

Pay attention and listen to the sayings of the wise; apply your heart to what I teach, for it is pleasing when you keep them in your heart and have all of them ready on your lips. So that your trust may be in the LORD, I teach you today, even you.

Proverbs 22:17-19 (NIV)

Apply Your Heart

Do you want to be wise? Yes, I want to be wise. **Do you think that it is easy to be wise? Do you think that wisdom will just drop into your lap? Will wisdom require any effort on your part?** I don't think that wisdom comes easily. I don't believe that wisdom will just drop into my lap. **No, it won't. What do you think will be required of you if you want to be wise?** I think the first thing I must do is admit that I am not wise. I don't know it all. I am liable to make some very unwise decisions if they are left up to me. **How do you know that?** I have already made a whole host of dumb mistakes and unwise decisions. I have already fallen flat on my face when I thought I was so very wise. **Are you ready to admit that you aren't wise and that you need wisdom?** Yes, I am ready to admit that I need wisdom.

What do you think is your next step toward wisdom? After I have admitted that I am unwise and that I need wisdom I must wait for it. **What do you mean by that?** It's easy to say I am unwise. It's harder to back up my admission with action. **What action?** Waiting for wisdom is an action that says that I will no longer be relying on myself. It says that I will be relying on you. Relying on you is my next step toward wisdom. **That will be a very good step.**

What will be another step toward wisdom? As I am waiting and relying on you for wisdom, I must pay attention and apply my heart to all that you want to teach me. **What do you mean by that?** There is nothing particularly productive about simply waiting. Relying on you will require me to listen with all my heart and mind and strength. It will take great effort and focused attention to listen and apply my heart to all that you want to teach me. **Yes, it will.**

What will you do once you have heard from me if you want to be wise? Once I have heard from you I will put into practice all that you have taught me. It would be very foolish to wait to hear from you and then fail to do what you have taught me. **Yes, that would be very foolish.**

Is there anything that you want to tell me? Yes Lord, I am so thankful that you want to teach me. I welcome all your instruction. I will rely on all your teaching. I'm here. I'm waiting. I'm watching. I'm listening. I will pay attention and apply my heart fully to all that you have to say to me. I will put into practice all that you have to teach to me. **Yes, you will.**

Lord, here I am. I'm paying attention and applying my heart to your wisdom. Thank you for caring enough to teach even me your wisdom.

I trust you and all you want to teach me. I will keep your wisdom in my heart on my lips so I can share it with others. Amen

Your Trust May Be In The Lord Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

So That – Proverbs 22:17-19

In Context: *Read Proverbs 22*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

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

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

Pay | attention | and | listen to | the sayings | of the wise; | apply | your heart | to what | I teach, | for | it is | pleasing | when you | keep them | in | your heart | and | have | all | of them | ready | on | your lips. | So that | your trust | may be | in the | LORD, | I teach you | today, | even you. Proverbs 22:17-19

Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, here I am. I'm paying attention and applying my heart to your wisdom. Thank you for caring enough to teach even me your wisdom. I trust you and all you want to teach me. I will keep your wisdom in my heart on my lips so I can share it with others. Amen

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

How are you paying attention and listening very carefully to words of wisdom?

How are you applying your heart to all the wisdom that the Lord wants to teach you?

How has your life been blessed by keeping words of wisdom in your heart and on your lips?

How you ready, willing and able to share with others the wisdom that the Lord has taught you?

How has your trust in the Lord grown as you have paid attention and applied your heart to His wisdom?

Why is it amazing that the Lord cares enough to take the time to teach even you His wisdom?

What goals does the Lord have in mind when He takes the time to teach you His wisdom?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Pay attention and apply your heart to the Lord's wisdom so He can bless your life, as you trust in Him.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will bless your life as you trust Him by paying attention and applying your heart to His wisdom.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how applying your heart to the Lord's wisdom has blessed your life.

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?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

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

May you pay attention and apply your heart to what the Lord teaches you so you can put all your trust in Him.

Prayer To Carry

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

Lord, I will pay attention and apply my heart to what you teach me so I can put all my trust in you.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, what do you want to teach me today so I can put all my trust in you?
