

## LIVING WISELY IN CONFUSING TIMES

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August 2, 2020

### 1) Christ Is The Foundation For Wise Living

*So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.*

*See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ. Col. 2:6-8*

### 2) When You Encounter Something Confusing

#### **Remember that seeing is not believing:**

*What you have seen with your eyes do not bring hastily to court, for what will you do in the end if your neighbor puts you to shame? Prov. 25:7c-8*

*Those who trust in themselves are fools, but those who walk in wisdom are kept safe. Prov. 28:26*

#### **Consider the source:**

*Prov. 16:2 – All a person's ways seem pure to them, but motives are weighed by the LORD.*

*Prov. 20:5 – The purposes of a person's heart are deep waters, but one who has insight draws them out.*

#### **Investigate:**

*Prov. 18:13 – To answer before listening—that is folly and shame.*

#### **Run it past other people:**

*Prov. 12:15 – The way of fools seems right to them, but the wise listen to advice.*

#### **Search for contrary opinions:**

*Prov. 18:17 – In a lawsuit the first to speak seems right, until someone comes forward and cross-examines.*

### 3) How To Increase Your Wisdom

#### **Get a right motivation.**

*The mocker seeks wisdom and finds none, but knowledge comes easily to the discerning.*  
Prov. 14:6

#### **Get a right perspective on God.**

*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.* Prov. 9:10

#### **Pray.**

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

#### **Read Proverbs!**

*The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel; for gaining wisdom.* Prov. 1:1-2a

#### **Hang out with wise people.**

*Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.* Prov. 13:20

#### **Fix your eyes on Jesus.**

*[Seek] the full riches of complete understanding, in order that [you] may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine-sounding arguments.* Col. 2:2-4