



KING'S CHAPEL

Daily Devotional - Proverbs Study

Week 2 - Day 3

Approaching God

Proverbs 1:7, 33 - *“Start with God - the first step in learning is bowing down to God; only fools thumb their noses at such wisdom and learning. First pay attention to me, and then relax. Now you can take it easy - you're in good hands.”*

Eugene Peterson - The Message

Prayer: Peterson's paraphrase of Proverbs 1 is a helpful reminder of the simplicity of where wisdom comes from. We start with God, everyday, and then rest and relax in our union with Christ. Take a minute to still your heart, get quiet, and simply start with God. Ask him to meet with you today and to use his word to skillfully refresh and awaken your heart.

Bible Reading, Study & Meditation - Proverbs 4:1-9

Passage Introduction: A Father's Appeal #5 - Maintain Wisdom - Proverbs chapter 4 is filled with the repeated exhortation “do not forsake” wisdom. The message is clear: Never, ever give up in your pursuit of wisdom. Do absolutely anything to get it, whatever it costs you. Why? Because it is more costly to not have it. You will make decisions that lead to one difficulty and disaster after another. So do whatever it takes.

Proverbs 4:1-9 - ESV

1 Hear, O sons, a father's instruction, and be attentive, that you may gain insight, **2** for I give you good precepts; do not forsake my teaching. **3** When I was a son with my father, tender, the only one in the sight of my mother, **4** he taught me and said to me, "Let your heart hold fast my words; keep my commandments, and live. **5** Get wisdom; get insight; do not forget, and do not turn away from the words of my mouth. **6** Do not forsake her, and she will keep you; love her, and she will guard you. **7** The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight. **8** Prize her highly, and she will exalt you; she will honor you if you embrace her. **9** She will place on your head a graceful garland; she will bestow on you a beautiful crown."

Start with Engaging the Text: Take a few minutes to highlight, circle, or underline key words. What words or ideas are repeated, related, compared, contrasted? What key themes stand out to you?

Daily Study Questions

In our study so far we have already seen some of what getting wisdom entails: identification of your heart trusts, immersion in and obedience to the Word of God, friendships and openness to critique, patient learning in adversity, and personal involvement in real service to others, especially the most needy. These must be practiced reflectively through long experience, within a community of people seeking the same wisdom. They will lead to knowing God, knowing yourself, knowing the human heart and its ways, and knowing the times and seasons. And your decisions and choices will become wiser. We can paraphrase verse 7 like this: “Here’s how you get wisdom: Just get it!”

- Wisdom comes not to the most fortunate or intelligent but to those most determined to find it. How determined are you to get wisdom—really?
- What 1 or 2 principles do you observe in this section?
- When in your life or the life of someone else have you seen this observation illustrated?
- How can you put this observation or principle into practice?
- Lastly, try to summarize your thoughts by rewriting your main ideas and observations into your own words in a sentence or two.

Close in Prayer:

Lord, I have set my heart on wisdom, but I confess that my spiritual resolve in the past has often flagged. My will is weak. So, to help me seek wisdom, capture my heart with a vivid view of Jesus setting his face to go up to Jerusalem to die for me. Amen.