## WISDOM

List what you want in life first before reading this list, then look for it in Proverbs. This is the first two chapter's. You can do this with all of the chapters making a list or you can take each verse(s) or concept individually.

Ask What is the promise? and How do you get that promise?

#### BENEFITS OF WISDOM — Proverbs 1

Know more Be better able to give and receive Make better judgments, Be right more often Be able to make fair decisions - Be equitable—Agree with what is right, equal, straight and sweet Have more style, Want to keep the law, Understand justice Understand simple and more complicated issues, be able to sort things out Be just- know and do what is right and gain more Come up with the right judgment; i.e., verdict, action, principle, and style. Hear what is right and be able to do it Find people who can help you and you can talk with about important concerns (Wise counsel) Better understand riddles and deep or tricky sayings Not feel so hard or critical (scornful) Understand and respect good instruction and the people who give it (them) to you Have a better relationship with your parents and others who can help you Be able to resist temptation (especially stealing and hurting others) Be better able to see the end of a matter, see where activities and attitudes will lead you Not interpret situations defensively and put others down (scoff or scorn) Take constructive correction well, Be able to learn easier Not be full of yourself (conceited), Be motivated, care about life, not complacent

HOW TO OBTAIN - WISDOM Looking in the same chapters, you will find these instructions on how to obtain it. **Chapter 1** 

<u>Receive instruction</u>. When someone says something to do or correct, don't immediately come up with reasons why they could be wrong or you should not have to do it. See if what they say agrees with God's Word and will help you. To the young man: If you are young or young at heart, <u>acknowledge it</u>, it makes learning easier. <u>Don't let people despise</u> your youth, but make sure you are honoring God in it.

Hear and learn, listen for the good things in life (don't listen to the bad).

Music is one of the things you listen to – make sure it is godly music.

What instruction you hear, <u>listen well</u>; not in one ear and out the other. Compare what you hear to what God's Word says. <u>Attain wise counsel</u>.

Actively ask those who will give you good advice. If people are too busy, ask again and let them know you value their counsel.

To understand a proverb, simile, maxim, adage, or allegory -compare and <u>figure out</u> similarities with life.

Proverbs make you wise - you must think about these sayings and figure out what they mean.

Fear the Lord. <u>Have healthy respect</u> for God. He knows what He is talking about. Listening to Him and respecting Him is the beginning. You can hear Him by <u>reading His words</u> (the Bible) <u>receiving</u> what He offers <u>–forgiveness and power</u> to live right. In addition, <u>talk to Him</u>, then <u>listen</u> to how He responds to you in your heart and mind. Then <u>walk out what</u> He shows you is right in your life.

Don't despise wisdom. Don't distance yourself from it.

<u>Hear the instruction</u> of your father and your mother.

Don't listen to or consent to those who are not living right. Find people who are living right.

Don't steal or be violent. Don't keep company with those who do.

Don't be greedy. Greed will take your life.

Listen to wisdom and not simplicity.

Don't scorn (or scoff) (don't look down on others or what they say, especially if it is right)

<u>Pay attention to wisdom</u>. It will help you to avoid distress. If you don't pay attention to wisdom, you are paying attention to foolishness, then when distress comes, others will laugh. Don't turn away from wisdom. Don't be complacent. Be active in seeking wisdom and applying it. It will keep you safe and secure. You won't have to fear evil.

#### **BENEFITS OF WISDOM - Proverbs 2**

Understand the fear of the LORD Know who God is and have a healthy love and respect for Him Find the knowledge of God Know more about God and His love

Know more of true justice Be shielded

Walk uprightly – do the right thing

Be preserved - be saved, last longer, be protected, stick with it

Understand righteousness - virtue, morality, decency, uprightness, honesty, justice -right, impartial, fair, evenhanded,

Equity – treated equal, fair play, truth and good paths – decent, enjoyable, skillful, nice, well behaved, helpful

Knowledge will be pleasant to you

Discretion – be able to figure out what is right, careful, good judgment, prudence, caution and freedom You will be delivered from evil, perverse things, those that don't do right, darkness, evil, those that like perversity, immoral and seducing women, those who cheat on you, and forsake their friends or forget God

You will be delivered from death and given life to your body, soul and spirit

Goodness, Right

Friends that are good and do right Relationships that are blameless; Friendships that last Stability; Roots

### HOW TO GET THE BENEFITS OF PROVERBS 2

Receive the words of wisdom -Listen, take them in and apply what you are learning.

<u>Treasure the commands</u> – See that they are important, not just suggestions, but commands and comply willingly. If you are feeling resistant, ask God to give you the heart to hear and do what you need to do. Christ gave His life for loving you. He deserves it and his authority is loving.

Incline your ear – Listen carefully.

<u>Apply your heart to understanding</u> – Put your heart into it.

Cry out for wisdom - It doesn't just happen. Ask for and go after it.

Lift up your voice for understanding - Speak up. Ask for it.

<u>Seek wisdom</u> – Look, search, hunt, try to find it as you would if it were money or treasure.

<u>Ask God</u> – He's got it and He's giving it. He likes you and likes it when you communicate with Him that You value His knowledge and understanding.

Walk uprightly - Wisdom is an interactive learning experience The more you practice, the more can be added.

Be just – Be fair, right; not two-faced.

<u>Become His</u> – His children are called saints. It doesn't mean we are perfect, but we try and we are working on it. God perfects us in His love.

Let it enter your heart – It is not just a head thing.

Be discrete - Be separate, distinct, disconnected, not attached to wrong.

Be understanding – Be sympathetic, knowledgeable, thoughtful, kind.

<u>Avoid</u> – Evil, perverse talk and those who don't live right or rejoice in evil; peer pressure that leads you to wrong actions and attitudes; those who are devious (don't tell the truth or trick you) those who forsake friends and forget the promises they made to God. See that it is extremely hard to return from these, many never make it back. (Temptation looks good, but lies.)

Keep your promises to God

Live

Do good, Do right

Try and be blameless, - When you mess up, confess and receive forgiveness.

Stay in the good land – When you have found God and fellowship, stay with it.

I cannot tell you how many times when reading Proverbs, it made me want to gulp as I recognized something in me that wasn't right and needed to change. So I ask God to change that and He does. It's good. *K. Selby* 

# Questions to go with Wisdom Lesson

- 1. What is it that you want the most in life?
- 2. What do you want to have people say about you now and when you are gone.
- 3. After you have listed them see if you can find them on the first part of these lists.
- *4.* The first part of the lists are directly from the chapter in proverbs. Look at the chapter in proverbs and read the chapter. Do you see the connection?
- 5. The second part of each list is the way we receive the promise in the first list. Can you find the connection between these things in questions one and two and the way that you are able to find or receive them?
- 6. Look at the chapter or chapters again. What is the promise of each verse or promises in each chapter?
- 7. What are the answers or the way we receive the promise? (this may be repetitive, but it is worth the repetition to catch the meaning and to help us remember the main points.
- 8. Now look at chapter 3. Find the promises in it.
- 9. What are the ways we receive the promises which you identified in chapter three?
- 10. There are two ways of thinking, one is concrete which is the initial information and what is just in front of you. Abstract thinking is putting ideas together to understand deeper meaning or principles. Wisdom takes both types of thinking. Think about this and take it in to understanding. Does it make sense to you?
- 11. What situation are you dealing with now? How would you think about this situation in a concrete way?
- *12.* How would you think about this same situation with putting ideas together, coming up with principles and wisdom?
- *13.* Go through proverbs and take the idea of What is the promise here? and How do we receive that promise with each of the verses or chapters. Some people take one chapter a day or part of one chapter a day.