



3Ps Christian Ministries

Prayer, Praise & Proclamation
Christian Ministries



Wisdom Bible Study



**Divine Insight for Everyday
Living.**



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In the Bible, wisdom is the practical ability to discern right from wrong and apply God’s truth to live a moral, righteous and skillful life. Unlike mere intellectual knowledge or trivia, biblical wisdom is relational and active. It is not just knowing facts about God, but living in an authentic, intimate relationship with Him and treating others with mercy, humility, and love.

Interesting, Job described gaining an additional level of wisdom when he said, “I know that You can do all things, and that no plan is impossible for You. Who is this who conceals advice without knowledge? Therefore I have declared that which I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I do not know. Please listen, and I will speak; I will ask You and You instruct me. I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear; but now my eye sees You; Therefore I retract, and I repent, sitting on dust and ashes.” (*New American Standard Version, Job 42:1-5*).

As we move through this study, which is by no means exhaustive, let’s examine our actions and resolve to continue seeking the one who embodies and is the source of wisdom!

Contents

Lesson 1. Jesus Embodies Wisdom	2
Lesson 2. The Source of Wisdom	7
Lesson 3. Wisdom Speaks	11
Lesson 4. Characteristics of Wisdom	16
Lesson 5. Wisdom in Speech.....	20
Lesson 6. Wisdom in the Family.....	24

Lesson 1. Jesus Embodies Wisdom

Matthew 7:13-29; 1 Corinthians 1: 20 – 31; Colossians 2:1-10; 16-23

Discussion Starter - How does the world's definition of a "wise person" compare to the portrait of wisdom painted in Scripture?

Matthew 7:13-29

“You can enter God’s Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way. But the gateway to life is very narrow and the road is difficult, and only a few ever find it. “Beware of false prophets who come disguised as harmless sheep but are really vicious wolves. You can identify them by their fruit, that is, by the way they act. Can you pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? A good tree produces good fruit, and a bad tree produces bad fruit. A good tree can’t produce bad fruit, and a bad tree can’t produce good fruit. So every tree that does not produce good fruit is chopped down and thrown into the fire. Yes, just as you can identify a tree by its fruit, so you can identify people by their actions. “Not everyone who calls out to me, ‘Lord! Lord!’ will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually do the will of my Father in heaven will enter. On judgment day many will say to me, ‘Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name.’ But I will reply, ‘I never knew you. Get away from me, you who break God’s laws.’ “Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won’t collapse because it is built on bedrock. But anyone who hears my teaching and doesn’t obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on

sand. When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash.” When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, for he taught with real authority—quite unlike their teachers of religious law.”

Questions 1-3:

1. Opinions are mixed on whether the narrow gate emphasizes **grace alone** or **active obedience and repentance**; how do you balance these two aspects in your own understanding?
2. Why would a complete, self-sustaining God desire or require a relationship with human beings?
3. What are some practical ways to move from merely accumulating facts *about* God to actively *knowing* Him?

1 Corinthians 1:20-31

“The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God. As the Scriptures say, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise and discard the intelligence of the intelligent.” So where does this leave the philosophers, the scholars, and the world’s brilliant debaters? God has made the wisdom of this world look foolish. Since God in his wisdom saw to it that the world would never know him through human wisdom, he has used our foolish preaching to save those who believe. So when we preach that Christ was crucified, the Jews are offended and the Gentiles say it’s all nonsense. But to those called by God to salvation, both Jews and Gentiles, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God. This foolish plan of God is wiser than the wisest of human plans, and God’s weakness is stronger than the greatest of human strength. Remember, dear

brothers and sisters, that few of you were wise in the world's eyes or powerful or wealthy when God called you. Instead, God chose things the world considers foolish in order to shame those who think they are wise. And he chose things that are powerless to shame those who are powerful. God chose things despised by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important. As a result, no one can ever boast in the presence of God. God has united you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made him to be wisdom itself. Christ made us right with God; he made us pure and holy, and he freed us from sin. Therefore, as the Scriptures say, "If you want to boast, boast only about the LORD."

Questions 4-6:

4. Why were the Jews offended by the crucifixion?
5. How can we determine the difference between the wisdom of the world and biblical wisdom?
6. What is Paul communicating by the phrases, "foolish plan of God" and "God's weakness?"

Colossians 2:1-10

"I want you to know how much I have agonized for you and for the church at Laodicea, and for many other believers who have never met me personally. I want them to be encouraged and knit together by strong ties of love. I want them to have complete confidence that they understand God's mysterious plan, which is Christ himself. In Him lie hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. I am telling you this so no one will deceive you with well-crafted arguments. For though I am far away from you, my heart is with you. And I rejoice that you are living as you should and that your faith in Christ is strong.

And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness. Don't let anyone capture you with empty philosophies and high-sounding nonsense that come from human thinking and from the spiritual powers of this world, rather than from Christ. For in Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body. So you also are complete through your union with Christ, who is the head over every ruler and authority."

Colossians 2:16-23

"So don't let anyone condemn you for what you eat or drink, or for not celebrating certain holy days or new moon ceremonies or Sabbaths. For these rules are only shadows of the reality yet to come. And Christ himself is that reality. Don't let anyone condemn you by insisting on pious self-denial or the worship of angels, saying they have had visions about these things. Their sinful minds have made them proud, and they are not connected to Christ, the head of the body. For he holds the whole body together with its joints and ligaments, and it grows as God nourishes it. You have died with Christ, and he has set you free from the spiritual powers of this world. So why do you keep on following the rules of the world, such as, "Don't handle! Don't taste! Don't touch!"? Such rules are mere human teachings about things that deteriorate as we use them. These rules may seem wise because they require strong devotion, pious self-denial, and severe bodily discipline. But they provide no help in conquering a person's evil desires."

Questions 7 & 8:

7. What are some well-crafted arguments in opposition to Christ you have encountered?
8. Why is legalism appealing to some?

Applying the Text:

God's wise plan is not about earning salvation through a rigid list of human rules, but about entering through a genuine, dependent relationship with Jesus Christ.

Memory Verse:

I want them to have complete confidence that they understand God's mysterious plan, which is Christ himself. In Him lie hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Colossians 2:1-2

Wisdom

A BIBLE STUDY GUIDE



KEY SCRIPTURE

Write the passage you are studying.



OBSERVE

What does the passage say? What details stand out?



REFLECT

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APPLY

How should this truth shape my thoughts, choices, and actions?



PRAYER

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Lesson 2. The Source of Wisdom

Proverbs 1:1-7; Proverbs 2:2-6; Proverbs 9:9-12;
James 1:5-8; Hebrews 4:12-16; 1 John 4:15-19

Discussion Starter - Proverbs says that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. How does remembering who God is change the way you solve a daily problem?

Proverbs 1:1-7 NLT

“These are the proverbs of Solomon, David’s son, king of Israel. Their purpose is to teach people wisdom and discipline, to help them understand the insights of the wise. Their purpose is to teach people to live disciplined and successful lives, to help them do what is right, just, and fair. These proverbs will give insight to the simple, knowledge and discernment to the young. Let the wise listen to these proverbs and become even wiser. Let those with understanding receive guidance by exploring the meaning in these proverbs and parables, the words of the wise and their riddles. Fear of the LORD is the foundation of true knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.”

Proverbs 2:2-6 NLT

“Tune your ears to wisdom, and concentrate on understanding. Cry out for insight, and ask for understanding. Search for them as you would for silver; seek them like hidden treasures. Then you will understand what it means to fear the LORD, and you will gain knowledge of God. For the LORD grants wisdom! From his mouth come knowledge and understanding.”

Proverbs 9:9-12 NLT

“Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still; teach the righteous and they will

add to their learning. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. For through wisdom your days will be many, and years will be added to your life. If you are wise, your wisdom will reward you; if you are a mocker, you alone will suffer.

Definitions

- *Servile (slavish) fear* is the paralyzing terror of a criminal awaiting punishment, which the Gospel replaces with love (1 John 4:18).
- *Filial (reverent) fear* is the healthy respect a child has for a loving parent—acknowledging that wrong actions bring loving discipline (Hebrews 12:5–11) and wanting to honor them.

James 1:5-8 NLT

“If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking. But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do.”

Hebrews 4:12-16 NLT

For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable. So then, since we have a great High Priest who has entered heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to what we believe. This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all

of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.”

1 John 4:15-19 NLT

All who declare that Jesus is the Son of God have God living in them, and they live in God. We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love. God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them. And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world. Such love has no fear, because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love. We love each other because he loved us first.”

Questions 1-3:

1. What did Solomon list as the purpose of Proverbs? Is that still relevant today?
2. What is involved in the knowledge of the Holy One?
3. Think of a time when the word of God exposed your innermost thoughts and desires. How did you respond? What did you learn?

Applying the Text:

We are commanded to examine ourselves to determine if our relationship with Christ is rooted in reverent fear or slavish fear.

Memory Verse:

“Tune your ears to wisdom, and concentrate on understanding. Cry out for insight, and ask for understanding. Search for them as you would for silver; seek them like hidden treasures. Then you will understand what it means to fear the LORD, and you will gain knowledge of God. For the LORD grants wisdom! From his mouth come knowledge and understanding.”

Proverbs 2:2-6 NLT

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Lesson 3. Wisdom Speaks

Psalms 19:7-14; Proverbs 8:1-13; 22-36; Proverbs 18:1-24

Discussion Starter - Proverbs shows Wisdom standing at the city gates and shouting for people to listen. If Wisdom walked into our neighborhood or workplace today, where would she stand and what would she be yelling about?"

Psalms 19:7-14 NLT

"The instructions of the LORD are perfect, reviving the soul. The decrees of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The commandments of the LORD are right, bringing joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are clear, giving insight for living. Reverence for the LORD is pure, lasting forever. The laws of the LORD are true; each one is fair. They are more desirable than gold, even the finest gold. They are sweeter than honey, even honey dripping from the comb. They are a warning to your servant, a great reward for those who obey them. How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart? Cleanse me from these hidden faults. Keep your servant from deliberate sins! Don't let them control me. Then I will be free of guilt and innocent of great sin. May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer."

Proverbs 8:1-13 NLT

"Listen as Wisdom calls out! Hear as understanding raises her voice! On the hilltop along the road, she takes her stand at the crossroads. By the gates at the entrance to the town, on the road leading in, she cries aloud, "I call to you, to all of you! I raise my voice to all people. You simple people, use good judgment. You foolish people, show some understanding. Listen to me! For I

have important things to tell you. Everything I say is right, for I speak the truth and detest every kind of deception. My advice is wholesome. There is nothing devious or crooked in it. My words are plain to anyone with understanding, clear to those with knowledge. Choose my instruction rather than silver, and knowledge rather than pure gold. For wisdom is far more valuable than rubies. Nothing you desire can compare with it. “I, Wisdom, live together with good judgment. I know where to discover knowledge and discernment. All who fear the LORD will hate evil. Therefore, I hate pride and arrogance, corruption and perverse speech.”

Question 1:

1. Proverbs compares seeking wisdom to "digging for hidden treasure" (Proverbs 2:4). What does active pursuit of wisdom look like in a week filled with endless notifications, work demands, and distractions?

Proverbs 8:22-36 NLT

““The LORD formed me from the beginning, before he created anything else. I was appointed in ages past, at the very first, before the earth began. I was born before the oceans were created, before the springs bubbled forth their waters. Before the mountains were formed, before the hills, I was born—before he had made the earth and fields and the first handfuls of soil. I was there when he established the heavens, when he drew the horizon on the oceans. I was there when he set the clouds above, when he established springs deep in the earth. I was there when he set the limits of the seas, so they would not spread beyond their boundaries. And when he marked off the earth’s foundations, I was the architect at his side. I was his constant delight, rejoicing

always in his presence. And how happy I was with the world he created; how I rejoiced with the human family! “And so, my children, listen to me, for all who follow my ways are joyful. Listen to my instruction and be wise. Don’t ignore it. Joyful are those who listen to me, watching for me daily at my gates, waiting for me outside my home! For whoever finds me finds life and receives favor from the LORD. But those who miss me injure themselves. All who hate me love death.”

Proverbs 18:1-24 NLT

“Unfriendly people care only about themselves; they lash out at common sense. Fools have no interest in understanding; they only want to air their own opinions. Doing wrong leads to disgrace, and scandalous behavior brings contempt. Wise words are like deep waters; wisdom flows from the wise like a bubbling brook. It is not right to acquit the guilty or deny justice to the innocent. Fools’ words get them into constant quarrels; they are asking for a beating. The mouths of fools are their ruin; they trap themselves with their lips. Rumors are dainty morsels that sink deep into one’s heart. A lazy person is as bad as someone who destroys things. The name of the LORD is a strong fortress; the godly run to him and are safe. The rich think of their wealth as a strong defense; they imagine it to be a high wall of safety. Haughtiness goes before destruction; humility precedes honor. Spouting off before listening to the facts is both shameful and foolish. The human spirit can endure a sick body, but who can bear a crushed spirit? Intelligent people are always ready to learn. Their ears are open for knowledge. Giving a gift can open doors; it gives access to important people! The first to speak in court sounds right— until the cross-examination begins. Flipping a coin can end arguments; it settles disputes

between powerful opponents. An offended friend is harder to win back than a fortified city. Arguments separate friends like a gate locked with bars. Wise words satisfy like a good meal; the right words bring satisfaction. The tongue can bring death or life; those who love to talk will reap the consequences. The man who finds a wife finds a treasure, and he receives favor from the LORD. The poor plead for mercy; the rich answer with insults. There are “friends” who destroy each other, but a real friend sticks closer than a brother.”

Questions 2-5:

2. What message does wisdom have for:
 - o the simple?
 - o the foolish?
 - o those with understanding?
 - o those with knowledge?
3. Wisdom describes herself as being beside God like a "master worker" during creation, rejoicing in the world. How does it change your view of your daily work, creativity, or environment to know that wisdom is built into the fabric of creation?
4. In Hebrew, the word for destruction (*sheber*) implies a structural fracture, crash, or breach. How does structural "haughtiness" create a relational fracture between a person and God, or a person and their community?
5. Pride frequently deludes people into thinking they are completely self-sufficient. What are some subtle signs that a person has stopped seeking or accepting wise counsel from others?

Applying the Text:

Let us resolve to seek God's wisdom on a moment-to-moment basis. We will receive life and receive favor from The Lord.

Memory Verse:

Joyful are those who listen to me, watching for me daily at my gates, waiting for me outside my home! For whoever finds me finds life and receives favor from the LORD. But those who miss me injure themselves. All who hate me love death."

Proverbs 8:34-36 NLT

Wisdom

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OBSERVE

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REFLECT

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Lesson 4. Characteristics of Wisdom

James 3:13-18; Proverbs 10:8-14; 17-23; Matthew 5:3-9; Philippians 4:8-9

Discussion Starter - Share about a time in your life when you desperately needed God's wisdom and He provided it. What did you learn?

James 3:13-18 NLT

“If you are wise and understand God’s ways, prove it by living an honorable life, doing good works with the humility that comes from wisdom. But if you are bitterly jealous and there is selfish ambition in your heart, don’t cover up the truth with boasting and lying. For jealousy and selfishness are not God’s kind of wisdom. Such things are earthly, unspiritual, and demonic. For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and evil of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first of all pure. It is also peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. It is full of mercy and the fruit of good deeds. It shows no favoritism and is always sincere. And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness.”

Proverbs 10:8-14 NLT

“The wise are glad to be instructed, but babbling fools fall flat on their faces. People with integrity walk safely, but those who follow crooked paths will be exposed. People who wink at wrong cause trouble, but a bold reproof promotes peace. The words of the godly are a life-giving fountain; the words of the wicked conceal violent intentions. Hatred stirs up quarrels, but love makes up for all offenses. Wise words come from the lips of people with

understanding, but those lacking sense will be beaten with a rod. Wise people treasure knowledge, but the babbling of a fool invites disaster.”

Questions 1 & 2:

1. James 3:13-18 contrasts "earthly, unspiritual, demonic" wisdom with "wisdom from above" (which is pure, peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy, and impartial). In our everyday culture—like on social media or in the corporate world—what traits are usually praised as "wise" or "smart"? How do those traits clash with or match the biblical list?
2. It's often said that knowledge is information, but wisdom is how you use it. In the Bible, wisdom (*chokmah* in Hebrew) is often associated with practical skill, like master craftsmanship or navigation. Can you share an example of a time when someone had a lot of biblical *knowledge* (they knew the verses) but lacked biblical *wisdom* in how they acted?

Proverbs 10:17-23 NLT

“People who accept discipline are on the pathway to life, but those who ignore correction will go astray. Hiding hatred makes you a liar; slandering others makes you a fool. Too much talk leads to sin. Be sensible and keep your mouth shut. The words of the godly are like sterling silver; the heart of a fool is worthless. The words of the godly encourage many, but fools are destroyed by their lack of common sense. The blessing of the LORD makes a person rich, and he adds no sorrow with it. Doing wrong is fun for a fool, but living wisely brings pleasure to the sensible.”

Matthew 5:3-9 AMP

“Blessed [spiritually prosperous, happy, to be admired] are the poor in spirit [those devoid of spiritual arrogance, those who regard themselves as insignificant], for theirs is the kingdom of heaven [both now and forever]. [Luke 6:20-23] “Blessed [forgiven, refreshed by God’s grace] are those who mourn [over their sins and repent], for they will be comforted [when the burden of sin is lifted]. [Is 61:2] “Blessed [inwardly peaceful, spiritually secure, worthy of respect] are the gentle [the kind-hearted, the sweet-spirited, the self-controlled], for they will inherit the earth. [Ps 37:11] “Blessed [joyful, nourished by God’s goodness] are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness [those who actively seek right standing with God], for they will be [completely] satisfied. [Is 55:1, 2] “Blessed [content, sheltered by God’s promises] are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. “Blessed [anticipating God’s presence, spiritually mature] are the pure in heart [those with integrity, moral courage, and godly character], for they will see God. [Ps 24:3, 4] “Blessed [spiritually calm with life-joy in God’s favor] are the makers and maintainers of peace, for they will [express His character and] be called the sons of God. [Heb 12:14]”

Philippians 4:8-9 NLT

And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you.”

Questions 6-8:

6. What is the proof of a life of wisdom?
7. How are wisdom and knowledge related?
8. What is the very first thing that captures your attention when you wake up in the morning, and how does it set the tone for your day?

Applying the Text:

Let us guard our eyes, ears from things that will distract us from God's wisdom.

Memory Verse:

Joyful are those who listen to me, watching for me daily at my gates, waiting for me outside my home! For whoever finds me finds life and receives favor from the LORD. But those who miss me injure themselves. All who hate me love death."

Proverbs 8:34-36 NLT

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Lesson 5. Wisdom in Speech

James 3:1-12; Proverbs 10:19-21;

Proverbs 17:27-28; Ecclesiastes 7:9-12; 1 Corinthians 13:1-11

Discussion Starter – Do you generally find it easier to speak or to listen? How does being quick to listen connect to being “reasonable” and gentle?

James 3:1-12 NLT

“Dear brothers and sisters, not many of you should become teachers in the church, for we who teach will be judged more strictly. Indeed, we all make many mistakes. For if we could control our tongues, we would be perfect and could also control ourselves in every other way. We can make a large horse go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth. And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong. In the same way, the tongue is a small thing that makes grand speeches. But a tiny spark can set a great forest on fire. And among all the parts of the body, the tongue is a flame of fire. It is a whole world of wickedness, corrupting your entire body. It can set your whole life on fire, for it is set on fire by hell itself. People can tame all kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and fish, but no one can tame the tongue. It is restless and evil, full of deadly poison. Sometimes it praises our Lord and Father, and sometimes it curses those who have been made in the image of God. And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right! Does a spring of water bubble out with both fresh water and bitter water? Does a fig tree produce olives, or a grapevine produce figs? No, and you can’t draw fresh water from a salty spring.”

Proverbs 10:19-21 NLT

“Too much talk leads to sin. Be sensible and keep your mouth shut. The words of the godly are like sterling silver; the heart of a fool is worthless. The words of the godly encourage many, but fools are destroyed by their lack of common sense.”

Proverbs 17:27-28 NLT

The truly wise person uses few words: a person with understanding is even-tempered. Even fools are thought wise when they keep silent; with their mouths shut, they seem intelligent.

Ecclesiastes 7:9 NLT

Control your temper, for anger labels you a fool.

Questions 1-4:

1. James begins with a strict warning for teachers. Why do you think spiritual leaders and teachers face a "stricter judgment" regarding their words? How does this apply to influencers or leaders in our modern, digital society?
2. The tongue is also compared to a spark that sets a great forest on fire. Can you think of a time when gossip, an angry outburst, or a careless remark "set a fire" in a family, workplace, or church community? What can be done to help put out those fires?
3. Using the analogies of freshwater springs and fruit trees, James argues that output reveals the source. When bitter, defensive, or prideful words slip out of our mouths, what does that reveal about the true condition of our hearts?
4. If your speech over the last 24 hours had a "delete/undo" button, which specific sentence or conversation would you erase, and why?

1 Corinthians 13:1-11 NLT

“If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn’t love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God’s secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn’t love others, I would be nothing. If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn’t love others, I would have gained nothing. Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. Prophecy and speaking in unknown languages and special knowledge will become useless. But love will last forever! Now our knowledge is partial and incomplete, and even the gift of prophecy reveals only part of the whole picture! But when the time of perfection comes, these partial things will become useless. When I was a child, I spoke and thought and reasoned as a child. But when I grew up, I put away childish things.”

Questions 5-6:

5. Are you someone who fills an uncomfortable silence with fast talking, or do you become completely silent? How do you think pausing before speaking changes the outcome of a tense conversation?
6. Have you ever sent a text or email that was completely misinterpreted because the recipient couldn't hear your tone? How does modern digital communication make practicing "gentle speech" harder?

Applying the Text:

Let's examine our speech to determine more ways to glorify God and edify those in our sphere of influence.

Memory Verse:

Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.

Colossians 4:6 NLT

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Lesson 6. Wisdom in the Family

Genesis 2:18; Proverbs 24:3; Titus 2:1-6; Ephesians 5:15-21; Ephesians 6:4; Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Discussion Starter - *In what area of your life are you completely opposite from your spouse or best friend? How does that dynamic help or challenge you?*

Genesis 2:18 NLT

“Then the LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him.”

"Ezer Kenegdo" is a profound Hebrew phrase found in the Bible in **Genesis 2:18**, where God describes His purpose for creating woman. While traditionally translated into English as "helper meet" or "suitable helper," linguistic scholars point out that the original Hebrew conveys a much stronger meaning: an indispensable, equal partner or warrior ally

Ezer (עֵזֶר): This word does not imply a subordinate assistant or servant. In the Old Testament, ezer appears 21 times. Two of those instances refer to the first woman, three refer to military allies, and **16 refer to God Himself** as humanity's lifesaver, shield, or strength in times of desperate need. Rooted in meanings of "to rescue" and "to be strong," it signifies a vital source of strength.

Kenegdo (כְּנֶגְדּוֹ): This means "corresponding to," "opposite to," or "face-to-face as an equal". It implies a perfect match or a mirror image—someone identical in essential value and dignity, but distinct in function. Together, **ezer kenegdo** paints a picture of two equals standing shoulder-to-shoulder, backing each other up as a powerful team.

Proverbs 24:3 NLT

“A house is built by wisdom and becomes strong through good sense.”

Questions 1-3:

1. When you hear the English word "helper" in a modern context, what mental images or roles come to mind? How does that compare to

discovering that Ezer is a military-grade word used for a "strong ally" or "shield"?

2. In what ways do the unique roles of marriage and parenthood give us a tangible picture of God's love, patience, and devotion to us?
3. If the primary objective of a godly family is spiritual growth and mutual salvation rather than just temporary happiness, how does that change the way you resolve everyday conflicts?

Titus 2:1-6 NLT

“As for you, Titus, promote the kind of living that reflects wholesome teaching. Teach the older men to exercise self-control, to be worthy of respect, and to live wisely. They must have sound faith and be filled with love and patience. Similarly, teach the older women to live in a way that honors God. They must not slander others or be heavy drinkers. Instead, they should teach others what is good. These older women must train the younger women to love their husbands and their children, to live wisely and be pure, to work in their homes, to do good, and to be submissive to their husbands. Then they will not bring shame on the word of God. In the same way, encourage the young men to live wisely.”

Ephesians 5:15-21 NLT

“So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do. Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts. And give thanks for everything to God the Father in the

name of our Lord Jesus Christ. And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.”

Ephesians 6:4 NLT

“Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord.”

Deuteronomy 6:1-9 NLT

“These are the commands, decrees, and regulations that the LORD your God commanded me to teach you. You must obey them in the land you are about to enter and occupy, and you and your children and grandchildren must fear the LORD your God as long as you live. If you obey all his decrees and commands, you will enjoy a long life. Listen closely, Israel, and be careful to obey. Then all will go well with you, and you will have many children in the land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, promised you.

“Listen, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”

Questions 4 & 5:

4. What are some ways we can cultivate wisdom in the home?
5. What are some ways fathers can provoke children to anger and frustration? Why?

The 5 Ps of Fatherhood:

1. Participation/Problem Solver
2. Playmate
3. Principled Guide
4. Provider
5. Preparer

Applying the Text:

Let us endeavor to practice godly insight, patience, and practical stewardship to build a stable, loving, and functional family environment.

Memory Verse:

A house is built by wisdom and becomes strong through good sense.”
Proverbs 24:3 NLT

Wisdom

A BIBLE STUDY GUIDE



KEY SCRIPTURE

Write the passage you are studying.



OBSERVE

What does the passage say? What details stand out?



REFLECT

What is God teaching me through this passage?



APPLY

How should this truth shape my thoughts, choices, and actions?



PRAYER

What can I pray in response to what I've learned?





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