

Give Me Wisdom!
James 1:5

Wisdom for salvation ...

- I. Our Great Need
 - A. Rhetorical If?
 - B. See and Seek

- II. Our Gracious Provider
 - A. Generous
 - B. Patient
 - C. Promise

- III. Our Great Challenge
 - A. Short Circuiting
 - B. Connecting

... and wisdom for life.

Children, Listen ...

1. Can you describe wisdom?
2. Where is the kind of wisdom that will help us figure out life spelled out?
3. Asking for wisdom should be part of our prayers. What does our verse say will happen when we ask God for wisdom?
4. Can you explain how some people can be very smart, but not very wise?
5. You are young, but is it too early to ask God to give you wisdom. Can you name some things you will need wisdom for in the days to come?

When Convention Doesn't Cut It

Conventional wisdom will not cut it in this life and it certainly will not help us prepare for the next. First things first: Proverbs 9:10, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight." Vital as that is ... it is the beginning. Be assured that you will need continual guidance from above to live your life wisely for the Lord. As we have seen already in James, life will be filled with trials of various kinds, and we need help from above to face them. God provides wise counsel in His Word, He puts godly and wise counselors in our lives, and He welcomes us to call upon Him in prayer for wisdom as well. The real rub is this—wisdom is more than just knowledge; it involves prudent application of what we know. So a companion prayer to prayers for wisdom is prayer for a willing heart to do God's will. As is often the case, wisdom from above goes contrary to conventional wisdom and is most often in sharp contrast to worldly wisdom. But while it may seem foolish to unbelievers, godly wisdom gives life as well as guides life—and all who find and cherish her will live that life abundantly.