

Sermon Follow-up | July 18, 2021

Re-Cover from Foolishness –

Focus Passage: Proverbs 9:7-12, 10:17-23

Larger Context:

Other Passages Referenced: Romans 5:12; Colossians 2:3; 1 Corinthians 1:30

Comments:

In the *Allow the Word to Speak* section, we will again use the HEAR method—Highlight ... Explain ... Apply ... Respond.

Sermon Recap

We see many references to a **fool** or **foolishness** contrasted with the **wise** and **wisdom** throughout the Book of Proverbs. We certainly see the theme and words in Proverbs 9 and 10. But what is foolishness? And what is wisdom? Jesus Christ covers us with His righteousness so that He can recover us from our foolishness.

What is foolishness?

- Fools hate being reproved and corrected.
- Fools lead others astray, utter slander, and see wrongdoing as a joke.
- Foolishness is a moral deficiency that leads to irrational behavior.
 - Romans 5:12- “Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned.”
 - Sin is the root of foolishness.
- Foolishness is not a lack of intelligence; foolishness is a lack of discernment.
- Foolishness leads to death.

God Invites us to Recover from our Foolishness Through a Relationship with Jesus, the Incarnation of Wisdom.

- Colossians 2:3 – “...in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”
- 1 Corinthians 1:30.– “And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption.”

What is wisdom?

- Wisdom is righteousness, holiness, and an understanding of what life is all about.
- Wisdom leads us to know and glorify our God who created and redeemed us.
- Wisdom listens to reproof and correction. A wise person receives and learns from instruction to become even wiser.
- Wisdom comes from fear of the Lord and knowledge of God.
- Heeding instruction in wisdom is the way to life.

How can we live in Wisdom? We can learn to walk like Jesus, the incarnation of wisdom walked. We can accept the invitation to recover from foolishness.

- Listen to those in our lives who have Godly wisdom.
- Watch what we say.
- Don't lie or slander people.
- Avoid wrongdoing because sin isn't a joke.

Group Gathering

Group Check-in — Care, Celebration, Encouragement (About 1/3 of meeting time)

1. Informal conversation to allow individuals to catch up with one another.
2. Ask if anyone would share how they've been hearing and obeying God's direction.

Allow the Word to Speak — Be Hearers of the Word (About 1/3 of meeting time)

READ Proverbs 9:7-12; 10:17-23

1. HIGHLIGHT the verses that speak to you
 - a. Write out the name of the book and the passage.
 - b. Which chapter and verse numbers stand out to you?
 - c. Write down any questions you have about the passage.
 - d. In just a few of your own words, write a title that describes the passage.
2. EXPLAIN what the passage means?
 - a. To whom was it originally written? (A study Bible or Bible introduction may be helpful)
 - b. Why was it written?
 - c. How does it fit with the verses before and after it?
 - d. Write a short summary of what you think the passage means.
 - e. Why do you think the Holy Spirit included this passage in the Bible?
3. APPLY what God is saying in these verses to your life.
 - a. What is God saying to me through this passage?
 - b. How am I to apply this passage to my life?
4. RESPOND to what you've read in one or more of the following ways:
 - a. Write out what you are going to do because of what you have learned or sense the Spirit leading you to do.
 - b. Write out a prayer in response to what you have learned or sense the Spirit saying.

Put the Word into Practice — Be Doers of the Word (About 1/3 of meeting time)

1. As you reflect on problems in your life, do your challenges stem more from a lack of knowledge or from a lack of discernment? Explain What step can you take to move away from foolishness toward wisdom?
2. Do you tend to welcome correction and learn from it, or do you tend to resist and rationalize when you are reproved? Explain ... What step can you take to move away from foolishness toward wisdom?
3. Can you connect any dots between irrational behaviors in your life to moral deficiency and sin? How?
4. Will you intentionally invite people you know to have godly wisdom to speak into your life? ... Can you name them? ... Will you reach out to one or more of them this week?

The Big Question: What do you sense God's Spirit saying to you and what concrete action will you take in response? Share your answer with the group or another trusted Christian and ask them to pray for you.

What is Foolishness?

- **Moral deficiency leads to irrational behavior**

“Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned”

Romans 5:12

God Invites us to Recover from our Foolishness

⁴"Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!"

To him who lacks sense she says,

⁵"Come, eat of my bread

and drink of the wine I have mixed.

⁶Leave your simple ways, and live,

and walk in the way of insight."

Proverbs 9:4-6

**“in whom are hidden all the treasures
of wisdom and knowledge.”**

Colossians 2:3

**And because of him you are in Christ Jesus,
who became to us wisdom from God,
righteousness and sanctification
and redemption”**

1 Corinthians 1:30

What is wisdom?

- Wisdom is righteousness, holiness, and an understanding of what life is all about.**
- To know and glorify our God who created us and redeemed us.**

How can we live in Wisdom?

- **Wisdom affects the way we listen
AND the way we talk**

How can we live in Wisdom?

- Accept the invitation
to recover from foolishness**
- Listen to those who have
Godly wisdom in their lives**