

A photograph of a dirt path winding through a lush green forest. Sunlight filters through the trees, creating a bright, hazy atmosphere. The path is covered in fallen leaves and small plants. The text 'PROVERBS' is written in large, white, serif capital letters across the middle of the image. Below it, a thin white horizontal line separates the word 'PROVERBS' from the phrase 'LIVING WISDOM', which is written in smaller, white, serif capital letters.

PROVERBS

---

LIVING WISDOM

## Proverbs 1:1-7

1 The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel:

2 To know wisdom and instruction,  
to understand words of insight,

3 to receive instruction in wise dealing,  
in righteousness, justice, and equity;

4 to give prudence to the simple,  
knowledge and discretion to the youth—

5 Let the wise hear and increase in learning,  
and the one who understands obtain guidance,

6 to understand a proverb and a saying,  
the words of the wise and their riddles.

7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge;  
fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2 To know wisdom and instruction,  
to understand words of insight,  
3 to receive instruction in wise dealing,  
in righteousness, justice, and equity;  
4 to give prudence to the simple,  
knowledge and discretion to the youth—  
5 Let the wise hear and increase in learning,  
and the one who understands obtain guidance,

2 To know wisdom and instruction,  
to understand words of insight,  
3 to receive instruction in wise dealing,  
in righteousness, justice, and equity;  
4 to give prudence to the simple,  
knowledge and discretion to the youth—  
5 Let the wise hear and increase in learning,  
and the one who understands obtain guidance,

# Our Quest for Wisdom

It all starts with a question:

How do I raise my kids? ... my parents?

Should I be in this relationship?

Should I take this job...leave this job...go to this school?

What do I do with my resources (time, talent, treasure)

What do I do with my health?

How can I move on after I failed so bad? ...been hurt so bad?

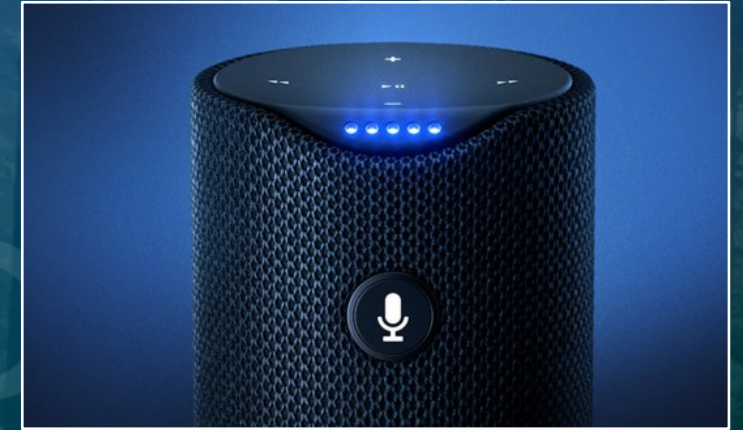
What does it look like to love my \_\_\_\_\_?

Who should I vote for?

What role should social media play in my life?

How can I get over my anxiety, anger, fear, lust, greed?

# Our Sources for Wisdom



PROVERBS  
LIVING WISDOM

# Our Sources for Wisdom

99% of our questions aren't moral with clear guidance.

## Myself

Logic and/or what  
“feels” like the best  
things to do.

Cost/Benefit.

My conscience.

## Others

- Friends
- Family
- Experts
- Social media (online poll - “vote for what I should do...”)

## God

Hard Rules – 613 laws  
specifically spelling out  
what to do and not do.

Soft Advice –  
Jesus is my co-pilot.

**Information**

Knowing  
facts



**Knowledge**

Understanding  
concepts



**Wisdom**

Applying  
truth

# An Invitation to Wisdom

## Deep

<sup>2</sup> To **know** wisdom...  
**understand** words of  
insight,

## Inward

<sup>3</sup> in **righteousness**,  
**justice**, and **equity**;

## Outward

<sup>3</sup> in righteousness,  
**justice**, and **equity**;

## Practical

<sup>2</sup> To know **wisdom**  
“Wisdom” = skillful

## Relational

<sup>3</sup> to **receive** instruction...  
<sup>4</sup> to **give** prudence...

## Perpetual

<sup>5</sup> Let the wise hear and  
**increase** in learning,

*But this can be universal and just list of pithy “to do” list.  
And will leave us thirsty for something bigger and deeper.*

# Living Wisdom

1) Living, as it organically applies to every facet of life

James 3:17

But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.

PROVERBS  
LIVING WISDOM



# Living Wisdom

## 2) Living, as God grows it in and through you

Romans 12:1-2

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing **you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.**

# Living Wisdom

## 3) Living (still), in the person of Jesus

Matthew 12:42  
...and behold, something  
greater than Solomon is here.

Deep, Inward, Outward, Practical,  
Relational, Perpetual –  
all made flesh in the person of Jesus

### Colossians 2:1-3

For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you and for those at Laodicea and for all who have not seen me face to face, <sup>2</sup> that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ, <sup>3</sup> ***in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.***

## Isaiah 53

<sup>4</sup> Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows;  
yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

<sup>5</sup> But he was pierced for our transgressions;  
he was crushed for our iniquities;  
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,  
and with his wounds we are healed.

## Luke 22

<sup>19</sup> And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." <sup>20</sup> And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.

