

The Christian Walk  
Walk in Wisdom

Ephesians 5:15-21 – “See then that you walk circumspectly, **not as fools but as wise**, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore **do not be unwise**, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup> submitting to one another in the fear of God.” (NKJV)

<b>Walk wisely...not as fools</b>
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Worldly wisdom vs. Godly Wisdom

I Corinthians 3:18-20 – “Do not deceive yourselves. If any of you think you are wise by the standards of this age, you should become “fools” so that you may become wise. <sup>19</sup> For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God’s sight. As it is written: “He catches the wise in their craftiness”; <sup>20</sup> and again, “The Lord knows that the thoughts of the wise are futile.” (NIV)

I Corinthians 1:18, 25 – “For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God...For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.” (NIV)

Acknowledgement of God

- Psalm 14:1 - *The **fool** has said in his heart, “**There is no God.**” They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none who does good.*
- Romans 1:21-23 – “For although they knew God, **they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him**, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup> Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools <sup>23</sup> and **exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images** made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.” (NIV)
- Proverbs 1:7 – “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.” (NIV)
- Proverbs 14:16 – “The wise fear the LORD and shun evil, but a fool is hotheaded and yet feels secure.” (NIV)

Wise vs. fools/wisdom vs. foolishness

Proverbs 14:9 – “Fools mock at making amends for sin, but goodwill is found among the upright.”

Proverbs 15:5, 20 – “Only a fool despises a parent’s discipline; whoever learns from correction is wise. A wise son brings joy to his father, but a foolish man despises his mother.” (NKJV)

Proverbs 17:27-28 – “The one who has knowledge uses words with restraint, and whoever has understanding is even-tempered. Even fools are thought wise if they keep silent, and discerning if they hold their tongues.” (NIV)

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Proverbs 18:6-8 – *“The lips of fools bring them strife, and their mouths invite a beating. The mouths of fools are their undoing, and their lips are a snare to their very lives. The words of a gossip are like choice morsels; they go down to the inmost parts.” (NIV)*

The Value of God’s Word – (Psalm 19:7-11, 2 Timothy 3:16-17)

The Bible gives us the guidelines needed for every aspect of our lives...

Finances	Ethics/Morality	Parenting
Family	Legality	Priorities
Marriage	Relationships	Attitudes

...and yet, why is it that we as Christians make some of the most foolish decisions?

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How Do You Get Wisdom?

- 1. By asking God for it**—If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and without reproach; and it shall be given him” (James 1:5).
- 2. By studying God’s law**—“Keep [study, apply] therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations ” (Deuteronomy 4:6).
- 3. By keeping God’s commandments with us**—“Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me” (Psalm 119:98).
- 4. By fearing God**—“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding” (Proverbs 9:10).
- 5. By reading Proverbs**—The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel; To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding; To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity” (Proverbs 1:1-3).
- 6. By God’s testimonies**—“The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple” (Psalm 19:7).
- 7. By hearing instruction**—“Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not” (Proverbs 8:33). “Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning” (Proverbs 9:9).
- 8. By seeking it diligently**— Wisdom says, “I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me” (Proverbs 8:17).
- 9. By listening to rebukes**—“Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning” (Proverbs 9:9).
- 10. By seeking wise counsel**—“He that walks with wise men shall be wise” (Proverbs 13:20).

<http://www.charactercouncil.org/resources/biblicalstudies/Wisdom.pdf>

None of us is perfect. We all make mistakes. And sometimes, life throws us a curve ball or gives us lemons. But, do we take every possible advantage by taking the advice from God’s Word, and apply its principles to our daily lives, decisions, attitudes, priorities and relationships? Only then can we claim that we have made every effort to *“walk as wise, and not as fools”*.