

GOOD CENTS: WISDOM IS THE PRINCIPLE THING

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Proverbs 4:1-7 NKJ

Hear, my children, the instruction of a father, and give attention to know understanding; for I give you good doctrine: do not forsake my law. When I was my father's son, tender and the only one in the sight of my mother, he also taught me, and said to me: "Let your heart retain my words; keep my commands, and live. Get wisdom! Get understanding! Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth. Do not forsake her, and she will preserve you; love her, and she will keep you. Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore, get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding."

Proverbs 4:7-8 NLT

"Getting wisdom is the wisest thing you can do! And whatever else you do, develop good judgment. If you prize wisdom, she will make you great. Embrace her, and she will honor you."

Proverbs 3:13-18 NCV

Happy is the person who finds wisdom, the one who gets understanding. Wisdom is worth more than silver; it brings more profit than gold. Wisdom is more precious than rubies; nothing you could want is equal to it. With her right hand wisdom offers you a long life, and with her left hand she gives you riches and honor. Wisdom will make your life pleasant and will bring you peace. As a tree produces fruit, wisdom gives life to those who use it, and everyone who uses it will be happy.

Proverbs 8:17-21 NLT

"I love all who love me. Those who search will surely find me. I have riches and honor, as well as enduring wealth and justice. My gifts are better than gold, even the purest gold, my wages better than sterling silver! I walk in righteousness, in paths of justice. Those who love me inherit wealth. I will fill their treasuries."

Three Ways We Grow in Wisdom:

1. Meditations

Joshua 1:8 NKJ

“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.”

Luke 12:15 NKJ

And He said to them, “Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.”

2. Associations

Proverbs 13:20 MSG

Become wise by walking with the wise; hang out with fools and watch your life fall to pieces.

3. Dedications

Matthew 6:19-21 NKJ

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Matthew 6:24 NKJ

“No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.”

Three Areas That Will Help You Handle Money Well:

1. Wisdom in Thinking

Hosea 4:6 NKJ

“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge...”

Proverbs 12:15 NKJ

The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but he who heeds counsel is wise.

2. Wisdom in Living**Three Main Things:**

1. Develop a skill that is marketable and produces an income relevant to the times.
2. Develop a lifestyle that is willing to sacrifice early to build a foundation for the middle and latter stages of life.

Proverbs 13:7 NIV

One person pretends to be rich, yet has nothing; another pretends to be poor, yet has great wealth.

3. Develop a strategy to make your money work for you not against you.

Proverbs 21:20 NIV

The wise store up choice food and olive oil, but fools gulp theirs down.

3. Wisdom in Giving**Proverbs 11:24-25 NIV**

One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.

2 Corinthians 8:15 NKJ

As it is written, “He who gathered much had nothing left over, and he who gathered little had no lack.”

2 Corinthians 9:6 AMP

Now [remember] this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows generously [that blessings may come to others] will also reap generously [and be blessed].