

(Proverbs 12) Don't Be Stupid *(Real wisdom for real life)*

1. Love Being Corrected (v.1)

“Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge...”

Wise people **want to grow**, even when it's uncomfortable

Foolish people hate being told they're wrong. *If you can't be corrected, you can't improve.

2. Live Right, Not Just Smart (v.2–3)

God favors those who live uprightly. Wickedness may look strong, but it doesn't last.

*Character matters more than looking impressive.

3. Choose Your Influences Carefully (v.5–7)

The righteous think clearly; the wicked deceive. Bad thinking leads to bad outcomes.

*Who you listen to shapes how you live.

4. Be Humble, Not Prideful (v.8–9)

It's better to be lowly and have something than to pretend and have nothing.

*Don't fake greatness, live honestly.

5. Be Kind—Even to Animals (v.10)

Righteous people care about life. Wicked people are cruel. *Kindness is a mark of wisdom.

6. Work Hard—Don't Be Lazy (v.11, 24, 27)

Hard work leads to provision. Chasing fantasies leads to emptiness.

*Stop wasting time, build something real.

7. Watch Your Words (v.13–14, 18–19, 22)

Words can wound or heal. Truth lasts; lies don't.

*Your mouth can either help people or hurt them; choose wisely.

8. Don't Think You Know Everything (v.15)

“The way of a fool is right in his own eyes...” Wise people listen to advice.

*If you never listen, you'll stay stuck.

9. Control Your Emotions (v.16)

Fools react quickly. Wise people stay calm.

*Just because you feel it doesn't mean you should show it.

10. Tell the Truth (v.17, 19)

Honesty brings justice. Lies create confusion. *Truth builds trust; lies destroy it.

11. Choose Peace Over Drama (v.20)

Those who promote peace have joy *Don't be the person who stirs up problems.

12. Be Diligent and Responsible (v.24)

Hard workers lead. Lazy people get controlled. *Your habits determine your future.

13. Encourage Others (v.25)

Anxiety weighs people down. A good word lifts them up.

*You never know how much your words can help someone.

14. Choose Friends Wisely (v.26)

The righteous choose their friends carefully. The wicked get led astray.

*Your circle affects your direction.

15. Walk in the Right Path (v.28)

Righteousness leads to life. The wrong path leads to destruction.

*Every choice is taking you somewhere; make sure it's the right direction.

Summary:

“Don't be stupid” isn't an insult. It's a warning.

In Proverbs 12, “stupid” means:

- Hating correction
- Ignoring wisdom
- Speaking carelessly
- Living lazily
- Thinking you know everything

Choose wisdom instead.

*Because wisdom doesn't just make you smarter, it makes your life better.