



The Wisdom of God

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Luke 2:52

And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and men

“I don’t think much of a man who is not wiser today than he was yesterday.” – Ab Lincoln

There were 4 major ways that Jesus matured. Jesus grew in wisdom and so must we.

Ephesians 5:15 *“be very careful, then, how you live--not as unwise but as wise.”*

This is a command: “Be alert. Listen very carefully to what I have to say. In light of what I have written (in Chapter 5) don’t live like fools but be wise.” In other words your behavior must conform to your new identity. You are light in the Lord (5:8) so be who you are and live wisely. Follow the example of Jesus who grew in wisdom.

Definition of Wisdom

Wisdom is the ability to apply knowledge and understanding. It is about making good choices and decisions about how to live, relate to others etc. It’s about the way we act. Wisdom: “Competent action to master the various problems of life”

How valuable is Wisdom?

Proverbs 4:7 *“Above all and before all, do this: get wisdom!”*

Proverbs 9:12 *“If you are wise, your wisdom will reward you”*

Proverbs 3:13-15

“Blessed is the man who finds wisdom, the man who gains understanding, for she is more profitable than silver and yields better returns than gold. She is more precious than rubies; nothing you desire can compare with her.”

What does this Wisdom look like?

One way to find out is to consider what foolish people are like because a wise person is just the opposite of a foolish person. Foolish people can be lazy, lack integrity etc. A foolish

person is driven by his or her feelings, emotions, desires, impulses etc. Big-picture thinking is lacking. They may be impatient and do not think about the consequences – they just don't think! They can be very passionate but at the same time lack competence. A wise person is just the opposite. He or she reflects, gets the facts and acts on them.

How can we grow in Wisdom like Jesus did?

1. Fear God

Proverbs 9:10 *"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom"*

This fear is not to be terrified of God but it means to have a great respect for God, to be in awe of him and to trust him.

2. Fill your mind with wisdom

"From a wise mind comes wise speech...." Proverbs 16:23 (NLT)

Read the Book of Proverbs! Read one chapter a day.

Proverbs 1:2 *"The purpose of these proverbs is to teach people wisdom and discipline, and to help them understand wise sayings."*

3. Ask God for wisdom

James 1:5 *"If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him."*

Only God can give you this wisdom. He is the source and we are totally dependent on him for it. We can't earn it – just ask him for it.

Because Christ is in you you are wise. Jesus has become wisdom for us (1Cor 1:30).

Other scriptures: Proverbs 13:10; Proverbs 11:2

"Coming to his hometown, he began teaching the people in their synagogue, and they were amazed. "Where did this man get this wisdom and these miraculous powers?" they asked. "Isn't this the carpenter's son? Isn't his mother's name Mary, and aren't his brothers James, Joseph, Simon and Judas? Aren't all his sisters with us? Where then did this man get all these things?" - Matthew 13:54-56

Jesus grew in wisdom to the point that it was noticeable to everybody.