

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 | February 10 & 11, 2018

#WISDOM TO GUIDE YOUR DECISIONS - PART 1

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NKJV) Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT) Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

1. Address your trust issues.

- ▶ Believe that God is loving and good, and He knows and only wants the best for your life.
- ▶ Seek healing from the hurts that hinder your trust.
- ▶ Obey God's instructions, believing for His blessings.
 - **Deuteronomy 28:1-2**
 - **Isaiah 1:19**
 - **Matthew 7:24-25**
 - **Jeremiah 17:7**

2. Adjust your "lean."

Five things you need to know about "your understanding:"

- ▶ Your understanding is very limited.

Isaiah 55:8-9 (NIV) "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."
- ▶ Your understanding is deceptive.

Jeremiah 17:9-10 (NIV) The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind, to reward each person according to their conduct, according to what their deeds deserve.

Proverbs 14:12 (GW) There is a way that seems right to a person, but eventually it ends in death.

- ▶ Your understanding is contaminated with faulty thinking.

Ephesians 4:22-24 (NIV) You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

- ▶ Your understanding is easily influenced by natural thinking, wrong people and misinterpreted circumstances.

1 Corinthians 2:14 (NKJV) But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

1 Corinthians 15:33 (NIV) Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."

- ▶ Your understanding can be influenced by our spiritual adversary.

1 Peter 5:8 (NIV) Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

2 Timothy 2:25-26 (NIV) Opponents must be gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

3. Acknowledge God's authority.

4. Anticipate God's supernatural guidance.