

**Crossroads Daily Guide**  
**Week of October 2**  
**What the World Needs Now**  
**Week 4: Wisdom**



This week we complete our series “What the World Needs Now” by exploring the concept of godly wisdom. People often confuse wisdom with knowledge or intelligence. Godly wisdom includes these things and yet wisdom cannot be learned in a classroom or a webinar, but comes through the experience of living. Jesus taught us that life is difficult and will bring suffering. This is part of our humanity. But, we do not have to be destroyed by the testing, the trials, the suffering and brokenness. We have the hope of integrating all the experiences of our lives into the development of a godly wisdom that will lead us to making wise choices in our everyday lives. The poet Aeschylus said, “Wisdom comes only through suffering.” Jesus told us the same thing but with a different point of view.

Jesus gave us the hope that the struggles of life don’t have to be the last word. We can see those struggles, reflect upon their meaning and impact in our lives, and integrate them into our whole being to become people who can access godly wisdom wherever we are.

The scriptures say, *“My brothers and sisters, think of the various tests you encounter as occasions for joy. After all, you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance. Let this endurance complete its work so that you may be fully mature, complete, and lacking in nothing. But anyone who needs wisdom should ask God, whose very nature is to give to everyone without a second thought, without keeping score. Wisdom will certainly be given to those who ask. Whoever asks shouldn’t hesitate. They should ask in faith, without doubting.”* James 1:2-6

Every day brings challenges. They are our opportunity to access godly wisdom. Be blessed on your journey as you grow in grace and godly wisdom each day.

You can receive the daily reflections by text message by texting the word, crossroads to 41411.

**Sunday Oct. 2, 2016**

**James 1:5-6** *But anyone who needs wisdom should ask God, whose very nature is to give to everyone without a second thought, without keeping score. Wisdom will certainly be given to those who ask. Whoever asks shouldn’t hesitate. They should ask in faith, without doubting.*

**Reflection:** Greet this day with joy even while knowing you will face challenges. When challenged, pause and ask God to help you make godly choices. God’s wisdom is a gift.

**Monday Oct. 3, 2016**

**James 3:17** *But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure, then peace loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.*

**Reflection:** When struggles come today, pause before responding and ask God to give you the wisdom to respond with compassion, forgiveness and service. That’s wisdom.

**Tuesday Oct. 4, 2016**

**James 3:13** *Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in humility that comes from wisdom.*

**Reflection:** Wisdom is practicing what you believe to be true. Today be aware of situations that challenge your beliefs, then hold to your belief and then respond.

**Wednesday Oct. 5, 2016**

**Colossians 4:5** *Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders. Make the most of every opportunity to let your conversation be full of grace.*

**Reflection:** Words matter. Throughout the day be mindful of your words. Ask God to help you fill every conversation with grace. A wise person speaks graciously to others.

**Thursday Oct. 6, 2016**

**Proverbs 2:6** *For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth comes knowledge and understanding.*

**Reflection:** Some days bring devastating struggles. Community is a gift from God. Reach out and ask for help when you are overwhelmed. This is a sign of godly wisdom.

**Friday Oct. 7, 2016**

**Psalm 90:12** *Teach us to number our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom.*

**Reflection:** Gaining wisdom is a life-long process. Every day matters. Today, be open to discovering God's wisdom in whatever happens. This is your day to grow a bit wiser.

**Saturday Oct. 8, 2016**

**Proverbs 15:33** *Wisdom's instruction is to honor the Lord and humility comes before honor.*

**Reflection:** When pride blocks your ability to make wise choices pause to notice your pride, then ask God to help you choose humility over pride. Humility leads to wisdom.