All Glorious Within

Wisdom

September-December 2012

IN THIS ISSUE:

Wisdom
by Jenny & Amy Kieffer, with Lara Bode

A Heart of Wisdom
by Holly Hageman

Thoughts on Wisdom
from the Word (Bible study)

Wedding Announcement

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by Karissa Hiebert

Fruit of the Spirit Series, Photos
Needed, & Additions to AGW

Themed Devotionals

~ And More ~

“The King's daughter is all glorious within . . .” Psalm 45:13
For a limited time, we are offering a sample issue & brochure FREE to anyone you know who might be interested in a sample issue.

All Glorious Within is a publication for Christian young ladies that began in January 2006. It is compiled, edited, and published three times per year by Karissa Hiebert. Co-editors are Abe and Bernice Hiebert, who approve and improve each issue, giving many suggestions and much valued advice.

We welcome new subscribers! If you have friends or relatives that might be interested in receiving All Glorious Within, you may request brochures or sample issues for them.

All Glorious Within is non-profit; subscription rates are minimal just to help cover costs of postage and copying. Free brochures available upon request. Gift certificates also available.

Our goal is to provide conservative, wholesome reading material to inspire girls in their Christian walk, with an endeavor to maintain the centrality of Jesus Christ. If you have questions or concerns, please let us know personally about them. Suggestions are appreciated!

If you come across anything in All Glorious Within that is unBiblical, opinionated, or does not pass the tests of Philippians 4:8 and Colossians 2:8, please let us know about it. (Note that we do not necessarily endorse every word of each article.)

This issue of this publication has been approved by the co-editors, my parents (Abe and Bernice Hiebert).

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We gladly welcome submissions . . . please send articles, poetry, testimonies, reviews, and other such contributions! We do not publish advertisements.

All submissions must be approved by the co-editors (editor’s parents), and we ask that everything submitted be honoring to the Lord, based on the Word of God, and corresponding to Philippians 4:8. Please include information such as titles, authors, and publishers’ information, where applicable. Thank you.

To help cover costs of printing and postage, please include a small donation with your order if possible. Thank you! Note – some issues may not be available.

Christian Chronicle (previous publication, 3 column format):
Volume 2, Issue 3: Infatuation vs. Integrity
Volume 2, Issue 4: Home Life
Volume 2, Issue 5: Humility

All Glorious Within
Volume 1, Issue 1: Speech

MAGAZINE FORMAT:

All Glorious Within
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Volume 1, Issue 4: Sensitivity, Sincerity
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Submission Deadline for Next Issue:
March 18, 2012

For contact information, please see inside cover. For subscription rates, please see back cover (page 28).
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### Where shall wisdom be found?

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering.—Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.—The only wise God.—Be not wise in thine own eyes.

Ah, Lord God! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child. But the Lord said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the Lord.

Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.—All things whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.

“And he said, Where shall wisdom be found? and where is the place of understanding? And he said to Man, ‘Behold, I will hide My wisdom in secret places, and I will hide it from the sight of man’—Job 28:12.”

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“Psalm 90:12

“So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.”

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For contact information, please see inside cover. For subscription rates, please see back cover (page 28).
Greetings in the name of our King and welcome to the 23rd issue of All Glorious Within! May this issue inspire you to seek after wisdom with your whole heart! The Bible is FULL of Scriptures on wisdom. Those who seek it – and Him – with their whole hearts will find the wisdom that is from God.

This issue was partly worked on from the Philippines. I decided to feature a few pages on my time there, complete with pictures. You can find descriptions for the pictures (p. 27) on page 22. Of course, I had many, many pictures, but for reasons of space had to just choose 24.

You're welcome to submit anything for upcoming issues! We might start featuring a few extras such as studies of the lives of Bible characters and godly Christians of the past, recipes, homemaking tips, or whatever else you come up with. And of course, wedding and baby announcements will always be welcome. ☺

Lord willing, we will be starting our Fruit of the Spirit series in 2013, with the upcoming issue. We'll begin with the first, love. This is a big subject, and one that we hope to get you involved in. Please submit any articles, poems, quotes, testimonies, or other content you have written or have access to on the issue's theme.

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.”
Galatians 5:22-24 ✿

“Wisdom is the ability and willingness to base all of our thoughts, actions, and decisions on the principles of the Word of God.”
~ Jerry Ross ~

Your Photos Wanted!

On each front cover for the Fruit of the Spirit series, we'd like to feature a different fruit photo (or drawing). We'd prefer it to be edited nicely in a way that incorporates the word of the particular “fruit” onto it (see example above). If we choose your photo, you will receive either an extra issue of your choice (for yourself or a friend) or a 1-issue extension on your subscription. ✿
Quentin & Judith Waldner

Judith (formerly Plett) is a dear friend of the editor and a subscriber of All Glorious Within.

Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.

Whoso findeth me findeth life, and shall obtain favour of the Lord.

Thus saith the Lord, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might: . . . but let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the Lord.—The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

What things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ.—In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.—Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom: I am understanding; I have strength.

Christ Jesus, . . . is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption.

He that winneth souls is wise.


From Daily Light on the Daily Path, September 20, Morning
“M y son, if you receive my words, and treasure my commands within you, so that you incline your ear to wisdom, and apply your heart to understanding; yes, if you cry out for discernment, and lift up your voice for understanding, if you seek her as silver, and search for her as for hidden treasures; then you will understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God. For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding;” - Proverbs 2:1-6.

Scripture tells us that the fear (reverence) of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, that the man who finds wisdom is blessed because its value is better than the profit of silver, and the gain it brings is of more merit than the finest gold. Wisdom is more precious than the most beautiful and rarest jewels; there is nothing we could desire that even compares with it. We are to search for it as we would for hidden treasure.

In searching for the finest gold, the costly jewel, or the hidden treasure, one must be wary of the counterfeit. To have sold all that one has in search of the Pearl of Great Price, which has been all he has ever pursued, for which he has lived, and to be left at the end of his life clutching the disintegrating remains of a deceiving counterfeit – the thought of it is too much to bear! We must make sure we are not set on the course of living for something that merely resembles our Precious Jewel, settling for a forged and fraudulent lie.

There is a wisdom that is not from God, which is the counterfeit of which we must be wary. James 3:15 gives us the clue to discover its feigned appearance and utter uselessness. This wisdom is earthly, natural, diabolic, and its traits are jealousy, selfish ambition, disorder, and every evil thing. The wisdom of this world attempts to focus our eyes on pursuing after the things of the world, its possessions, and all that it has to offer, to keep us from pursuing after God and that which is eternal. Worldly wisdom is concerned with pleasing the senses and satisfying the desire of human nature with temporal things. Worldly wisdom is a devious, sneaky wisdom, and some of the wisest and most intelligent men have fallen as its prey.

We can escape the snare of falling into earthly wisdom by living for and structuring our lives around that which is eternal, and by beginning to store our treasure in Heaven. Often we become so involved in the many different facets and responsibilities of life that we forget that our lives consist of a mere breath. We do not want to live our brief lives pursuing futility and striving after the wind. Our lives are so short in comparison to the forever of eternity. Forever is a circle – it has no beginning, and it has no end. One day to God is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. We need to always remember that what we do here on earth is not for the moment, but rather for all eternity.
While intelligence is found in the mind, wisdom is found in the heart. Our minds are very important to our hearts! We cannot do without one or the other in the physical sense of bodily function, and we cannot do so in the spiritual sense either. We put food into our mouths, which is digested in our stomachs; and its nutrients become the life of our entire body. In this same way, what we put in our minds is “digested” and absorbed into our hearts and influences our entire person and lives. We must be careful to feed our minds only the very best – the good and profitable things that will prosper us; for it is from our heart that flows who and what we really are, and out of the abundance of our hearts our mouths will speak.

The wisdom from above is, first, pure. God does not sanctify the things of this world and make them holy. He does away with the flesh and gives us His Holy Spirit; He does not reform our old nature, but rather does away with it and gives us a new life; and He does not borrow from the wisdom of this world to make us wise. The wisdom from above is holy and pure – of God Himself. Wisdom is an attribute of God, and its supply, depth, and riches are as inexhaustible as God Himself. In contrast, we, as mere mortals, possess nothing. We come into this world with nothing, and we leave it with nothing. God is eternal, having no beginning or end, and so is every attribute that He has. It is when we have God that we have wisdom. God gives Himself to those who give themselves to Him.

To be a disciple of Jesus means to follow Him, to learn from Him, and to receive from Him. Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever wishes to save his life shall lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake shall find it. For what will a man be profited, if he gains the whole world, and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?” – Matthew 16:24b-26. One of the first steps in being a follower of Jesus is to deny self. Self desires to be acknowledged and admired; self wants to be in control of not only our own lives, but others and all situations as well; self desires to be always comfortable and thinks nothing of making others uncomfortable in its wake.

It is bending and catering to self, instead of denying it, that causes us to seek after things that are temporal rather than those which are eternal. The heart of wisdom belongs to those who live for eternity by becoming a disciple of Jesus, giving their whole lives to be conformed to His image. When we give Jesus our hearts and follow Him, God begins to work into us His nature. The life wholly given to God will go deeper and deeper into servanthood and humility. Jesus emptied Himself in taking on the form of a man; He had no stately form or majesty that we should be attracted to Him. Jesus humbled Himself by becoming as one of us. Jesus is the perfect picture of humility and meekness of spirit. Even though He is God, He held for Himself none of His rights, but became a servant – even to death on the cross. We need to let the same humility of Jesus be formed in us toward our neighbors, family, friends, and enemies; to live no longer for ourselves, but to become completely given to God in all things and to do His will for our lives. As a bride takes her
bridegroom’s name and is wholly identified with him, so must we be content to let our own name, reputation, and rights disappear and have His perfect likeness be formed in us. No longer will people see us, but His Name lifted up in our lives – not only by the things that we do and say, but by the fragrance of Christ within us, which will speak of Him more loudly than words.

Holly’s references for this article include Psalm 90:12; Proverbs 1:7, 2:1-6, 9:10, and 8:13; James 3:13-17; Matthew 13:44-46; and John 17:3. She wrote us in her letter accompanying this article: “‘A Heart of Wisdom’ contains a simple message of living for God rather than pursuing the futility of life. God has enabled me to present this same message to a number of young people, some in the depths of rebellion. I have been surprised by the openness of heart many of them have, and the humility with which it has been received.

“God delights in giving us His wisdom! When we know of His love for us, and that He, as our loving Heavenly Father, loves to give us good things, we can ask Him for wisdom with faith. ‘But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all men liberally [generously] and without reproach, and it will be given to him.’ - James 1:5. May God bless you in your pursuit of the wisdom and knowledge of God!”

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“Let it be your first aim to abide in Him in focused, fervent devotion of heart, when the heart and the life are right, rooted in Christ, knowledge will come in the measure we need.” ~ Andrew Murray

 Void of Understanding
(Proverbs 24:30-32)

“I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding; and lo, it was grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down. Then I saw, and considered it well: I looked upon it, and received instruction.”

What happens when we are void of understanding, lacking in wisdom, spiritually slothful?! Our spiritual lives become choked up, grown over, hindered, broken down – a mess. It reminds me of the parable of the soils. So when we realize our life is in such a place, what should we do? How can we clean up our lives and bear fruit? Well, to bear fruit, our hearts must have ‘good soil,’ and God can purge our hearts to bring them to such a place. But it’s not enough to just purge away those thorns. It’s not enough to weed a garden and expect it to produce. You have to plant good plants in the good soil or it will just become a garden full of weeds again. Just so, we need to fill the void in our lives with God. And since the wisdom from above is a work of God, the more we get to know and love Him, the more He will fill our lives and hearts with His wisdom. He promises it to those who ask. In abundance! If we are spiritually on guard and diligent, there is no need to be void of understanding. Spiritual diligence leads to wisdom and understanding. And those three things lead to a life of abundant fruit-bearing and godliness. ✽ Devotional Journal: March 24, 2010
Wisdom is seeing life from God’s perspective. It is not revealed so much by profound words or mighty actions, but by our simple obedience to God’s Word, and yielding our hearts to His Spirit. Wisdom is believing what God says and basing our lives on His truth.

How can we discover God’s perspective? When we know someone well, we can see life as he or she sees it. Similarly, as you and I get to know the Lord, we will begin to see life from His point of view. He has given us His Word, and through it we can learn His thoughts and His ways. 2 Timothy 3:15 says “…from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus” (emphasis added).

As we read God’s Word, we can begin to see life from His perspective by looking for answers to questions such as, “Who is the Lord, and what are His characteristics?”; “How does He respond to the righteous and the unrighteous?”; or “How does He work with His children?”. Seeking a better understanding of God through His Word enriches my heart’s relationship with Him.

Our Heavenly Father has an eternal store of wisdom! It is a gift that He will freely give to us when we ask for it in faith. “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord.” – James 1:5-7.

It is exciting to see that the Bible is full of verses on wisdom! Psalm 111:10 says, “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do His commandments: His praise endureth forever.”

Walking in wisdom brings joy! “Happy is the man who finds wisdom, and the man who gains understanding: For her proceeds are better than the profits of silver, and her gain than fine gold. She is more precious than rubies, and all the things you may desire cannot compare with her…. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her, and happy are all who retain her.” – Proverbs 3:13-18.

When I read Proverbs 23:15-17, it became clearer to me than ever before that wisdom is a way of life: “My son, if thine heart be wise, my heart shall rejoice… when thy lips speak right things. Let not thine heart envy sinners: but be thou in the fear of the Lord all the day long.” As a result of developing a wise heart, we will speak wise words because we fear the Lord. “Walk [live, be occupied] in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man” - Colossians 4:5-6.

Godly wisdom affects how we use the gift of communication. I am incapable of speaking in wisdom unless the Lord guides my mouth. One time I was teaching a group of children, and I unknowingly caused deep hurt in one of the girls. The Lord was faithful to humble me and show me how to respond wisely, sincerely asking her forgiveness.
As in all other areas of life, Jesus is our example of walking in wisdom; He looked at life from His Father’s perspective. He knew His Father’s heart so completely, yet still sought His presence often to know the Father’s will. He then walked in total yieldedness, fulfilling His Father’s desires and walking in true wisdom. As we seek the Lord, He gives the insight and grace to walk in joyful, humble obedience as Jesus did.

Sadly, the natural inclination of our natures is not to wisdom, but to disobedience and foolishness. “…There is none righteous, no, not one” - Romans 3:10. It is far easier to seek our own pleasure rather than to immediately obey our parents, or to pass along a bit of gossip rather than to show discretion.

Wisdom is shown by acting in accordance with the statutes that God has given us in Scripture. “Therefore be careful to observe them [the judgments of God]; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes, and say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’ For what great nation is there that has God so near to it, as the Lord our God is to us, for whatever reason we may call upon Him?” – Deuteronomy 4:6-7.

The Lord is a wonderful Counselor (see Isaiah 9:6) to all His children; He is so near to us that we can call on Him and ask Him to help us act wisely. “Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.” – Jeremiah 33:3.

Wisdom is also attained by learning from struggles. My mother often reminds me, “Jenny, never waste a good problem!” It is her way of asking me, “What is God teaching you in this situation? How can you apply this new wisdom to future situations?” This applies to both self-inflicted difficulties and character-building challenges! When we come to the Lord with either of the above situations, He graciously gives wisdom (see James 1:5).

Scripture gives us examples of many individuals who either lived in the fear of God or walked in foolish disobedience. Not only can we learn much from Scriptural examples, but also from people around us. “He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.” - Proverbs 13:20.

As you seek to grow in Godly wisdom, answer the following questions:

1. How can you show by your words that you know the Lord and seek His face?
2. How can you demonstrate by your works that you live in reverence of His awesome holiness?
3. How can you daily yield your will to better obey Him?

Proverbs 3:7 warns, “Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and depart from evil.”

If we desire wisdom for our own glory, we will experience the truth that “God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble” (James 4:6). Earnestly seeking after the wisdom of God will cause us to see more clearly how great God is! “Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!” – Romans 11:33.

Scripture gives us some wonderful pictures of wisdom. It may help you (as it does me) to think of wisdom as a fruitful tree. James 3:17 says that “the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy” (emphasis added). Since fruit comes from a tree, this refers us to passages such as Psalm 1, that compare the righteous to fruitful trees planted by rivers of water. As you and I make God’s Word a constant part of our lives and thoughts, true wisdom and righteousness will bear precious, eternal fruit for God’s glory.

Consider these ideas in your quest for wisdom:

1. Memorize and meditate on several verses about wisdom. Record in a journal what the Lord teaches you about how to apply wisdom.

For contact information, please see inside cover. For subscription rates, please see back cover (page 28).
2. Strive to be a wise woman by building up your family with encouraging words, rather than tearing them down with discouragement, criticism, or murmuring. (See Proverbs 14:1 and 1 Thessalonians 5:11.)

3. Think about the words to the hymn “Take Time to Be Holy”. How does the description of holiness relate to the walk of wisdom? (See Proverbs 9:10.)

4. Read through the book of Proverbs with a heart open to receive the wisdom of God. You will glean much wisdom from Proverbs, and you will also increase your love for God’s wisdom!

Wisdom is not an isolated character quality that we add to our “character crown”. Godly wisdom makes other qualities relevant to life. When we see and live life from God’s point of view, we will demonstrate such qualities as forgiveness, humility, submission, and love. When we see life from God’s perspective, we are demonstrating wisdom by choosing to walk with the Lord and bear fruit for His glory. “The wise shall inherit glory, but shame shall be the legacy of fools.” – Proverbs 3:35.

The following messages can be obtained without charge from Charity Christian Fellowship’s Sermon Ministry, 59 S. Groffdale Rd, Leola, PA 17540, 1 (855) 55-CHARITY, charitychristianfellowship.org/sermons, or from the links given. We have not personally reviewed all of these messages. – Descriptions from the CCF website.

The Law of the Wise (Paul Lloyd)

What is the law of the wise? The Bible tells us in Proverbs 13:14 that it is a fountain of life to cause us to be able to avoid the snares of death. In chapter 14:27 we see that this fountain springs from the true fear of the Lord. Let us take seriously all of the wisdom that God has given us in His Word and live our lives according to His will. We will never be disappointed when we lean on His wisdom.

God Gives Wisdom—To Those Who Believe It (Paul Lloyd)

God wants us to call upon Him, not only for salvation, but all areas of life. God will give us wisdom for our present circumstances if we ask Him, being fully convinced that He will show us what to do. Joseph and Daniel believed God even for the interpretation of dreams. God loves to meet our needs and have a close relationship with us. Often the first thing He will show us when we come to Him with a need is our own heart. When we make our wrongs right, God will show us the next step to take.

A Wise Man Will Hear (Paul Lloyd)

This is a great message about the pure way to receive instruction and correction. And the beauty of opening the ears of our heart to welcome instruction when it comes. The way of wisdom is someone who is teachable.

For contact information, please see inside cover. For subscription rates, please see back cover (page 28).
And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou art.” Genesis 41:39

“And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship.” Exodus 31:3

“And Moses called Bezaleel and Aholiab, and every wise hearted man, in whose heart the Lord had put wisdom, even every one whose heart stirred him up to come unto the work to do it.” Exodus 36:2

“Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.” Deuteronomy 4:6

“For they are a nation void of counsel, neither is there any understanding in them. O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!” Deuteronomy 32:28-29

“And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him: and the children of Israel hearkened unto him, and did as the Lord commanded Moses.” Deuteronomy 34:9

“And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding exceeding much, and largeness of heart, even as the sand that is on the sea shore. And Solomon’s wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country, and all the wisdom of Egypt.” I Kings 4:29-30

“No mention shall be made of coral, or of pearls: for the price of wisdom is above rubies.” Job 28:18

“Only the Lord give thee wisdom and understanding, and give thee charge concerning Israel, that thou mayest keep the law of the Lord thy God.” I Chronicles 22:12

“Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people: for who can judge this thy people, that is so great? And God said to Solomon, Because this was in thine heart, and thou hast not asked riches, wealth, or honour, nor the life of thine enemies, neither yet hast asked long life; but hast asked wisdom and knowledge for thyself, that thou mayest judge my people, over whom I have made thee king: Wisdom and knowledge is granted unto thee; and I will give thee riches, and wealth, and honour, such as none of the kings have had that have been before thee, neither shall there any after thee have the like.” II Chronicles 1:10-12

“And all the kings of the earth sought the presence of Solomon, to hear his wisdom, that God had put in his heart.” II Chronicles 9:23

“With the ancient is wisdom; and in length of days understanding. With him is wisdom and strength, he hath counsel and understanding.” Job 12:12-13

“How hast thou counselled him that hath no wisdom? and how hast thou plentifully declared the thing as it is?” Job 26:3

“No mention shall be made of coral, or of pearls: for the price of wisdom is above rubies.” Job 28:18

“Whence then cometh wisdom? and where is the place of understanding? . . . God understandeth the way thereof, and he knoweth the place thereof.” Job 28:20,23
“And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding.” Job 28:28

“Behold, God is mighty, and despiseth not any: he is mighty in strength and wisdom.” Job 36:5

“Who hath put wisdom in the inward parts? or who hath given understanding to the heart?” Job 38:36

“The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.” Psalm 19:7

“The mouth of the righteous speaketh wisdom, and his tongue talketh of judgment.” Psalm 37:30

“My mouth shall speak of wisdom; and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.” Psalm 49:3

“Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.” Psalm 51:6

“So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.” Psalm 90:12

“O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.” Psalm 104:24

“Whoso is wise, and will observe these things, even they shall understand the loving-kindness of the Lord.” Psalm 107:43

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever.” Psalm 111:10

“To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding; To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity; To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion. A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels: A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels.” Proverbs 1:2-5

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.” Proverbs 1:7

“Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets: She crieth in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she uttereth her words, saying, How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorners delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge? Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you. Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the Lord: They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof. Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices. For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them. But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.” Proverbs 1:20-33

“My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God. For the Lord giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge.
and understanding. He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly.” Proverbs 2:1-7

“When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul; Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee:” Proverbs 2:10-11

“Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.” Proverbs 3:7

“Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.” Proverbs 3:13

“The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens.” Proverbs 3:19

“My son, let not them depart from thine eyes: keep sound wisdom and discretion.” Proverbs 3:21

“The wise shall inherit glory: but shame shall be the promotion of fools.” Proverbs 3:35

“Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth. Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: love her, and she shall keep thee. Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her. She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee. Hear, O my son, and receive my sayings; and the years of thy life shall be many. I have taught thee in the way of wisdom; I have led thee in right paths. When thou goest, thy steps shall not be straitened; and when thou runnest, thou shalt not stumble. Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go: keep her; for she is thy life.” Proverbs 4:5-13

“My son, attend unto my wisdom, and bow thine ear to my understanding:” Proverbs 5:1

“Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise:” Proverbs 6:6

“Say unto wisdom, Thou art my sister; and call understanding thy kinswoman:” Proverbs 7:4

“Doth not wisdom cry? and understanding put forth her voice?” Proverbs 8:1

“O ye simple, understand wisdom: and, ye fools, be ye of an understanding heart.” Proverbs 8:5

“For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it. I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions.” Proverbs 8:11-12

“Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom: I am understanding; I have strength.” Proverbs 8:14

“Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not.” Proverbs 8:33

“Wisdom hath builded her house, she hath hewn out her seven pillars:” Proverbs 9:1

“Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee. Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.” Proverbs 9:8-10

“The proverbs of Solomon. A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother.” Proverbs 10:1

“He that gathereth in summer is a wise son: but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame.” Proverbs 10:5

“The wise in heart will receive commandments: but a prating fool shall fall.” Proverbs 10:8

“In the lips of him that hath understanding wisdom is found: but a rod is for the back of him that is void of understanding.” Proverbs 10:13

“Wise men lay up knowledge: but the mouth of the foolish is near destruction.” Proverbs 10:14
“In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise. The tongue of the just is as choice silver: the heart of the wicked is little worth. The lips of the righteous feed many: but fools die for want of wisdom.” Proverbs 10:19-21

“It is as sport to a fool to do mischief: but a man of understanding hath wisdom.” Proverbs 10:23

“The mouth of the just bringeth forth wisdom: but the froward tongue shall be cut out.” Proverbs 10:31

“When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom.” Proverbs 11:2

“He that is void of wisdom despiseth his neighbour: but a man of understanding beholdeth his peace.” Proverbs 11:12

“The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.” Proverbs 11:30

“A man shall be commended according to his wisdom: but he that is of a perverse heart shall be despised.” Proverbs 12:8

“The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.” Proverbs 12:15

“There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise is health.” Proverbs 12:18

“A wise son heareth his father’s instruction: but a scurrier heareth not rebuke.” Proverbs 13:1

“Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom.” Proverbs 13:10

“The law of the wise is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death.” Proverbs 13:14

“He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.” Proverbs 13:20

“Every wise woman buildeth her house: but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands.” Proverbs 14:1

“In the mouth of the foolish is a rod of pride: but the lips of the wise shall preserve them.” Proverbs 14:3

“A scurrier seeketh wisdom, and findeth it not: but knowledge is easy unto him that understandeth.” Proverbs 14:6

“The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way: but the folly of fools is deceit.” Proverbs 14:8

“A wise man feareth, and departeth from evil: but the fool rageth, and is confident.” Proverbs 14:16

“The crown of the wise is their riches: but the foolishness of fools is folly.” Proverbs 14:24

“Wisdom resteth in the heart of him that hath understanding: but that which is in the midst of fools is made known.” Proverbs 14:33

“The king’s favour is toward a wise servant: but his wrath is against him that causeth shame.” Proverbs 14:35

“The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness.” Proverbs 15:2

“The lips of the wise disperse knowledge: but the heart of the foolish doeth not so.” Proverbs 15:7

“A scurrier loveth not one that reproveth him: neither will he go unto the wise.” Proverbs 15:12

“A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish man despiseth his mother.” Proverbs 15:20

“Folly is joy to him that is destitute of wisdom: but a man of understanding walketh uprightly.” Proverbs 15:21

“The way of life is above to the wise, that he may depart from hell beneath.” Proverbs 15:24

“The ear that heareth the reproof of life abideth among the wise.” Proverbs 15:31

“The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility.” Proverbs 15:33
“The wrath of a king is as messengers of death: but a wise man will pacify it.” Proverbs 16:14

“How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver!” Proverbs 16:16

“The wise in heart shall be called prudent: and the sweetness of the lips increaseth learning. Understanding is a wellspring of life unto him that hath it: but the instruction of fools is folly. The heart of the wise teacheth his mouth, and addeth learning to his lips.” Proverbs 16:21-23

“A wise servant shall have rule over a son that causeth shame, and shall have part of the inheritance among the brethren.” Proverbs 17:2

“A reprover entereth more into a wise man than an hundred stripes into a fool.” Proverbs 17:10

“Wherefore is there a price in the hand of a fool to get wisdom, seeing he hath no heart to it?” Proverbs 17:16

“Wisdom is before him that hath understanding; but the eyes of a fool are in the ends of the earth.” Proverbs 17:24

“Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise: and he that shutteth his lips is esteemed a man of understanding.” Proverbs 17:28

“Through desire a man, having separated himself, seeketh and intermeddleth with all wisdom.” Proverbs 18:1

“The words of a man’s mouth are as deep waters, and the wellspring of wisdom as a flowing brook.” Proverbs 18:4

“The heart of the prudent getteth knowledge; and the ear of the wise seeketh knowledge.” Proverbs 18:15

“He that getteth wisdom loveth his own soul: he that keepeth understanding shall find good.” Proverbs 19:8

“Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end.” Proverbs 19:20

“Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.” Proverbs 20:1

“When the scorners be punished, the simple is made wise: and when the wise is instructed, he receiveth knowledge.” Proverbs 21:11

“There is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man spendeth it up.” Proverbs 21:20

“A wise man scaleth the city of the mighty, and casteth down the strength of the confidence thereof.” Proverbs 21:22

“There is no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against the Lord.” Proverbs 21:30

“Bow down thine ear, and hear the words of the wise, and apply thine heart unto my knowledge.” Proverbs 22:17

“Labour not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom.” Proverbs 23:4

“Speak not in the ears of a fool: for he will despise the wisdom of thy words.” Proverbs 23:9

“My son, if thine heart be wise, my heart shall rejoice, even mine.” Proverbs 23:15

“Hear thou, my son, and be wise, and guide thine heart in the way.” Proverbs 23:19

“Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.” Proverbs 23:23

“The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice: and he that begetteth a wise child shall have joy of him.” Proverbs 23:24

“Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established.” Proverbs 24:3

“A wise man is strong: yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength.” Proverbs 24:5

“Wisdom is too high for a fool: he openeth not his mouth in the gate.” Proverbs 24:7
“So shall the knowledge of wisdom be unto thy soul: when thou hast found it, then there shall be a reward, and thy expectation shall not be cut off.” Proverbs 24:14

“Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit.” Proverbs 26:5

“Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit? there is more hope of a fool than of him.” Proverbs 26:12

“My son, be wise, and make my heart glad, that I may answer him that reproacheth me.” Proverbs 27:11

“Whoso keepeth the law is a wise son: but he that is a companion of riotous men shameth his father.” Proverbs 28:7

“The rich man is wise in his own conceit; but the poor that hath understanding searcheth him out.” Proverbs 28:11

“Scornful men bring a city into a snare: but wise men turn away wrath. If a wise man contendeth with a foolish man, whether he rage or laugh, there is no rest.” Proverbs 29:8-9

“Whoso loveth wisdom rejoiceth his father: but he that keepeth company with harlots spendeth his substance.” Proverbs 29:3

“A fool uttereth all his mind: but a wise man keepeth it in till afterwards.” Proverbs 29:11

“The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.” Proverbs 29:15

“There be four things which are little upon the earth, but they are exceeding wise:” Proverbs 30:24

“She openeth her mouth with wisdom: and in her tongue is the law of kindness.” Proverbs 31:26

“Then I saw that wisdom excelleth folly, as far as light excelleth darkness.” Ecclesiastes 2:13

“For God giveth to a man that is good in his sight wisdom, and knowledge, and joy: but to the sinner he giveth travail, to gather and to heap up, that he may give to him that is good before God. This also is vanity and vexation of spirit.” Ecclesiastes 2:26

“Wisdom strengtheneth the wise more than ten mighty men which are in the city.” Ecclesiastes 7:19

“I applied mine heart to know, and to search, and to seek out wisdom, and the reason of things, and to know the wickedness of folly, even of foolishness and madness.” Ecclesiastes 7:25

“Who is as the wise man? and who knoweth the interpretation of a thing? a man’s wisdom maketh his face to shine, and the boldness of his face shall be changed.” Ecclesiastes 8:1

“The words of wise men are heard in quiet more than the cry of him that ruleth among fools. Wisdom is better than weapons of war: but one sinner destroyeth much good.” Ecclesiastes 9:17-18

“Dead flies cause the ointment of the apothecary to send forth a stinking savour: so doth a little folly him that is in reputation for wisdom and honour. A wise man’s heart is at his right hand; but a fool’s heart at his left.” Ecclesiastes 10:1-2

“If the iron be blunt, and he do not whet the edge, then must he put to more strength: but wisdom is profitable to direct.” Ecclesiastes 10:10

“The words of a wise man’s mouth are gracious; but the lips of a fool will swallow up himself.” Ecclesiastes 10:12

“Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!” Isaiah 5:21

“For he saith, By the strength of my hand I have done it, and by my wisdom; for I am prudent: and I have removed the bounds of the people, and have robbed their treasures, and I have put down the inhabitants like a valiant man.” Isaiah 10:13
“And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;” *Isaiah* 11:2

“And wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, and strength of salvation: the fear of the LORD is his treasure.” *Isaiah* 33:6

“Who is the wise man, that may understand this? and who is he to whom the mouth of the LORD hath spoken, that he may declare it, for what the land perisheth and is burned up like a wilderness, that none passeth through?” *Jeremiah* 9:12

“He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion.” *Jeremiah* 10:12

“Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches:” *Jeremiah* 9:23

“As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.” *Daniel* 1:17

“Then Daniel answered with counsel and wisdom to Arioch the captain of the king’s guard, which was gone forth to slay the wise men of Babylon:” *Daniel* 2:14

“Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding: He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him. I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee: for thou hast now made known unto us the king’s matter.” *Daniel* 2:20-23

“But as for me, this secret is not revealed to me for any wisdom that I have more than any living, but for their sakes that shall make known the interpretation to the king, and that thou mightest know the thoughts of thy heart.” *Daniel* 2:30

“Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.” *Matthew* 7:24-27

“Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.” *Matthew* 10:16

“And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works?” *Matthew* 6:2

“Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season?” *Matthew* 24:45

“But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.” *Matthew* 25:4

“And when the sabbath day was come, he began to teach in the synagogue: and many hearing him were astonished, saying, From whence hath this man these things? and what wisdom is this which is given unto him, that even such mighty works are wrought by his hands?” *Mark* 6:2
“And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.” Luke 2:40

“And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.” Luke 2:52

“And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season?” Luke 12:42

“For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist.” Luke 21:15

“Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.” Acts 6:3

“And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.” Acts 6:10

“For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.” Romans 11:25

“O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out” Romans 11:33

“Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.” Romans 12:16

“For your obedience is come abroad unto all men. I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil.” Romans 16:19

“For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.” I Corinthians 1:19-24

“And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man’s wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:” I Corinthians 2:4-7

“Which things also we speak, not in the words which man’s wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.” I Corinthians 2:13

“According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.” I Corinthians 3:10

“Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness. And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.” I Corinthians 3:18-20
“For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have had our conversation in the world, and more abundantly to youward.” II Corinthians 1:12

“For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.” II Corinthians 10:12

“For ye suffer fools gladly, seeing ye yourselves are wise.” II Corinthians 11:19

“Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence;” Ephesians 1:8

“That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him;” Ephesians 1:17

“To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,” Ephesians 3:10

“See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.” Ephesians 5:15-17

“For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;” Colossians 1:9

“Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:” Colossians 1:28

“In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.” Colossians 2:3

“Which things have indeed a shew of wisdom in will worship, and humility, and neglecting of the body; not in any honour to the satisfying of the flesh.” Colossians 2:23

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.” Colossians 3:16

“Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time.” Colossians 4:5

“And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.” II Timothy 3:15

“If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.” James 1:5-7

“Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom. But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.” James 3:13-18
This is a compilation of Scriptures on wisdom by theme or category, and can be used as a Bible study to see what the Scriptures say about wisdom.


Wisdom keeps us from sin: Proverbs 10:19

Wisdom is worth more than jewels and gold: Job 28:13-19, Proverbs 8:10-11, 16:16


Wisdom keeps, blesses, and rewards us: Proverbs 2:10-11, 3:35, 4:5-13, 19:8, 24:14

The wise obtain favor and are rewarded: Proverbs 14:35, 17:2

The wise and faithful are respected and honored: Proverbs 12:8, 24:7, Ecclesiastes 9:17, Matthew 24:45, Luke 12:42

Wisdom brings joy and happiness: Proverbs 3:13

Wisdom brings life: Proverbs 4:13, 11:30, 13:14, 15:24

Counsel brings wisdom: Proverbs 19:20, 21:11, 29:15

The wise have teachable spirits and receive counsel: Proverbs 1:5, 9:8-9, 10:8, 12:15 13:1, 15:12, 31, 17:10

The wise have and seek knowledge, discernment, and understanding: Proverbs 10:14, 14:6, 15:7, 16:21-23, 17:24, 18:15

The wise will know and understand the lovingkindness of the Lord: Psalm 107:43


Wisdom and humility: Proverbs 11:2, 13:10, 14:3, 15:33

A wise woman: Proverbs 14:1, 24:3, 31:26

Discipline brings wisdom: Proverbs 29:15

Even a little folly in one who is wise: Ecclesiastes 10:1

Wisdom is more valuable than might and weapons: Ecclesiastes 7:19, 9:18
Wisdom in finances and resources: Proverbs 21:20, 23:4

The wise are peacemakers: Proverbs 11:12, 16:14, 29:8, James 3:13-18

The wise keep the law: Deuteronomy 4:6, I Chronicles 22:12, Proverbs 28:7

The wise are endued with boldness and strength: Proverbs 21:22, 24:5, Ecclesiastes 8:1, 10:2

The wise are diligent, not lazy: Proverbs 6:6, 10:5

The wise are upright: Proverbs 14:8, 16, 15:21

The wise are not envious: James 3:14-16

The wise are prepared: Matthew 25:4

The wise avoid wine and strong drink: Proverbs 20:1, Ephesians 5:17-18


The wisdom of God vs. the wisdom of men: I Corinthians 1:19-24, 2:4-7,13, 3:18-20, Colossians 2:23

The wise do not compare themselves among themselves: II Corinthians 10:12

The wise redeem the time: Ephesians 5:15-16, Colossians 4:5


The wise obey the commands of Jesus: Matthew 7:24-27


God delights in giving wisdom to those who ask in faith: James 1:5-7

Wisdom and the will of God: Ephesians 1:8-9, 5:17, Colossians 1:9


Wise concerning good: Romans 16:19

Other verses on wisdom: Psalm 90:12, Proverbs 1:2-3, 18:1, Ecclesiastes 10:10

The seven pillars of wisdom as mentioned in Proverbs 9:1 may possibly be the seven aspects of wisdom described in James 3:17. 🌸

Descriptions for the pictures on page 27:

(1) Me with Danielle and Abby, two of the interns at Shiphrah.  (2) Jennifer (another intern there) and Danielle with me.  (3) Até Estef and (4) Até Jhobee, two dear midwives from Mercy.  (5) Até Grace, a dear Shiphrah midwife.  (6) Sarah (another intern and friend) and I with our two catches each on my very last shift at Mercy.  (7) One of the dear families I cared for.  (8) My patient whose husband was Muslim, with her sister.  (9) Danielle, me, and Sarah when Danielle joined us at Mercy for my last shift before flying back to Manila with me.  (10) A “smiling” baby.  (11) A new baby with “Ube the Bear.”  (12) Samal Island prenatal outreach.  (13) At Crocodile Park with a huge turtle.  (14) Market.  (15) Suturing practice.  (16) With my friend Kim at a Mennonite youth Bible school.  (17) Danielle and I with babies we caught 5 minutes apart.  (18) My first catch ever.  (19) I still could hardly stand cockroaches by the time I left!  (20) Some of the huge spiders we had there.  (21) Some beautiful scenery of the mountains.  (22) Labwork session.  (23) Bathing a baby at Shiphrah.  (24) One of my sweet patients and her new baby. 🌸
Most of you know that I was in the Philippines for four months this summer/fall, and some of you were receiving my updates. I'd like to share a little of my journey of how God led me there and opened the doors, some about my time there, and finally, what the future looks like now that I am back. Following the report is a page of pictures.

It all started when I was almost 7 years old. My mother was expecting her fourth child, and met with a midwife, as she was interested in having a midwife as her caregiver for that birth. However, at that time, midwives were not financially covered under the health care system and, as Dad was going to Bible school, we could not afford anything but free hospital care. It was a time in my life and the lives of my young siblings when we were “deciding” what we “wanted to be when we grew up,” and somehow that midwife left an impression on me. I don’t know what it was – I didn’t know much about midwifery at that point – but after she left I decided, “When I grow up, I want to be a midwife.” I told people that when they asked, perhaps for years after.

Somewhere along the way, the vision waned. Then, with my mother’s 6th child, she got me and my sister to read up some on birth. She got her dream home birth that time, although we were not present (just for part of the labor). With her 7th child, my sister and I attended the birth. It was my first birth, and an amazing experience, although circumstances surrounding a last-minute relationship with last-minute caregivers made for a difficult outcome. With her 8th child, I once again got a refresher on labor and birth, and attended her labor. During that labor I was encouraged to pick up my childhood dream of midwifery again, but I was not entirely convinced yet. Well, the birth ended up being a transport to the hospital and we discovered that it was a miracle my mother and baby brother survived, both throughout the pregnancy and the birth.

Within a matter of weeks, I had gone from being the second-oldest at home with regular responsibilities, to being the oldest at home with responsibilities of taking over most of the household tasks, teaching, etc. Even after my mother recovered and life went back to mostly ‘normal,’ there were a lot of responsibilities, and thinking of doing something extra wasn’t much of an option.

But on my 20th birthday, it really hit me that I was getting older and there was a possibility I would be at home for several years yet. I had been thinking about midwifery again for a while, and now I really started to consider it again. For several weeks I looked into my options, and decided a correspondence course would be the most practical option at that point. I could still help at home with teaching and housework and study on the side. I started with an introductory midwifery course and also attended a midwifery seminar in Montana that fall. In February 2010 I started an advanced midwifery course.

Of course, I had to find some way to get experience as well, so I got connected with a midwife in Pennsylvania and found myself there from September to December 2010. The circumstances of how I ended up there were just some amazing, unexpected open doors from the Lord. I spent three months with the midwife and learned many valuable things from her, attending 7 births in my
time there, as well as many prenatals, postpartum visits, newborn exams, and things like walking through a miscarriage with one client and a tubal pregnancy with another.

I had heard about Mercy Maternity Center in the Philippines long before I actively pursued midwifery. It was mentioned to me again while I was studying, but oh the cost! How could I ever afford to go there?! Especially with the price of an international ticket! It was a dream of mine, but I didn’t know how it would ever work out. I considered it for the summer of 2011, but the doors just weren’t open.

Nearing the end of 2011, we decided to pursue the possibility of interning overseas in 2012. Although I could cover part of my trip, it was mostly donations from friends, family, and others with generous, giving hearts that started making it look more possible. Funds came in slowly enough to close doors that were not in God’s will, but came in just the right timing to confirm each next step of the way.

But first, I was still rather short on funds, and on January 16, I wrote to the director of MMC, “I was pretty sure I was going to apply for 2012 until some other considerations came up. I have REALLY wanted to come to MMC for quite a while now, so it’s been a matter of laying down my own desires and will in the matter and letting God lead. ☺ I still very much want to yet, but I think this summer looks like it’s not an option for me. ~ Thanks again for your time and I hope to apply in the future if the Lord so leads! ☺”

A few weeks later, I mentioned to my older sister that sometimes I still wished I would be going this summer to the Philippines. I think perhaps the next day, I received a very large donation from friends, which appeared to be confirmation of an open door to apply still. Exactly one month after I had written saying this summer didn’t look like an option, I wrote again asking if they still had room. That was going to be the door for God to open or close. He opened it – they still had room.

I had also heard of Shiphrah Birthing Home, but hadn’t known how to contact them. I was interested ever since someone had mentioned it to me, and just days before emailing Mercy again, I found it, and emailed the director there with some questions. After the doors opened to go to the Philippines this summer, I had a lot of decisions to make and things to figure out, and in the end, I decided to spend 2 months at Mercy and 2 at Shiphrah. I intended to begin at Mercy and end at Shiphrah, but both directors thought it would be better the other way around. I didn’t understand at that point, but I changed my plans, and it ended up being better that way for several reasons.

Shortly before leaving, I realized I was still short financially, and within a few days a cheque arrived that exactly covered the foreseen expenses of that time. Every step of the way, there were confirmations that this was God’s will. It was such a blessing! To see God’s hand from the small things to the big things, opening and closing doors, clearly confirming things, is so amazing!

So, on June 26, I flew to Hawaii, where I met up with two other Mercy interns. The plan was to travel together to Manila, where they would go on to Davao and I would stay in Manila. One of the other interns had an unexpected turn of events which delayed her a few days, but the other girl and I went on. I settled into life at Shiphrah for the next 10 weeks. At the time, I didn’t know how long I would be there; I didn’t have my ticket from Manila to Davao yet. There were many decisions and factors involved. But finally God opened the right doors and I chose to stay longer than two months at Shiphrah. I had a lot of “continuities of care” due and I didn’t want to run off on them.
My first week there was amazingly slow – the midwives assured me it wasn’t normal. It was July 4th before I witnessed a birth, and then the 7th before there was another one. After that it picked up.

I learned a lot at Shiphrah. The midwives were knowledgeable and working alongside them was more helpful than reading a book. I also learned skills such as suturing, which I trembled to do for real, afraid that I might not do a good enough job. But one day I bought a chicken and Danielle (my roommate and fellow intern) and I practiced, and within a few days I was given the task of suturing “for real.” I was very close to just handing it all over to the midwife and saying, “I can’t do it! You do it and I’ll watch!” but I knew I had to start somewhere. It was like a turning point for me. God gave me the grace to be able to complete the task, and the midwife supervising wasn’t about to let me hand it over to her. She wouldn’t even take over one stitch – she took my hand to guide me when necessary, but would not do it herself. She guided me every step of the way. I did it 6 more times after that, one being a very extensive, complicated tear that the midwife and I worked on together, and by the last one, I was feeling confident that I would be able to do it without supervision if I needed to, although more practice would always be good.

I made friends at the birthing home, with the midwives and other staff, the interns, the women we served, etc. I also found some friends among the Mennonites and visited them a few times. Some were relatives of some of my friends back home. Right before I left Manila, I was able to go along on a boat trip into the mountains and have a glimpse of tribal mountain life in the Philippines.

From an update: For those who are curious or have asked – at Shiphrah I got the following: *42 births I did not miss (more where I made it for almost everything but not the baby’s actual birth). *29 catches. *33 newborn exams. *24 postpartums. *50 IE’s. *7 suturings. *Over 220 prenatals (I have 203 recorded but there were a fair amount I didn’t keep track of).

But, besides the “numbers,” I got and found some other invaluable things: *The blessing and privilege of building relationships and friendships with the women I cared for. *Amazing friends and teachers in the amazing midwives at Shiphrah. *A glimpse into the practical side of missions overseas. *Friends in the other interns and staff there, and learning to build relationships and work thro’ them. *A cultural experience that couldn’t be fully described in words. *Many lessons learned along the way! *And much more! It was an amazing time!!

On September 10th, I flew to Davao to begin a new life for 7 weeks – a new city, a new language, new roommates, new midwives . . . everything was just different. I struggled with that for a while. It was hard not to compare when I was so used to where I had been before. For example: At Shiphrah, most women delivered on the birth stool, and at Mercy, most delivered on the bed. Finally, one student encouraged me to avoid making comparisons and just accept that Mercy was different, and put myself into things there. By the time I left, I ended up loving the Visayan language, loving the city of Davao, loving the way Mercy operated, etc.

The same thing happened at Mercy as at Shiphrah: The first while was slow. Except it was worse at Mercy. Maybe God decided I hadn’t passed the test of waiting on Him at Shiphrah and gave me an even harder trial of it at Mercy! ☺ I didn’t have many shifts for the first while and the ones I did have were quite slow. It took me a few weeks to complete the requirements of charting, assisting, etc. before I could start handling the births. And even when I started, I felt like I wasn’t being given a chance to really handle the births – like all I was doing was sitting there catching the baby. But after a while, supervisors that had worked with me a little more than others gave me a lot of responsibility with management, decisions, etc.
I had some difficulties to work through at Mercy. There were some at Shiphrah also, but different in each place. It was a supervisor or two that I struggled with at Mercy. There were some misunderstandings, and also some times I felt like I was not given a fair chance or authority was misused, and I was more sensitive there than usual so a few times I was very nearly brought to tears. But although it was hard, it was good for me. Being in the Philippines did so much more than give me midwifery experience. It also taught me many life lessons, including in relationships. I know I didn’t do everything right either and if I could do it all over again, I would do my part differently.

I was at 18 births at Mercy, 7 being my catches. The last two were within 4 hours of each other on my very last shift, one delivering 4 minutes after her arrival. I recorded 61 prenatals, 16 postpartums, 11 IE’s. And most importantly, I LOVED caring for the women there. Midwifery is 99% about relationships and a heart for people, and it’s my favorite part. I loved how we prayed with the women after each visit. I loved getting to know them and learning to communicate with them in their own language. I loved lavishing love, care, attention, and compliments on them and their babies.

After applying to the birth centers, I found out that NARM, North American Registry of Midwives, had changed their requirements, and any application that wasn’t submitted by December 31, 2012 would be subject to new requirements. Which wouldn’t quite mean starting paperwork/apprenticing all over again, but getting an extensive apprenticeship and having a lot more involved in it all, as well as more expenses. In order to apply by the end of the year, I would have to somehow get all my skills signed off in the month and a half after returning home. I got all the numbers I needed, but my 41 pages of skills still had many pages unsigned. I would have needed to put together lots of protocols and walk through many things with a CPM (certified professional midwife), which I was prepared to do, but it seemed that God was closing the doors due to various circumstances. And so, amidst some struggle, I chose to lay aside applying with NARM, for now for sure.

Life has been full nonetheless. My brother and I had a road trip Nov. 21-23 to pick up my older sister from Alberta. November 24th a close friend got married (I was so thankful the wedding wasn’t until after I was home! I already missed most of her courtship 😊). November 28th I had a neonatal resuscitation course, which had involved studying, preparing, and taking an exam beforehand. December 7th we had an evening with a Filipino meal, slideshow, etc. for friends and supporters. And of course there were many things between and after all that.

Now I am continuing to work on my course with the goal of graduating by February 2014, unless the Lord reveals other plans for me. Also, while in my last month away, we found out that my mother has a tumor in (not on) her pituitary gland. She had it once before but it shrank and she never had to have treatment. Now it is back and growing. It is benign but possibly still very serious. So I am not working as full-time on my course as I would if she was in ideal health. No conclusions have been reached yet as to treatment options. Please keep us in prayer about this situation.

What about the unknown future? That is all in the Lord’s hands right now. 😊 All I know is that I can take life one day at a time, one step at a time, and with how the Lord has led so far, He will surely continue to lead. My heart would be to volunteer overseas in a clinic or birth center at least short term – but I am open to however else He may lead.

Being in the Philippines was a time of many memories, blessings, challenges, etc. and I will always be grateful God gave me the opportunity to spend summer 2012 there.
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