

BECOMING Wiser

Getting wisdom is the most important thing you can do! And whatever else you do get, good judgment. Proverbs 4:7

Church of the Redeemer | Pastor Dale A. O'Shields | January 13 & 14, 2018

#2 FOOL-PROOFING YOUR LIFE

1. There is a difference between sinfulness and foolishness.
2. Foolishness, like sin, has potential consequences.

- Proverbs 19:3
- Matthew 7:24-27
- Matthew 25:1-13

3. God helps the foolish and the sinful.

- Romans 3:23
- Romans 5:8
- Psalm 51:1-2
- Isaiah 53:6
- Acts 9:1-6
- Psalm 119:66

4. It takes work to become wise.

- Luke 2:52
- Psalm 90:12
- Colossians 1:9-10
- Ephesians 5:15-17

What do we need to do to foolproof our lives?

- ▶ Be aware.

Jeremiah 17:9 (NIV) The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?

Revelation 3:17 (NIV) You say, "I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing." But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked.

- ▶ See.

Psalms 139:23-24 (NIV) Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

- ▶ Acknowledge/Confess.

Psalms 32:5 (NIV) Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

1 John 1:9 (NIV) If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

- ▶ Repent.

2 Corinthians 7:10 (NLT) For the kind of sorrow God wants us to experience leads us away from sin and results in salvation. There's no regret for that kind of sorrow. But worldly sorrow, which lacks repentance, results in spiritual death.

- ▶ Learn.

Psalms 32:8-9 (NIV) I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you. Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.

Psalms 34:11 (NIV) Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

James 4:6-10 (NLT) But he gives us even more grace to stand against such evil desires. As the Scriptures say, "God opposes the proud but favors the humble." So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world. Let there be tears for what you have done. Let there be sorrow and deep grief. Let there be sadness instead of laughter, and gloom instead of joy. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor.