

Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my words or swerve from them. Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you; love her, and she will watch over you. Wisdom is supreme; therefore get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding. Esteem her, and she will exalt you; embrace her, and she will honor you. She will set a garland of grace on your head and present you with a crown of splendor." Listen, my son, accept what I say, and the years of your life will be many. I guide you in the way of wisdom and lead you along straight paths. When you walk, your steps will not be hampered; when you run, you will not stumble. Proverbs 4:5-12 (NIV)

I Desperately Need Wisdom

That is something I desperately need. That is something I'm surely lacking in my life. **What do you desperately need and what is surely lacking in your life?** I need wisdom. **Well, that certainly is the beginning of wisdom.** What is the beginning of wisdom, am I missing something, have I said something important? **Yes, you have said something very important. You have said a couple very important things. First, you have humbly admitted that you need wisdom. You are under no illusions about the amount of wisdom you possess. You know that there is a severe shortage of wisdom in you. Humbly acknowledging your great need is the beginning of wisdom.** Then, I am at a good starting point. **Yes, that is true. But you said something else. You expressed some desperation in your need for wisdom. You have some passion in you about your need for wisdom. That puts you in an even better position regarding wisdom.** How so? **If you know you need wisdom and you are passionately desiring and seeking wisdom, will you not come and ask me for it?** Yes, of course I will come and ask you for wisdom. What would be the point of my admitting and being passionate about need if I did nothing about it? It would be foolish to passionately admit a need and then do nothing about it. **That is true. Yet, in this case, your doing, will consist of your coming to me to ask me for my help. This is true, because your admission of desperate need also contains the idea, that you will not be relying on yourself. You will not try to work your way out of being unwise. You will come to rely on me, isn't that what you will do?** Yes, that is exactly what I will do. I will ask for and rely on you for wisdom. I know that you will generously give me wisdom as I ask you for it. **Yes, come to me. Ask me for wisdom. Rely on my wisdom to guard and guide your life.** That is what I will do. **That will be very good.** Thank you, Lord.

Lord, I will not live my life according to worldly wisdom. I will not rely on my own wisdom. I will ask you to guard and guide my life according to your wisdom. Help me to think, and to speak, and to act wisely so I can make decisions that are pleasing to you. Amen

Promises

Get Wisdom

Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my words or swerve from them. Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you; love her, and she will watch over you. Wisdom is supreme; therefore get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding. Esteem her, and she will exalt you; embrace her, and she will honor you. She will set a garland of grace on your head and present you with a crown of splendor." Listen, my son, accept what I say, and the years of your life will be many. I guide you in the way of wisdom and lead you along straight paths. When you walk, your steps will not be hampered; when you run, you will not stumble.

NIV

Proverbs 4:5-12

Promises

Get Wisdom

Get wisdom; get insight; do not forget, and do not turn away from the words of my mouth. Do not forsake her, and she will keep you; love her, and she will guard you. The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight. Prize her highly, and she will exalt you; she will honor you if you embrace her. She will place on your head a graceful garland; she will bestow on you a beautiful crown." Hear, my son, and accept my words, that the years of your life may be many. I have taught you the way of wisdom; I have led you in the paths of uprightness. When you walk, your step will not be hampered, and if you run, you will not stumble.

ESV

Proverbs 4:5-12

Promises

Get Wisdom

Get wisdom; develop good judgment. Don't forget my words or turn away from them. Don't turn your back on wisdom, for she will protect you. Love her, and she will guard you. Getting wisdom is the wisest thing you can do! And whatever else you do, develop good judgment. If you prize wisdom, she will make you great. Embrace her, and she will honor you. She will place a lovely wreath on your head; she will present you with a beautiful crown." My child, listen to me and do as I say, and you will have a long, good life. I will teach you wisdom's ways and lead you in straight paths. When you walk, you won't be held back; when you run, you won't stumble.

NLT

Proverbs 4:5-12

Promises

Get Wisdom

Get wisdom! Get understanding! Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth. Do not forsake her, and she will preserve you; Love her, and she will keep you. Wisdom is the principal thing; *Therefore* get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding. Exalt her, and she will promote you; She will bring you honor, when you embrace her. She will place on your head an ornament of grace; A crown of glory she will deliver to you." Hear, my son, and receive my sayings, And the years of your life will be many. I have taught you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in right paths. When you walk, your steps will not be hindered, And when you run, you will not stumble.

NKJV

Proverbs 4:5-12

Promises

Get Wisdom

Get wisdom; get insight: do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth. Do not forsake her, and she will keep you; love her, and she will guard you. The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever else you get, get insight. Prize her highly, and she will exalt you; she will honor you if you embrace her. She will place on your head a fair garland; she will bestow on you a beautiful crown." Hear, my child, and accept my words, that the years of your life may be many. I have taught you the way of wisdom; I have led you in the paths of uprightness. When you walk, your step will not be hampered; and if you run, you will not stumble.

NRSV

Proverbs 4:5-12

Promises

Buy Wisdom

Sell everything and buy Wisdom! Forage for Understanding! Don't forget one word! Don't deviate an inch! Never walk away from Wisdom—she guards your life; love her—she keeps her eye on you. Above all and before all, do this: Get Wisdom! Write this at the top of your list: Get Understanding! Throw your arms around her—believe me, you won't regret it; never let her go—she'll make your life glorious. She'll garland your life with grace, she'll festoon your days with beauty." Dear friend, take my advice; it will add years to your life. I'm writing out clear directions to Wisdom Way, I'm drawing a map to Righteous Road. I don't want you ending up in blind alleys, or wasting time making wrong turns.

MSG

Proverbs 4:5-12

Promises

Get Skillful And Godly Wisdom

Get skillful *and* godly Wisdom, get understanding (discernment, comprehension, and interpretation); do not forget and do not turn back from the words of my mouth. Forsake not [Wisdom], and she will keep, defend, *and* protect you; love her, and she will guard you. The beginning of Wisdom is: get Wisdom (skillful and godly Wisdom)! [For skillful *and* godly Wisdom is the principal thing.] And with all you have gotten, get understanding (discernment, comprehension, and interpretation). Prize Wisdom highly *and* exalt her, and she will exalt *and* promote you; she will bring you to honor when you embrace her. She shall give to your head a wreath of gracefulness; a crown of beauty *and* glory will she deliver to you. Hear, O my son, and receive my sayings, and the years of your life shall be many. I have taught you in the way of skillful *and* godly Wisdom [which is comprehensive insight into the ways and purposes of God]; I have led you in paths of uprightness. When you walk, your steps shall not be hampered [your path will be clear and open]; and when you run, you shall not stumble.

AMP

Proverbs 4:5-12

Promises

Learn To Be Wise

Learn to be wise," he said, *"and develop good judgment and common sense! I cannot overemphasize this point."* Cling to wisdom—she will protect you. Love her—she will guard you. Getting wisdom is the most important thing you can do! And with your wisdom, develop common sense and good judgment. If you exalt wisdom, she will exalt you. Hold her fast, and she will lead you to great honor; she will place a beautiful crown upon your head. My son, listen to me and do as I say, and you will have a long, good life. I would have you learn this great fact: that a life of doing right is the wisest life there is. If you live that kind of life, you'll not limp or stumble as you run.

TLB

Proverbs 4:5-12

Promises

Acquire Wisdom

Acquire wisdom! Acquire understanding! Do not forget nor turn away from the words of my mouth. "Do not forsake her, and she will guard you; Love her, and she will watch over you. "The beginning of wisdom is: Acquire wisdom; And with all your acquiring, get understanding. "Prize her, and she will exalt you; She will honor you if you embrace her. "She will place on your head a garland of grace; She will present you with a crown of beauty." Hear, my son, and accept my sayings And the years of your life will be many. I have directed you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in upright paths. When you walk, your steps will not be impeded; And if you run, you will not stumble.

NASB

Proverbs 4:5-12

Promises

Get Wisdom

Get wisdom and understanding. Don't forget or ignore my words. Hold on to wisdom, and it will take care of you. Love it, and it will keep you safe. Wisdom is the most important thing; so get wisdom. If it costs everything you have, get understanding. Treasure wisdom, and it will make you great; hold on to it, and it will bring you honor. It will be like flowers in your hair and like a beautiful crown on your head." My child, listen and accept what I say. Then you will have a long life. I am guiding you in the way of wisdom, and I am leading you on the right path. Nothing will hold you back; you will not be overwhelmed.

NCV

Proverbs 4:5-12

Get Wisdom

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Promises – Proverbs 4:5-12

In Context: Read Proverbs 4

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?)***

Get wisdom, get understanding; | do not forget my words | or swerve from them. | Do not forsake wisdom, | and she will protect you; love her, | and she will watch over you. | Wisdom is supreme; | therefore get wisdom. | Though it cost all you have, | get understanding. | Esteem her, | and she will exalt you; | embrace her, | and she will honor you. | She will set a garland of grace | on your head | and present you | with a crown of splendor." | Listen, my son, | accept what I say, | and the years of your life | will be many. | I guide you in the way of wisdom | and lead you | along straight paths. | When you walk, | your steps | will not be hampered; | when you run, | you will not stumble. Proverbs 4:5-12 (NIV)

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

Lord, I will not live my life according to worldly wisdom. I will not rely on my own wisdom. I will ask you to guard and guide my life according to your wisdom. Help me to think, and to speak, and to act wisely so I can make decisions that are pleasing to you. Amen

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

How are you making sure that you do not forsake the wisdom you have been given?

When has wisdom helped you to reject an unwise thought, word, or action?

How could thinking or speaking or acting unwisely unnecessarily shorten your life?

How passionately are you seeking to your life according to God's wisdom?

How does God's wisdom stand in stark contrast to the worldly wisdom?

When has seeking God's wisdom caused you to slow down to wait for His guidance?

How has God's wisdom been guarding and guiding the entire course of your life?

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

Ask for, receive, and rely on God's wisdom to guard and guide you through life.

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

Have faith that God will generously give you wisdom when you ask Him for it.

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

Share with another person or your small group how God has generously given you wisdom throughout 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 ask for, receive, and rely on wisdom from the Lord.

Prayer To Carry

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

Lord, help me to live my life according to your wisdom.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I live my life today according to your wisdom?
