

# Knowledge and Wisdom

*"Wisdom is supreme; therefore get wisdom.  
Though it cost all you have, get understanding."  
Proverbs 4:7 (NIV)*

I have marveled at the differences in many people as I listen to them speak and learn what they have done in life. One of my dearest friends is a retired 87 year old missionary. I love our monthly times together and to listen to him tell of how the Lord has walked with him through life.

This man did not have the opportunity to go to school and gain a university education. But what he lacked in life in this area of knowledge he more than made up for in wisdom. Let me give an example or two.

When my friend wanted to start Bible studies in a hospital in a large city in South America he was denied.

So he came back to Canada, spoke to several pharmaceutical companies who manufactured drugs for cancer treatment and arranged for them to donate some of their product to this South American hospital where he desired to start Bible studies.

When the drugs came my friend was suddenly more than welcome to start the studies and tell people in the hospital about Jesus.

Next he wanted to reach the wealthy clientele at a yacht club in a coastal city, well

know for its high tourist traffic. He decided to fly to a neighboring country, at his own expense, and go to a school that trained and certified scuba diving instructors.

Back in the Coastal city, armed with his license to teach scuba diving, he went to the club and was immediately given opportunity to teach. Once more my friend used his God given wisdom to accomplish what many would only dream of doing and as a result several of the wealthy people in that city heard of Jesus through him.

Some people may have university educations but that only means they possess a certain kind of knowledge. This knowledge is good, but wisdom is better. But how do we get wisdom? Certainly not at a university or other institution of higher learning. All they can impart is a specific type of knowledge.

True wisdom is to be found in the fear of God. Psalm 111:10 says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding." (NIV) So the person who gains wisdom is the person who walks in obedience with the Lord. This is a person who has knowledge of God and how He operates in the world, and has learned to

trust Him through their own life experience of relying on Him. Wisdom is the ability to use our knowledge of God, our experience of Him, to love our neighbours.

If you need help deciding what to do on life's journey, work hard at being obedient to the Lord as far as you understand Him. If you use the knowledge you have of God to go forward then the promise is that you will also have the wisdom to choose between the various alternatives in life.

The decisions you need to make will be guided by the Lord. Listen to Isaiah 30:21, "Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, 'This is the way; walk in it.'" As you stand at the crossroads and need to choose which way to go, bring this word from Isaiah to the Lord in prayer and ask Him for the wisdom to make the right choice. Tell the Lord you wish to hear His voice. He will answer with the wisdom you need because you have sought to "follow his precepts."

© Rumford Ministries  
All rights reserved