



## Getting Wise Proverbs 3:1-12 February 12, 2023

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**1. Sunday Summary:** This morning we began a new (and short) sermon series based on the book of Proverbs called Ancient Wisdom for Today's World. This week we talked about how we get wisdom, and become wise. We looked at a number of things: 1) We get it along the path of life as we make everyday kinds of decisions 2) However, we will only know how to make those decisions in: a) knowing God b) submitting to his Word c) submitting ourselves to the community of the Saints 3) We get wisdom through Discipline - trouble in our lives that God brings/allows in our lives that's intended to help us grow. The only way to bear up under that discipline as we go along the path of life is to unequivocally know that God only disciplines those he loves and delights in. We know that because of Jesus Christ and his sacrifice, and because his Spirit testifies in our hearts that we're his children.

### 2. Connecting Questions: (Interactive, life sharing, thought & feeling type stuff)

- How much time have you devoted in your life to thinking about how one becomes wise? Do you think that wisdom is a value in our culture today? Why or why not?
  
- In your experience how has the Bible helped you become a wiser person? How does it relate to the daily decisions you make?
  
- Is community really that important to gaining wisdom? How open have you been to the community of the saints in the decisions you make?
  
- When you go through troubles, does it help to know that God delights in you, and that you're being treated as a son or daughter?

### 3. Truth Questions: (What does the Bible say?)

- Read James 1: 2-5 together as a group. What the connection between trials and wisdom? How about between prayer and wisdom? Is prayer necessary for becoming wise? Why or why not?

- Read Hebrews 12: 1-11. This passage seems somewhat counter-intuitive to us. We want our children to thrive, and don't relish punishing and disciplining them. Does discipline really produce the good, and the holiness that the writer of Hebrews writes about? What conditions might make that possible? Does holiness equate to wisdom? What's the connection between these two things?

#### **4. Formation Questions: (Taking it further, How does the Truth change the way I live?)**

- What concrete steps can you make to sink the truth of the gospel deeper into your life this week?
  
- How will you work on becoming wiser this week?

