

Smart Move: RESPECT
Proverbs 2:1-12
June 4, 2023
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Proverbs 2:1 My child, listen to what I say, and treasure my commands.
² Tune your ears to wisdom, and concentrate on understanding. ³ Cry out for insight, and ask for understanding. ⁴ Search for them as you would for silver; seek them like hidden treasures. ⁵ Then you will understand what it means to fear the LORD, and you will gain knowledge of God. ⁶ For the LORD grants wisdom! From his mouth come knowledge and understanding. ⁷ He grants a treasure of common sense to the honest. He is a shield to those who walk with integrity. ⁸ He guards the paths of the just and protects those who are faithful to him. ⁹ Then you will understand what is right, just, and fair, and you will find the right way to go. ¹⁰ For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will fill you with joy. ¹¹ Wise choices will watch over you. Understanding will keep you safe. ¹² Wisdom will save you from evil people, from those whose words are twisted. (NLT)

Our Vision: Connect with Christ, Church and Community

1. _____ for a better future

_____ point: The beginning of wisdom is to reverently respect the Lord in your life. It brings beneficial understanding to all those who practice it and it is the beginning of discerning how to please God. The ungodly despise this wisdom and Godly training. Proverbs 1:7 (JOT)

_____ realities: Wisdom says: For the ones who hate wisdom and do not choose to respectfully fear God, or pay attention to my counsel and mock my admonitions, they will eat the fruit of their way....

Proverbs 1:29-31 (JOT)

2. _____ the power of a greater wisdom
_____: Cry out for wisdom, and beg for understanding. Search for it like silver, and hunt for it like hidden treasure. Then you will understand respect for the LORD, and you will find that you know God. Proverbs 2:3-5 (NCV)

_____ the relationship: The Lord gives wisdom readily and freely! Through being in his presence God brightens the light of knowledge and share with us amazing insight! Proverbs 2:6 (JOT)

_____ God's strength: God prepares successful outcomes for those who follow him. God shields their path with salvation...good counsel will guard them and greater purpose will preserve them...God will rescue them. Proverbs 2:7, 11-12a (JOT)

3. _____ wisdom for our lives

_____ foundation: "These words I speak to you are not incidental additions to your life, homeowner improvements to your standard of living. They are foundational words, words to build a life on. If you work these words into your life, you are like a smart carpenter who built his house on solid rock." Matthew 7:24 (MSG)

Spiritual Action Step:

What is the foundation of your life? Self-reliance? How will you find a better future and stronger hope? Will you let God be your shield and strength? Jesus said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28 (NIV) God wants to transform your tired and exhausted spirit through being in his presence. Jesus is God's ultimate wisdom for building a better life and an eternal future. Ask Jesus to forgive you and redeem you! He will lift you from the quicksand of despair and put your feet on the Rock of salvation! This week read Proverbs 2 and Matthew 7 to allow the Spirit of Christ to guide you into finding God's wisdom for your life.