

The Word On Wisdom

1. James 1:5

AMPC

If any of you is deficient in wisdom, let him ask of the giving God [Who gives] to everyone liberally and ungrudgingly, without reproaching or faultfinding, and it will be given him.

MSG

If you don't know what you're doing, pray to the Father. He loves to help. You'll get his help, and won't be condescended to when you ask for it.

NKJV

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

2. Proverbs 4:7

AMPC

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).

MSG

Above all and before all, do this: Get Wisdom! Write this at the top of your list: Get Understanding!

NKJV

Wisdom is the principal thing; Therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding.

3. Proverbs 3:13–18

AMPC

Happy (blessed, fortunate, enviable) is the man who finds skillful and godly Wisdom, and the man who gets understanding [drawing it forth from God's Word and life's experiences], For the

gaining of it is better than the gaining of silver, and the profit of it better than fine gold. Skillful and godly Wisdom is more precious than rubies; and nothing you can wish for is to be compared to her. Length of days is in her right hand, and in her left hand are riches and honor. Her ways are highways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to those who lay hold on her; and happy (blessed, fortunate, to be envied) is everyone who holds her fast.

MSG

You're blessed when you meet Lady Wisdom, when you make friends with Madame Insight. She's worth far more than money in the bank; her friendship is better than a big salary. Her value exceeds all the trappings of wealth; nothing you could wish for holds a candle to her. With one hand she gives long life, with the other she confers recognition. Her manner is beautiful, her life wonderfully complete. She's the very Tree of Life to those who embrace her. Hold her tight—and be blessed!

NKJV

Happy is the man who finds wisdom, And the man who gains understanding; For her proceeds are better than the profits of silver, And her gain than fine gold. She is more precious than rubies, And all the things you may desire cannot compare with her. Length of days is in her right hand, In her left hand riches and honor. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, And all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her, And happy are all who retain her.

4. Proverbs 2:6

AMPC

For the Lord gives skillful and godly Wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding.

MSG

And here's why: God gives out Wisdom free, is plainspoken in Knowledge and Understanding.

NKJV

For the LORD gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding.

5. Proverbs 9:10

AMPC

The reverent and worshipful fear of the Lord is the beginning (the chief and choice part) of Wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight and understanding.

MSG

Skilled living gets its start in the Fear-of-God, insight into life from knowing a Holy God.

NKJV

“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.”

6. Ecclesiastes 10:10

AMPC

If the ax is dull and the man does not whet the edge, he must put forth more strength; but wisdom helps him to succeed.

MSG

Remember: The duller the ax the harder the work; Use your head: The more brains, the less muscle.

NKJV

If the ax is dull, And one does not sharpen the edge, Then he must use more strength; But wisdom brings success.

7. Colossians 3:16

AMPC

Let the word [spoken by] Christ (the Messiah) have its home [in your hearts and minds] and dwell in you in [all its] richness, as you teach and admonish and train one another in all insight and intelligence and wisdom [in spiritual things, and as you sing] psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, making melody to God with [His] grace in your hearts.

MSG

Let the Word of Christ—the Message—have the run of the house. Give it plenty of room in your lives. Instruct and direct one another using good common sense. And sing, sing your hearts out to God!

NKJV

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

8. Ephesians 5:15–17

AMPC

Look carefully then how you walk! Live purposefully and worthily and accurately, not as the unwise and witless, but as wise (sensible, intelligent people), Making the very most of the time [buying up each opportunity], because the days are evil. Therefore do not be vague and thoughtless and foolish, but understanding and firmly grasping what the will of the Lord is.

MSG

So watch your step. Use your head. Make the most of every chance you get. These are desperate times! Don't live carelessly, unthinkingly. Make sure you understand what the Master wants.

NKJV

See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

9. Proverbs 16:16

AMPC

How much better it is to get skillful and godly Wisdom than gold! And to get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

MSG

Get wisdom—it's worth more than money; choose insight over income every time.

NKJV

How much better to get wisdom than gold! And to get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

10. 1 Corinthians 1:30

AMPC

But it is from Him that you have your life in Christ Jesus, Whom God made our Wisdom from God, [revealed to us a knowledge of the divine plan of salvation previously hidden, manifesting itself as] our Righteousness [thus making us upright and putting us in right standing with God], and our Consecration [making us pure and holy], and our Redemption [providing our ransom from eternal penalty for sin].

MSG

Everything that we have—right thinking and right living, a clean slate and a fresh start—comes from God by way of Jesus Christ.

NKJV

But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption.

AMPC — Amplified Bible, Classic Edition THE HOLY BIBLE, AMPLIFIED® BIBLE, CLASSIC EDITION, Copyright © 1954, 1958, 1962, 1964, 1965, 1987 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.

MSG — The Message Scripture quotations marked MSG are taken from THE MESSAGE, copyright © 1993, 2002, 2018 by Eugene H. Peterson. Used by permission of NavPress. All rights reserved. Represented by Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.

NKJV — New King James Version Scripture taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.