



#1 "THERE IS A SMART WAY TO LIVE"

Proverbs 1:1-4 (NLT) These are the proverbs of Solomon, David's son, king of Israel. Their purpose is to teach people wisdom and discipline, to help them understand the insights of the wise. Their purpose is to teach people to live disciplined and successful lives, to help them do what is right, just, and fair. These proverbs will give insight to the simple, knowledge and discernment to the young.

1. Smart living is _____ living.

8 biblical facts about wisdom:

- ▶ God is the source of true wisdom.
Proverbs 9:10 (NLT) Fear of the LORD is the foundation of wisdom. Knowledge of the Holy One results in good judgment.
- ▶ The world offers an alternative but inferior version of wisdom.
Proverbs 14:12 (NLT) There is a path before each person that seems right, but it ends in death.
- ▶ We choose to either increase our wisdom or remain foolish.
Proverbs 19:8 (NIV) The one who gets wisdom loves life; the one who cherishes understanding will soon prosper.
- ▶ Our choices—wise or foolish—have consequences.
Proverbs 19:3 (NLT) People ruin their lives by their own foolishness and then are angry at the LORD.
- ▶ God wants to give us His wisdom.
Proverbs 1:23 (NLT) Come and listen to my counsel. I'll share my heart with you and make you wise.
- ▶ Jesus Christ is the way to wisdom.
Colossians 2:3 (NLT) In him lie hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.
- ▶ God's Word is the textbook that teaches us wisdom.
Colossians 3:16 (NLT) Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives....
- ▶ God's wisdom is the most important thing we can pursue.

Proverbs 4:7 (NLT) Getting wisdom is the wisest thing you can do! And whatever else you do, develop good judgment.

2. Wisdom makes your life _____.

Proverbs 2:6-11 (NLT) For the Lord grants wisdom! From His mouth come knowledge and understanding. He grants a treasure of common sense to the honest. He is a shield to those who walk with integrity. He guards the paths of the just and protects those who are faithful to him. Then you will understand what is right, just, and fair, and you will find the right way to go. For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will fill you with joy. Wise choices will watch over you. Understanding will keep you safe.

6 benefits of wisdom:

- ▶ We invest our life instead of wasting it.
- ▶ We expand our abilities and realize our potential.
- ▶ We increase our influence.
- ▶ We protect ourselves and others.
- ▶ We inspire others.
- ▶ We experience God's peace and joy.

3. We get wisdom by _____ it.

5 practical steps to become a wiser person:

- ▶ _____ wisdom.
Proverbs 3:15 (TEV) Wisdom is more valuable than jewels; nothing you could want can compare with it.
- ▶ Invite God to _____ over your life.
Proverbs 1:7 (Living) How does a man become wise? The first step is to trust and reverence the Lord! Only fools refuse to be taught.

Proverbs 9:10 (CEV) Respect and obey the Lord! This is the beginning of wisdom. To have understanding, you must know the Holy God.
- ▶ _____ God for wisdom.
1 Kings 3:7-14 (NIV) Now, LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish

between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?" The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. So God said to him, "Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be. Moreover, I will give you what you have not asked for—both wealth and honor—so that in your lifetime you will have no equal among kings. And if you walk in obedience to me and keep my decrees and commands as David your father did, I will give you a long life."

James 1:5-6 (NLT) If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking. But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind.

- ▶ (4) Become a _____.

Proverbs 2:1-6 (NLT) My child, listen to what I say, and treasure my commands. Tune your ears to wisdom, and concentrate on understanding. Cry out for insight, and ask for understanding. Search for them as you would for silver; seek them like hidden treasures. Then you will understand what it means to fear the LORD, and you will gain knowledge of God. For the LORD grants wisdom! From his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

Proverbs 4:1-2 (NIV) Listen, my sons, to a father's instruction; pay attention and gain understanding. I give you sound learning, so do not forsake my teaching.

- ▶ (5) _____ what you learn.

Proverbs 4:4-5 (NLT) My father taught me, "Take my words to heart. Follow my commands, and you will live. Get wisdom; develop good judgment. Don't forget my words or turn away from them."