



Proverbs Part 7: Making Wise Choices

Before you begin your study and reflection time, please take a few moments to pray and ask the Lord to bring to mind any decisions that need His wisdom and His guidance.

The ways of the world won't take you in a direction of a sustainable life. We have to decide that as we store up wisdom in our hearts, we will then choose to use that wisdom to make decisions. In what area are you resisting using God's wisdom?

Use the following verse to evaluate a choice that you are in the process of making: Is it true? Is it honorable? etc.

Phil. 4:8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

You and your children have muscle that you can strengthen; you have agency; you have the capacity to seek out wisdom. You will be responsible for your choices.

Prov 3:1-6

- ¹My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments,
²for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you.
³Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck;
write them on the tablet of your heart.
⁴So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man.
⁵Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.
⁶In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

When you act from a heart that belongs to God, and sincerely longs to please Him, then that will become the pathway of greatest blessing for your life. What area can you place in His hands and trust that His way is best?

Prov 6:6-8 Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise.

- ⁷Without having any chief, officer, or ruler,
⁸she prepares her bread in summer and gathers her food in harvest.

In order to live a wise life, work hard and save. Don't be lazy- you will regret it later on. Is there any place in your life where you need to make a decision and decide to work harder? A decision to be disciplined will bless you later. (Note: this doesn't mean to never take a break or a sabbath. God created us for hard work balanced with God-honoring Sabbath times daily and weekly.)

Prov 12:15 The way of a fool is right in his own eyes,
but a wise man listens to advice.

Prov 13:20 Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise,
but the companion of fools will suffer harm.

A fool can justify anything. A fool rejects wisdom. Be careful who you spend time with because he/she will influence you. Is there anyone you need to spend less time with in order to prevent that influence? Is there anyone your children need less time with?

You have agency!! You can make choices to grow in wisdom and make wise decisions in your life. In what area will you choose to seek God's wisdom?

Gal 6:7-8 Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. ⁸For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

The way of God will bring blessing.

In the absence of biblical conviction, people will go the way of culture.

Did God bring to mind any areas that need His wisdom? Commit to applying these wisdom principles specifically to that choice and watch what God will do! We are praying for you!

More Verses to Ponder:

John 14:15 ¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

Matt 7:13-14 ¹³ “Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. ¹⁴ For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

Prov 14:12 There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

Prov 19:21 Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand.

Prov 16:9 The heart of man plans his way,
but the LORD establishes his steps.

John 14:16-17 ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever,¹⁷ even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

Isaiah 30:21 And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, “This is the way, walk in it,” when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.

Prov 11:14 Where there is no guidance, a people falls,
but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.

Prov 15:22 Without counsel plans fail,
but with many advisers they succeed.

Prov 4:5-9 Get wisdom; get insight;
do not forget, and do not turn away from the words of my mouth.

⁶ Do not forsake her, and she will keep you;
love her, and she will guard you.

⁷ The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom,
and whatever you get, get insight.

⁸ Prize her highly, and she will exalt you;
she will honor you if you embrace her.

⁹ She will place on your head a graceful garland;
she will bestow on you a beautiful crown.”

Prov 16:19 It is better to be of a lowly spirit with the poor
than to divide the spoil with the proud.

Prov 16:16 How much better to get wisdom than gold!
To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

1 Corinthians 15:33 Do not be deceived: “Bad company ruins good morals.”

1 Cor. 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.