

**God's Wisdom for Our Lives – Week 16**  
**Living in Reference to God: The Skill of Living In The Future – Part Two**

**Warm-Up:**

1. What does “living in the future” have to do with your growth as a Christian right now?
2. Have you ever had an opportunity to minister to someone or disciple someone, but felt unprepared or ill-equipped?
  - a. What would you have wanted to be different in that moment? What would have made it different?
3. Where would you like to grow in your walk with the Lord or in ministry opportunities?
  - a. How would you get there?

**Proverbs 21:5** “The plans of the diligent lead surely to advantage, but everyone who is hasty comes surely to poverty”

**Read Titus 2:1-8**

4. What are the expectations of older Christian men in this passage?
  - a. Why do the men need to be “sound in faith”? – (consider verse 7)
  - b. How does this instruct younger Christian men?
5. What are the expectations of older women in this passage?
  - a. Why do they have these expectations? (consider verse 4)
  - b. How does this instruct younger Christian women?
6. What is the central idea communicated in this text?
  - a. What does this have to do with living in the future or living past right now?

**Prov 22:3** “The prudent sees the evil and hides himself, but the naïve go on and are punished for it”

**Read Hebrews 5:11-14**

7. What danger does the writer to the Hebrews warn against in these verses?
8. How would the wise/prudent protect themselves from that danger?
9. In contrast, what would the naïve/simple one do?
  - a. What might be the consequences be if the warning is not heeded?

**Read Matthew 28:18-20 and John 10:25-29**

10. What does Jesus command us to do in Matthew 28?
11. How should our understanding of the future motivate our obedience to His command?
12. What does Jesus say about the future of His sheep in John 10?
  - a. How should that understanding of the future motivate and encourage evangelism?

**Reflection:**

With humility in hand, the Proverbs teach us to imagine the future. The following questions help us do this...

13. Are you exercising the humility of planning for the future? Or do you tend to live only day-to-day?
14. Are you laboring to build up the church and in future generations of disciples and disciple-makers?  
What are you doing that is more important than that?
15. What are you doing that you want to remain private? Forecast into the future and imagine your life when the private becomes public, because it will someday become public.
16. What have you learned from the funerals of the wise and funerals of the foolish?
17. Similarly, what have you learned from those who are older than yourself?
18. Have you recently ignored the advice of two godly people who have given you the same advice? The lonesome path is typically the dangerous one.
19. How is your future tied to Jesus Christ? Do you expect that He will continue the sanctifying work in you that He started?