POWER HOUR

11/22/2026

Lesson Text:
Proverbs 3:13-35

Related Scriptures:
Proverbs 8:12-21; 16:16-22;
Psalms 37:1-40; 112:1-10;
2 Corinthians 9:6-11

"WISDOM BRINGS BLESSINGS"

NLT TRANSLATION

Golden Text: Joyful is the person who finds wisdom, the one who gains understanding. Proverbs 3:13 NLT

Time: between 971 and 931 B.C.

Place: Jerusalem

Proverbs 3:13-35 NLT

13 Joyful is the person who finds wisdom, the one who gains understanding. 14 For wisdom is more profitable than silver, and her wages are better than gold. 15 Wisdom is more precious than rubies; nothing you desire can compare with her. 16 She offers you long life in her right hand, and riches and honor in her left. 17 She will guide you down delightful paths; all her ways are satisfying. 18 Wisdom is a tree of life to those who embrace her; happy are those who hold her tightly. 19 By wisdom the Lord founded the earth; by understanding he created the heavens. 20 By his knowledge the deep fountains of the earth burst forth, and the dew settles beneath the night sky. 21 My child, don't lose sight of common sense and discernment. Hang on to them, 22 for they will refresh your soul. They are like jewels on a necklace. 23 They keep you safe on your way, and your feet will not stumble. 24 You can go to bed without fear; you will lie down and sleep soundly. 25 You need not be afraid of sudden disaster or the destruction that comes upon the wicked, 26 for the Lord is your security. He will keep your foot from being caught in a trap. 27 Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it's in your power to help them. 28 If you can help your neighbor now, don't say, "Come back tomorrow, and then I'll help you." 29 Don't plot harm against your neighbor, for those who live nearby trust you. 30 Don't pick a fight without reason, when no one

has done you harm. 31 Don't envy violent people or copy their ways. 32 Such wicked people are detestable to the Lord, but he offers his friendship to the godly. 33 The Lord curses the house of the wicked, but he blesses the home of the upright. 34 The Lord mocks the mockers but is gracious to the humble. 35 The wise inherit honor, but fools are put to shame!

INTRODUCTION

With the onset of social media, a relatively new psychological malady has arisen that psychologists call "fear of missing out" (FOMO). People genuinely fear they will miss out on life's greatest moments or bucket-list items. Our aspirations seem just beyond our reach—almost attainable but never grasped. A frustrated generation continues to feel lonely, angry, anxious, and depressed. Busy, amped-up schedules and mind-numbing media do not satisfy these deeper longings.

In today's lesson, we are privy to Solomon's instruction to his son. In poetic form, we discover the blessings that wisdom brings to life, a life free from (FOMO).

Additional Scripture Readings:

The Value of Wisdom. Proverbs 16:16-22.

Blessed Is the One Who Fears the Lord. Psalms 112:1-10.

Cheerful Generosity. 2 Corinthians 9:6-11.

Reproof and Wisdom. Proverbs 8:12-21.

Trust The Lord. Psalms 37:1-20.

The Lord Blesses the Righteous. Psalms 37:21-40.

Wisdom Is Precious. Proverbs 3:13-35.

1. The rewards of walking wisely—part 1 (Proverbs 3:13-18). In Proverbs 3:13-35, Solomon explained the multitude of rewards or blessings that come to one who seeks and lives by God's wisdom. We find the first part of these blessings inverses 13-18. Note that these verses are written in the Hebrew poetic form of parallelism that was discussed in lesson 10.

The lesson text begins in verse 13 with the statement that those who seek God's wisdom and understanding will experience happiness. This happiness is not just a

fleeting moment of temporal pleasure but true and long-lasting blessing from God.

In verses 14 and 15, we see the value of wisdom that comes from God. Using a business analogy, Solomon stated that God's wisdom is more profitable than accumulating silver or gold. Furthermore, God's wisdom is more precious than rubies, a valuable gem. Then in a sweeping comparison, he affirmed that nothing we might want in this life can ever surpass the value of God's wisdom.

Verse 16 records three more blessings from God's wisdom—longer lives, riches, and honor. Living by God's wisdom does not guarantee a longer life, but such a lifestyle avoids the problems that sometimes shorten life. Under the new covenant today, we are not guaranteed wealth, but we experience the greater blessing of eternal riches.

A pleasant and peaceful life are additional blessings of God's wisdom (vs. 17). Life will have its rough times, but we have the promise of peace even in such times (Philippians 4:6-7). To liken God's wisdom to a tree of life shows the richness and fullness of God's blessing and happiness (Proverbs 3:18).

2. Examples of God's wisdom (Proverbs 3:19-20). Midway through this listing of God's blessings, Solomon paused in verses 19 and 20 to give examples of God's wisdom. Verse 19 refers to God's wisdom in creation, while the description in verse 20 concerning water is a reference to His power and wisdom seen in the Creation event or possibly the Flood of Genesis 6 through 8.

3. The rewards of walking wisely—part 2 (Proverbs 3:21-26). In these verses, Solomon continued describing the blessings of walking by God's wisdom. After imploring his son to seek God's wisdom (vs. 21), he identified its blessings: a full life (vs. 22), safety (vs. 23), and freedom from fear, which allows for restful sleep (vss. 24-25). He concluded this listing with the assurance that those who walk wisely can live in confidence (vs. 26).

4. The effect of wisdom on others (Proverbs 3:27-30). When we walk wisely, God brings blessings to other people as well. God blesses the needy through us as we share our resources with them (vss. 27-28). God blesses our neighbors through us as we seek to live at peace with them (vss. 29-30).

5. The rewards of walking wisely—part 3 (Proverbs 3:31-35). Solomon concluded his appeal for wisdom by listing these additional rewards. *First*, we will not envy or

choose the way of the wicked because we realize such people are an abomination to the Lord. Instead, the Lord is close to the wise (vss. 31-32). *Second*, we will avoid the curse of the Lord on the wicked; instead, we will experience His blessings in our homes (vs. 33).

Third, we will avoid the scorners and their punishment and instead receive God's grace (vs. 34). *Fourth*, we will avoid shame and inherit glory from the Lord (vs. 35). The rewards and blessings of wise living are certainly desirable and are incentives for us to seek God's wisdom daily.

PRACTICAL POINTS

Wisdom provides what riches cannot (Proverbs 3:13-16).
The way of wisdom is pleasant and leads to blessing (vss. 17-18).
God's creation is founded on His use of wisdom (vss. 19-20).
Applied wisdom decorates your life and makes you look good (vss. 21-22).
Safety, security, and sound sleep are found with wisdom (vss. 23-24).
The Lord's wisdom can deliver you from fear (vss. 25-26).
Wise people care for the needs of their neighbors (vss. 27-29).
When you choose to do harm, you fight with God (vss. 30-32).
The Lord's blessing depends on one's pursuit of wisdom (vss. 33-34).

CONCLUSION

Living wisely benefits us and those around us. It is important that we walk according to God's wisdom.

Next week's lesson: we conclude our study with a look at the fruitful life that wisdom produces; ***"Fruitfulness of Wisdom – 2 Peter 1:1-11***

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