

God's Wisdom for Our Lives – Week 28
The Only One Who Is Truly Wise – Christ, Our Wisdom

Warm-Up:

1. What is the over-arching theme of Proverbs?
2. How have we been defining Biblical wisdom?
3. What is the beginning or foundation of Biblical wisdom?
4. What disposition or attitude characterizes the fear of the Lord?
5. What does the fear of the Lord have to do with the everyday life of a Christian?
6. What are some potential pitfalls in regard to understanding and applying the Proverbs?

Main Idea: Though the Proverbs instruct us and motivate us to live wisely, they should always produce in us a response of humility and dependence upon the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Lord Jesus Christ:

- Grew in wisdom (Lk 2:40, 52)
- Had wisdom and spoke of himself as “greater than” King Solomon (Matt. 12:42; 13:54; Lk 11:31)
- Taught in terms of wisdom vs foolishness (Matt. 7:24; 24: 45; 25:1-13; Lk 12:42)

Read 1 Cor. 1:26-31

1. What is Paul contrasting in this text?
2. What does this text teach us about ourselves?
3. What is Paul teaching us about true wisdom?
4. Why has God chosen to call the low and weak and foolish ones to himself instead of the strong?

Read Prov. 30:1-6

*Note on vs 1 translation (2 renderings)

- ESV “The man declares, I am weary, O God; I am weary, O God and worn out.”
- NIV or NASB “The man declared to Ithiel, to Ithiel and to Ucal;”

1. What is unique about how Agur begins his oracle in vs 1-3?
2. Why does this man say such negative things about himself?
3. What do these first 3 verses teach us about ourselves?
4. What is the author trying to accomplish with his list of rhetorical questions in vs 4? (See also: Job 38; Psalm 104; Isaiah 40:12-14)
 - a. What is the answer to these rhetorical questions? – “Surely you know!”
5. Read John 3:13
6. Read Eph. 4:7-10
 - a. Why is it good news that the answer to the questions in Prov. 30:4 point us to Christ – the Ultimate Wise One?
7. Prov. 30:5-6 (Quoting from David, 2 Sam. 22:31; Ps 18:30)
 - a. What do vs 5 and 6 teach us about God’s Word?
 - b. How should we handle God’s word in relation to other “good books”?
 - c. If these statements are true concerning God’s word, how should that affect our regular Bible reading?

Application Questions:

1. How does studying and meditating on the Proverbs lead us to humility and dependence on the Lord?
2. What would be the result if we fail to internalize the wisdom of Proverbs?