

There is no doctrine more excellent in itself or more necessary to be preached and studied than the doctrine of Jesus Christ and Him crucified. All other knowledge, how much soever it be magnified in the world, is, and ought to be esteemed, but dross in comparison of the excellence of the knowledge of Jesus Christ (Phil. 3:8). “In him are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge,” (Col. 2:3).

(John Flavel)

- ➔ **Prov. 11:19** – He who is steadfast in righteousness will attain to **life**, And he who pursues evil will bring about his own **death**.
- ➔ **Prov. 13:14** – The teaching of the wise is a fountain of **life**, To turn aside from the snares of **death**.
- ➔ **John 5:24** – “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal **life**, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of **death** into **life**.”

#### *Background to Proverbs 8:32ff*

- Proverbs 8 review: wisdom *personified* with characteristics of \*personhood\*—
  - Wisdom “preaching” (v.1-5);
  - the benefits of wisdom, (v.6-11)
  - the supremacy of wisdom, (v.12-21)
  - the antiquity of wisdom (v.22-31);
  - the concluding exhortation to ***get this & not neglect this!*** (v.32-36)

Note the repeated word:

- v.32, 34 = blessed [plural] = how **many** are the **BLESSEDNESSES** — how many infinite/abounding happinesses.

#### **God’s Wisdom ...**

1. It COMFORTS YOUR SOUL THRU HARDSHIPS
2. It REFOCUSSES YOUR MIND IN LIFE
3. It FORTIFIES YOUR HEART UPON CHRIST
4. It ELEVATES YOUR MINDSET ABOVE WORLDLINESS
5. It REJOICES YOUR HEART EACH DAY
6. It GUIDES YOUR CONDUCT THRU SCRIPTURE

**THESIS — This section in Proverbs 8 provides a concluding plea from The “Street-preacher “WISDOM” so that we may *listen & respond & find joy* in God’s Wisdom!**

\*If Ch.8 is “Wisdom’s Sermon” — then this is the **conclusion!**

**I. THE REQUEST FOR WISDOM (32-33)**

**II. THE REASONS FOR WISDOM (34-36)**

A. Abounding Happiness (32,34)

B. Abundant Life (35)

C. Obtaining Favor from Yahweh (35b)

**III. THE REFUGE IN WISDOM (36)**

- to reject God is to perish;
- to neglect this will destroy you!

**How do you miss wisdom (what are ways that you *don’t* get it)? 3 ways...**

“I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants, by loving the LORD your God, by obeying His voice, and by holding fast to Him; for this is your life.

(Deuteronomy 30:19-20)

**• Charles Wesley wrote:**

One only gift can justify The boasting soul that knows his God;  
When Jesus doth His blood apply, I glory in His sprinkled blood.

The Lord, my righteousness, I praise, I triumph in the love divine,  
The wisdom, wealth, and strength of grace, In Christ through endless ages mine.

**O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing!**

O for a thousand tongues to sing  
My great Redeemer’s praise,  
The glories of my God and king,  
The triumphs of His grace!  
My gracious master and my God,  
Assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad  
The honors of Thy name.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,  
That bids our sorrows cease;  
'Tis music in the sinner’s ears,  
'Tis life, and health, and peace.  
He breaks the power of canceled sin,  
He sets the prisoner free;  
His blood can make the foulest clean,  
His blood availed for me.

He speaks, and, listening to His voice,  
New life the dead receive,  
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice,  
The humble poor believe.  
Hear Him, ye deaf; His praise, ye dumb,  
Your loosened tongues employ;  
Ye blind, behold your Savior come,  
And leap, ye lame, for joy.

Look unto Him, ye nations, own  
Your God, ye fallen race;  
Look, and be saved through faith alone,  
Be justified by grace.  
Glory to God, and praise and love  
Be ever, ever given,  
By saints below and saints above,  
The church in earth and Heaven.

# PRAYER MEETING GUIDE

*From the template from the prayer which Jesus taught us (Matt 6:9-13)*

## **JESUS’ OUTLINE TO TEACH US HOW TO PRAY — a pattern, a template.**

- (1) **RECOGNITION!** - our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be Your name... [God’s character & Name]
- (2) **REQUEST!** – Your kingdom come; your will be done; give us this day... [Petition, asking, supplication]
- (3) **REPENT!** – forgive us our debts as we forgive others [Confession, Repentance, Contrite spirit]
- (4) **READINESS!** – lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the Evil One... [Spiritual readiness]

*4 Seasons of Prayer praying through the “Model-Prayer” that our Savior gave to us.*

## 1. **RECOGNITION!** - our Father who is in heaven....

To God be the glory, great things he has done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
and opened the life gate that we may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father thro' Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory, great things he has done!

### **For example:**

- Psalm 145 - God’s attributes
- Matt 6:9 - God is our “Father” who is in “heaven”
- 1 Tim 1:17 - praising God the Father

## 2. **REQUEST!** — give us this day...

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Great is thy faithfulness!  
Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see:  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided--  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

### **For example:**

- Prov 30:7-9 - two things I have asked from you (guard me from lies & forgetfulness)
- 1 Thess 1.2-3 - praying for fruitbearing

## 3. **REPENT!** — forgive us our sins...

Jesus my redeemer,  
Name above all names,

**Proverbs 8:32-36 — “Get God’s Wisdom! It Is a Life or Death Issue!”**

Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,  
Hope for sinners slain.

Thank you oh my father,  
For giving us Your Son,  
And leaving Your Spirit,  
’Til the work on Earth is done.

**For example:**

- Rev 11:15- forgive us for forgetting that Jesus is the King!
- 2 Cor 13.11 - forgive us for neglecting to rejoice, be comforted & live in peace.
- Luke 12.32 - forgive us for worrying and being anxious

## 4. **READINESS!** — lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the Evil One...

1 A mighty fortress is our God,  
a bulwark never failing;  
our helper he, amid the flood  
of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe  
does seek to work us woe;  
his craft and power are great,  
and armed with cruel hate,  
on earth is not his equal.

2 Did we in our own strength confide,  
our striving would be losing,  
were not the right Man on our side,  
the Man of God's own choosing.  
You ask who that may be?  
Christ Jesus, it is he;  
Lord Sabaoth his name,  
from age to age the same;  
and he must win the battle.

3 And though this world, with devils filled,  
should threaten to undo us,  
we will not fear, for God has willed  
his truth to triumph through us.  
The prince of darkness grim,  
we tremble not for him;  
his rage we can endure,  
for lo! his doom is sure;  
one little word shall fell him.

4 That Word above all earthly powers  
no thanks to them abideth;

**For example:**

- Eph 6.10 - make us \*ready\* to stand strong in the Lord & put on the full armor!
- 1 John 4.1 - make us vigilant to “test every spirit” to see if it truly comes from Scripture
- Jude 3 - Help us to contend earnestly for the faith
- Luke 12.8 - Strengthen us to “confess Christ boldly before men” & not fear the consequences.

***Proverbs 8:32-36 — "Get God's Wisdom! It Is a Life or Death Issue!"***

the Spirit and the gifts are ours  
through him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go,  
this mortal life also;  
the body they may kill:  
God's truth abideth still;  
his kingdom is forever!