

WISDOM

Wisdom: a working
understanding of reality
which gives us confidence
in the complexities of life.

Growing in Wisdom

Proverbs 2:1-22

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I. The Pursuit of Wisdom

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- **Wisdom starts with humility.**
- **You recognize your need and look to God to meet that need.**
- **Wisdom must be valuable to you. You must want it.**

I. The Pursuit of Wisdom

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- **God is not a hoarder of wisdom.**
- **God wants to give wisdom to guard our lives and protect us from evil.**
- **But we have to want it.**

I. The Pursuit of Wisdom

II. The Path of Wisdom

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- Look how many times “path,” “walk,” or “way” is used.
- Bible repeatedly describes life as a path.
- Walking a path requires steady, repeated, mundane activity.

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- If life is a path, then it's the little things that will shape who you are and where you are going.
- We grow in wisdom as we engage in daily practices over time.

II. The Path of Wisdom

- **Wisdom is a path not a door.**

I. The Pursuit of Wisdom

II. The Path of Wisdom

III. The Process of Wisdom

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- **Practice: Pursue God by studying the Bible.**

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- **No Jet Ski approach. It takes time and diligence.**

III. The Process of Wisdom

- **The Bible helps us know God more intimately.**

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- **God's love and faithfulness refer to his unwavering and unconditional commitment to you.**

III. The Process of Wisdom

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- **We must beat the gospel into our heads (and hearts) – Martin Luther**
- **Engage in practices that will make the love and faithfulness of God real to you.**

III. The Process of Wisdom

- **Practice: Self-examination.**

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- **Where is your heart being drawn to the sinful paths?**

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- **Practice: Self-examination.**
- **Where is your heart being drawn to the sinful paths?**
- **Those who are wise are deeply aware of their foolishness.**

III. The Process of Wisdom

- **Practice: Suffering (God's discipline).**

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- **The path of wisdom will always lead us through the valley of suffering.**

III. The Process of Wisdom

- **The path of wisdom transforms our suffering into more wisdom.**

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- **The path of wisdom transforms our suffering into more wisdom.**
- **You will grow in wisdom during times of suffering more than any other time (if you let it).**

I. The Pursuit of Wisdom

II. The Path of Wisdom

III. The Process of Wisdom

IV. The Person of Wisdom

IV. The Person of Wisdom

- **Learning wisdom through my suffering is an insufficient answer.**

The words of Agur son of Jakeh. The oracle. The man declares, I am weary, O God; I am weary, O God, and worn out. 2 Surely I am too stupid to be a man. I have not the understanding of a man. 3 I have not learned wisdom, nor have I knowledge of the Holy One. 4 Who has ascended to heaven and come down? Who has gathered the wind in his fists? Who has wrapped up the waters in a garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is his name, and what is his son's name? Surely you know!

Proverbs 30:1-4

WISDOM

IV. The Person of Wisdom

**No one has ascended into heaven
except he who descended from
heaven, the Son of Man.**

John 3:13

IV. The Person of Wisdom

- **Jesus can give us ultimate wisdom because he is the source of wisdom.**

IV. The Person of Wisdom

**And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.
John 3:14-15**

IV. The Person of Wisdom

- **Jesus can give us ultimate wisdom because he is the source of wisdom.**
- **Unless you see the cross as the ultimate wisdom of God, you will never walk the path of life.**