

*"Now then, my sons, listen to me; blessed are those who keep my ways. Listen to my instruction and be wise; do not ignore it. Blessed is the man who listens to me, watching daily at my doors, waiting at my doorway. For whoever finds me finds life and receives favor from the LORD. Proverbs 8:32-35 (NIV)*

## **Waiting For Instructions**

**Make sure that you are listening to me. Don't hurriedly rush off in a direction without thinking and without bothering to listen to me. You have an impulsive nature that has gotten you into trouble and difficulty many times before. Yes, I know. Take your time, slow down, wait and listen to me. Don't be in a hurry. Do you know why this is so important? Yes, I think that I do. Hurry will hinder my ability to hear you. When I don't wait and listen for your instructions I'm most likely to go running off in my own direction instead of choosing to walk in your ways. Yes, and a key word that you used there was walk. When has my way included an impulsive sprint on your part? Probably never, I guess. There is only one thing that I want you to be quick about. What's that? I want you to be quick to listen to me. I want you to be quick to wait for my instructions.**

**You have been asking for wisdom from me, have you not? Yes, I have. You will only be able to receive wisdom from me by watching, waiting, and listening for it. There are two words that go together like a hand in a glove. What are they? They are waiting and wisdom. If you want wisdom from me you must wait for it. How hard will that be for you? It sounds like it should be pretty easy. Has it been easy for you? No, I have never liked waiting. Yes, I have seen that in you. You like constant motion. You would rather be on the go than having to wait. What will wanting wisdom require from you? It will require me to learn to wait. Yes, it will. Have you noticed that I have been giving you an in depth course in waiting? Yes, I have. How have you liked it? Not much at all. Have you enjoyed the fruit of waiting? What do you mean by that? Has your life been blessed as you have waited with me? Yes it has. How has it been blessed? As I have waited with you I have been able to know your will and walk in your ways. I have been able to make good decisions and choose what you wanted me to choose. Yes, that's right. I have felt your favor and blessing in my life. Is there anything you haven't enjoyed about that? No, there isn't. Once I have stopped running and slowed down it has been a joy and delight to wait in your presence. So, maybe it's just the idea of waiting that you haven't liked. I suppose so. Isn't waiting a lot better than wasting a lot of time running off in the wrong direction? Yes, it certainly is. I dislike that far more than waiting in the first place. I will wait and watch and listen for your instructions. I will take great delight in being in your presence. I'm glad to hear that.**

*Lord, I can't tell you how many times I have impulsively run off in my own direction. I thought I had all the wisdom I needed to make a wise decision. Wrong again. Forgive me. Help me now to wait and listen to your instructions. Amen*

**Wisdom** *Do Not Ignore It*

"Now then, my sons, listen to me; blessed are those who keep my ways. Listen to my instruction and be wise; do not ignore it. Blessed is the man who listens to me, watching daily at my doors, waiting at my doorway. For whoever finds me finds life and receives favor from the LORD.

NIV Proverbs 8:32-35

**Wisdom** *Don't Ignore It*

"And so, my children, listen to me, for all who follow my ways are joyful. Listen to my instruction and be wise. Don't ignore it. Joyful are those who listen to me, watching for me daily at my gates, waiting for me outside my home! For whoever finds me finds life and receives favor from the LORD.

NLT Proverbs 8:32-35

**Wisdom** *Do Not Neglect It*

"And now, my children, listen to me: happy are those who keep my ways. Hear instruction and be wise, and do not neglect it. Happy is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors. For whoever finds me finds life and obtains favor from the LORD;

NRSV Proverbs 8:32-35

**Wisdom** *Do Not Refuse Or Neglect It*

Now therefore listen to me, O you sons; for blessed (happy, fortunate, to be envied) are those who keep my ways. Hear instruction and be wise, and do not refuse or neglect it. Blessed (happy, fortunate, to be envied) is the man who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors. For whoever finds me [Wisdom] finds life and draws forth and obtains favor from the Lord.

AMP Proverbs 8:32-35

**Wisdom** *Do Not Neglect It*

"Now therefore, O sons, listen to me, For blessed are they who keep my ways. "Heed instruction and be wise, And do not neglect it. "Blessed is the man who listens to me, Watching daily at my gates, Waiting at my doorposts. "For he who finds me finds life And obtains favor from the LORD.

NASB Proverbs 8:32-35

**Wisdom** *Do Not Neglect It*

"And now, O sons, listen to me: blessed are those who keep my ways. Hear instruction and be wise, and do not neglect it. Blessed is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors. For whoever finds me finds life and obtains favor from the LORD,

ESV Proverbs 8:32-35

**Wisdom** *Do Not Disdain It*

"Now therefore, listen to me, my children, For blessed are those who keep my ways. Hear instruction and be wise, And do not disdain it. Blessed is the man who listens to me, Watching daily at my gates, Waiting at the posts of my doors. For whoever finds me finds life, And obtains favor from the LORD;

NKJV Proverbs 8:32-35

**Wisdom** *Don't Squander Your Precious Life*

"So, my dear friends, listen carefully; those who embrace these my ways are most blessed. Mark a life of discipline and live wisely; don't squander your precious life. Blessed the man, blessed the woman, who listens to me, awake and ready for me each morning, alert and responsive as I start my day's work. When you find me, you find life, real life, to say nothing of GOD's good pleasure.

MSG Proverbs 8:32-35

**Wisdom** *Don't Refuse It*

And so, young men, listen to me, for how happy are all who follow my instructions. "Listen to my counsel—oh, don't refuse it—and be wise. Happy is the man who is so anxious to be with me that he watches for me daily at my gates, or waits for me outside my home! For whoever finds me finds life and wins approval from the Lord.

TLB Proverbs 8:32-35

**Wisdom** *Do Not Ignore It*

"Now, my children, listen to me, because those who follow my ways are happy. Listen to my teaching, and you will be wise; do not ignore it. Happy are those who listen to me, watching at my door every day, waiting at my open doorway. Those who find me find life, and the LORD will be pleased with them.

NCV Proverbs 8:32-35

# Do Not Ignore It

Year \_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_

**Wisdom** – Proverbs 8:32-35

**In Context:** *Read Proverbs 8*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God’s Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

"Now then, my sons, listen to me; blessed are those who keep my ways. Listen to my instruction and be wise; do not ignore it. Blessed is the man who listens to me, watching daily at my doors, waiting at my doorway. For whoever finds me finds life and receives favor from the LORD. Proverbs 8:32-35

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

"Now then, | my sons, | listen to me; | blessed | are those | who keep | my ways. | Listen to | my instruction | and | be wise; | do not | ignore it. | Blessed | is the man | who listens | to me, | watching daily | at my doors, | waiting at | my doorway. | For whoever | finds me | finds life | and | receives favor | from | the LORD. Proverbs 8:32-35

**Praying The Scripture:**

***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I can't tell you how many times I have impulsively run off in my own direction. I thought I had all the wisdom I needed to make a wise decision. Wrong again. Forgive me. Help me now to wait and listen to your instructions. Amen

**What It Means:**

***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

Why is it so difficult to stop and wait and listen to the Lord so that He can give you His instructions?  
When have you impulsively run off in your own direction without waiting for instructions from the Lord?  
When have you incorrectly thought that you had all the wisdom and information you needed to make a decision?  
When have you regretted a direction that you took when you didn't wait for or listen to instructions from the Lord?

**How has the Lord blessed your life as you have waited for and followed His instructions?**

**How has waiting for and listening to the Lord’s instructions helped you to grow in wisdom?**

**What has the Lord used to give you wisdom as you waited for and listened to His instructions?**

**Living It Out:**

***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Wait and listen for the Lord’s instructions so that he can He can guide and bless your life as you follow Him.

**Seeing It Happen:**

***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will guide and bless your life as you wait and listen for instructions from Him.

**Get Ready To Share:**

***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how you are learning to wait and listen for instructions from the Lord.

**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you wait and listen to instructions from the Lord so that He can guide and bless your life as you follow Him.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Lord, help me to wait for and listen to your instructions so that I can have you wisdom as I follow you.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, as I wait before you, what instructions do you want to give to me?*

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