



desert breeze community church

Teaching Notes: Ray Davis

June 13, 2010

WISDOM

(Competent In Life's Realities)

"Getting It"

Life is complicated and we are inundated with decisions, demands and difficulties. The world overflows with information and religious groups preach morals, but there is very little wisdom. Wisdom is seeing and responding to life from God's perspective.

How do I get Wisdom?

Proverbs 3:1-12

Wisdom is a Path:

v6b "He will make straight your paths." (Pro. 4:11; 14, 18, 26)

- It's not a doorway but a pathway.
- It is not the dramatic events but daily practices.
- It's not a technique to be mastered but a character to be developed over time.
Character is Behavior = choice + values.
No Character is Behavior = feelings + circumstances.

Signposts of Wisdom's Path:

- Pound God's covenant love into your heart through spiritual disciplines. V3 Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. (Eph. 3:14-19; Rom. 5:1-5; 1 John 4:16-19)
- Exercise ruthless non-traumatic self examination and authenticity.
v5 do not lean on your own understanding. V7 be not wise in your own eyes. (Ps. 139:23-24; 2 Cor. 13:5; 1 John 1:7-9)
- Make yourself accountable to achieve growth you could never know by yourself. v1 My son...
v7 Be not wise in your own eyes. (Pro. 27:6, 17; Eccl. 4:9-12; Heb. 3:12-13)

- Master God's instruction manual for best practices. v1 My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments. (Ps. 1:1-3; 119:11; Josh. 1:8; 2 Tim. 3:16-17)
- Don't let suffering come between you and God but allow it to press you nearer His heart. v11 Don't despise or become weary v12 He loves you...you're his son he delights in. (Pro. 3:5-6; Heb. 12:5-13; James 1:2-5)

Proverbs 30:1-4

Staying Wisdom's Path:

Agur is weary and worn out. He knows his problem is perspective and unless God comes down and speaks to him personally he will forever be confused by his suffering. In John 3:13-15 Jesus says He is the answer to what Agur is looking for.

The ultimate wisdom is Christ and the Cross!

To the degree you are seized by Jesus' sacrifice for you is to the degree you will stay wisdom's path for Him. You don't stay wisdom's path out of fear and/or pride because neither will last. But, you stay wisdom's path out of a heart that is smitten by the beauty of the cross that says...

- He suffered for me (Peace with God). (Rom. 5:1-8; 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Pet. 1:18-19)
- He suffers with me (Peace of God). (Phil. 2:4-8; Heb. 4:15-16; 2 Cor. 1:2-4)
- He suffered to one day ultimately destroy all sin and suffering without destroying us (Peace on earth). (Rom. 8:18; 2 Cor. 4:16-17; Rev. 21:1-4)

1 Corinthians 1:18 For the word (message) of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Next Weekend

"How It Works"

Pro. 4:11-27

June 27

"Reality Bites" Pro. 5:16-23

July 4

"The Fear of the Lord" Pro. 1:7, 9:10



Growing

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- 1) Wisdom is seeing and responding to life from God's perspective. What would that look like and what would the opposite of wisdom look like with the decisions, demands and difficulties you are currently facing?
- 2) Read Proverbs 3:1-12. Wisdom is a path. What is the difference between a doorway and a pathway? Wisdom is not a technique to be mastered but a character to be developed over time. What is the difference? Is ours a quick fix or long term solution culture? What are the results of a quick fix mindset?
- 3) Look over the signposts for the path of wisdom. Which one(s) are strengths and which one(s) are growth areas for you? What are some next steps you can take to develop one or more of your growth areas?
- 4) Read Proverbs 30:1-4. Agur is weary and worn out. He knows his problem is perspective and unless God comes down and speaks to him personally he will forever be confused by suffering. According to John 3:13-15 how is Christ and the Cross the answer to what Agur is looking for?
- 5) To the degree you are seized by Jesus' sacrifice for you is to the degree you will stay wisdom's path for Him. Explain. What are the three beautiful truths of the cross that motivate us to stay wisdom's path and what are the results of these three truths? Which one are you in most need of today? Make it your prayer.