

The Blessings of Applied Wisdom

Proverbs 3:5 **Trust** in the Lord with all thine heart; And **lean not** unto thine own understanding. 6 In all thy ways **acknowledge him**, And he shall direct thy paths. 7 **Be not wise** in thine own eyes: **Fear the Lord**, and depart from evil. 8 It shall be health to thy navel, And marrow to thy bones. 9 **Honour the Lord** with thy substance, And with the firstfruits of all thine increase: 10 So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, And thy presses shall burst out with new wine. 11 My son, **despise not the chastening** of the Lord; Neither be weary of his correction: 12 For whom the Lord loveth he correcteth; Even as a father the son *in whom* he delighteth. 13 **Happy is** the man *that* findeth **wisdom**, And the man *that* **getteth understanding**. 14 For the merchandise of it *is* **better than** the merchandise of silver, And the gain thereof than fine gold. 15 **She is more precious** than rubies: And all the things thou canst desire are not to be **compared unto her**. 16 **Length of days is** in her right hand; *And* in her left hand **riches and honour**. 17 **Her ways are** ways of **pleasantness**, And all her paths *are* **peace**. 18 **She is** a

tree of life to them that lay hold upon her: And **happy is every one** that retaineth her. 19 The Lord by wisdom hath founded the earth; By understanding hath he established the heavens. 20 By his knowledge the depths are broken up, And the clouds drop down the dew. 21 **My son,** let not them depart from thine eyes: **Keep** sound wisdom and discretion: 22 So shall they be **life** unto thy soul, And **grace** to thy neck. 23 Then shalt thou walk in thy way **safely,** And thy foot shall not stumble. 24 When thou liest down, thou shalt **not be afraid:** Yea, thou shalt lie down, and thy **sleep shall be sweet.** 25 **Be not afraid** of sudden fear, Neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it cometh. 26 For the Lord shall be thy **confidence,** And shall keep thy foot from being taken.

1. Getting God's direction and blessing in my life
 - a. Trust in the Lord 5 **Trust** in the Lord with all thine heart; **And lean not** unto thine own understanding.
 - i. We are to trust with all our heart
 1. This is more than just words
 2. It is more than just a lip profession

- ii. Trusting Him means I don't trust me
 - 1. I don't trust my experience
 - 2. I don't trust what I understand or know
- b. Acknowledge Him **6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, And he shall direct thy paths.**
 - i. To acknowledge Him is to recognize Him
 - 1. Do we pay attention to Him and what He thinks
 - 2. Do we consider that He is God and that we are His servants
 - ii. To acknowledge Him is to recognize His rights, authority, or status over us
 - 1. Do we consider that He has a right to say anything about our lives
 - 2. Do we acknowledge that He is Lord God and we are to obey and accept
 - iii. To recognize as genuine and valid
 - 1. Do we really believe in Him
 - 2. Do we accept that this is more than what the Bible says or we study in Sunday School
 - iv. When we put Him in His proper place then and only then will He give us direction

- c. None of this works unless we realize that we are not the smart ones **7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: Fear the Lord, and depart from evil.**
- i. This requires humility on our part
 - ii. It requires really believing that He has a will for my life and can accomplish it
 - iii. It means seeing Him for who He is at all times in my life
 - iv. When we do this we will turn from evil which is anything that is in rebellion to His will for my life
- d. God's blessings will come as a result of these steps in my life **8 It shall be health to thy navel, And marrow to thy bones.**

2. Honor God with your stuff **9 Honour the Lord with thy substance, And with the firstfruits of all thine increase: 10 So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, And thy presses shall burst out with new wine.**

- a. Honoring God means counting Him as important, weighty. To honor Him is to esteem Him
- b. We honor Him by giving to Him what belongs to us
- c. We give Him the first fruits. He gets the first part of everything

- d. He will bless us as we honor Him
3. Accept the way God is working in your life **11 My son, despise not the chastening** of the Lord; Neither be weary of his correction: **12 For whom the Lord loveth he correcteth; Even as a father the son *in whom* he delighteth.**
- a. Don't take it for granted that God is actively at work in your life
 - b. The consequences and lessons may be costing you but they are worth every bit of it
 - c. Know that nothing is happening that is not for your good. That is how He treats His children
4. Wisdom is the secret to happinesses **13 Happy is the man *that* findeth **wisdom**, And the man *that* **getteth understanding.****
- a. We must understand the value of wisdom which is better than silver, gold, or rubies
 - b. Nothing can be compared to wisdom **14 For the merchandise of it *is* **better than** the merchandise of silver, And the gain thereof than fine gold. **15 She is****

more precious than rubies: And all the things thou canst desire are not to be **compared unto her**.

c. Wisdom brings her earthly rewards

i. Long life and riches and honor **16 Length of days** *is* in her right hand; *And* in her left hand **riches and honour**.

ii. Secret to a peaceful and pleasant life **17 Her ways** *are* ways of **pleasantness**, And all her paths *are* **peace**.

iii. Happiness, life, and wisdom itself **18 She is** a **tree of life** to them that lay hold upon her: And **happy** *is* every *one* that retaineth her. **19** The Lord by wisdom hath founded the earth; By understanding hath he established the heavens. **20** By his knowledge the depths are broken up, And the clouds drop down the dew.

d. Remember what wisdom is and how you begin to have it

i. Wisdom begins with the fear of the Lord, salvation, knowing who He is, believing Him **1:7 The fear of the Lord** *is* the beginning of knowledge: *But* fools despise wisdom and instruction.

ii. Wisdom is something you seek after with all that is within you **2:1** My son, if thou wilt **receive** my words, And **hide** my commandments with thee; **2** So that thou **incline thine ear** unto wisdom, And **apply thine heart** to understanding; **3** Yea, if thou **criest after** knowledge, And **lifest up thy voice** for understanding; **4** If thou **seekest** her as silver, And **searchest** for her as *for* hid treasures; **5** **Then** shalt thou understand the fear of the Lord, And find the knowledge of God.

iii. Fear of the Lord is realizing you are not wise but He is **3:7** **Be not wise** in thine own eyes: **Fear the Lord**, and depart from evil. **8** It shall be health to thy navel, And marrow to thy bones.

e. We have been looking for happiness in all the wrong places

i. God's blessings do not add sorry to them

ii. We think we need money, education, respect when knowing God and obeying Him is the true secret

iii. If we have way understand these truths then it will change our priorities, it will set our agenda every day

iv. It will be the foundation used to make every decision

5. Apply the truths to your life. Take them and make them real

in your own life **21 My son,** let not them depart from

thine eyes: **Keep** sound wisdom and discretion:

a. Just knowing the truth isn't enough

b. It must be applied

c. This wisdom will be life, grace and safety **22 So shall they be life** unto thy soul, And **grace** to thy neck. **23** Then shalt thou walk in thy way **safely,** And thy foot shall not stumble.

i. Real life isn't living, breathing, having children

ii. Real life is knowing Jesus

iii. Grace to your neck is blessing, gifts, sweetness on your life

iv. Having wisdom will keep you safe

v. Wisdom will keep you from stumbling

d. Wisdom will give you sleep and victory over fear **24 When** thou liest down, thou shalt **not be afraid:** Yea, thou shalt lie down, and thy **sleep shall be sweet. 25 Be not**

afraid of sudden fear, Neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it cometh.

- i. Wisdom reminds you of who is in charge and you know you can trust Him
 - ii. Wisdom reminds you to lay down, sleep, trusting that God will only do right
 - iii. No need to be afraid of the things that others fear
 - iv. Even the wildest, unexpected thing that goes wrong will pass through the filter of your God, God approved and God allowed
- e. Wisdom will give you confidence and keep you from being taken by Satan and sin **26 For the Lord shall be thy confidence, And shall keep thy foot from being taken.**
- i. The Lord is your confidence not you
 - ii. You will not boast or brag about your wisdom or abilities
 - iii. Wisdom teaches you that it is God that is worth trusting, not ourselves