, and how?

How has asking the question “Is there anything wrong with it?” gotten you into trouble when making decisions in the past?

How would you define wisdom?

What is a major decision you are facing right now? Analyze your options according to the following three questions:

- In light of your past experience, what is the wise thing to do? That is, what insights about your strengths and weaknesses that you have discovered through previous experience can guide your decision?
- In light of your current circumstances, what is the wise thing to do? Perhaps understanding the season of life you are in can help you determine some options.
- In light of your future hopes and dreams, what is the wise thing to do? You want to make decisions today that can help lead you to the kind of future you have in mind for yourself.

