

Wisdom To Follow

Church School 08/10/2020

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Scriptures: Proverbs 3:17;

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- Proverbs 3:17 Wisdom makes life pleasant and leads us safely along
- Proverbs 8:32-36 (CEV)
 - ³² Pay attention, my children! Follow my advice, and you will be happy.
 - ³³ Listen carefully to my instructions, and you will be wise
 - ³⁴ Come to my home each day and listen to me. You will find happiness.
 - ³⁵ By finding me, you find life, and the LORD will be pleased with you.
 - ³⁶ But if you don't find me, you hurt only yourself, and if you hate me, you are in love with death.

Scripture: John 14:1-8

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¹ Jesus said to his disciples, “Don’t be worried! Have faith in God and have faith in me.

² There are many rooms in my Father’s house. I wouldn’t tell you this, unless it was true. I am going there to prepare a place for each of you.

³ After I have done this, I will come back and take you with me. Then we will be together.

⁴ You know the way to where I am going.”

⁵ Thomas said, “Lord, we don’t even know where you are going! How can we know the way?”

⁶ “I am the way, the truth, and the life!” Jesus answered. “Without me, no one can go to the Father.

⁷ If you had known me, you would have known the Father. But from now on, you do know him, and you have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father. That is all we need.”

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Scripture: John 14:9-14

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⁹ Jesus replied:

Philip, I have been with you for a long time. Don't you know who I am? If you have seen me, you have seen the Father. How can you ask me to show you the Father?

¹⁰ Don't you believe that I am one with the Father and that the Father is one with me? What I say isn't said on my own. The Father who lives in me does these things.

¹¹ Have faith in me when I say that the Father is one with me and that I am one with the Father. Or else have faith in me simply because of the things I do.

¹² I tell you for certain that if you have faith in me, you will do the same things that I am doing. You will do even greater things, now that I am going back to the Father.

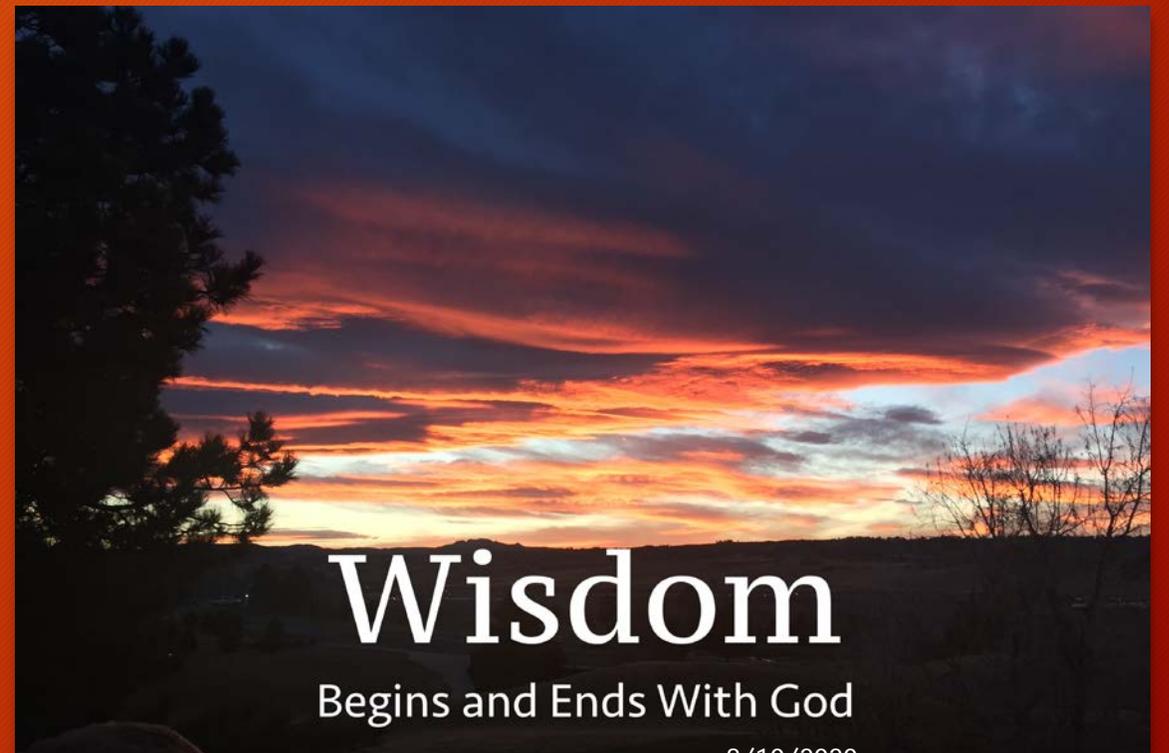
¹³ Ask me, and I will do whatever you ask. This way the Son will bring honor to the Father.

¹⁴ I will do whatever you ask me to do.

Common Theme: Wisdom

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Solomon, who was the wisest man on earth, at least until Christ came, said that “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.”



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Godly Wisdom From Above:

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- Is:
 - pure,
 - peaceable,
 - gentle,
 - open to reason,
 - full of mercy and good fruits,
 - impartial and sincere.

Introduction

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- There is a saying that all roads lead to Rome, this may be true about Rome, but it is not true about God.
- Jesus provides the only way to God.!
- The wise person understands that it takes WISDOM to follow Jesus.
- Jesus alone provides access to the Father in Heaven.

Background: John Chapters 12 and 13

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- John chapters 12 and 13 tells us that six days before the Passover would be Jesus' final Passover celebrated with His disciples.
- A series of events began to unfold:
 - Jesus came to Bethany
 - He raised Lazarus from the dead
 - He entered Jerusalem in what we know as the triumphal entry,
 - He was received joyfully
 - At the Passover meal Jesus announces His betrayal to His disciples
 - The disciples are confused
 - Jesus announces He will leave soon and they cannot come with Him at that time
 - Peter declares that he will lay down his life for him
 - Jesus tells Peter that he will deny Him three times
 - It really was a confusing time
 - Our lesson tonight picks up with chapter 14

How To Get To Heaven - John 14:1-6

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- **Preparing a place (John 14:1-2)**
 - Jesus brought words of comfort to His distraught disciples
 - The Lord was concerned about their emotional and spiritual condition which is why He said to them "Let not your heart be troubled."
 - Jesus knew that what was going to happen would be a big test of their faith and He did not want them to doubt.
 - The disciples were already troubled and confused, and Jesus knew the situation was going to get worse before it got better.
 - They were about to face the most difficult time of testing they had ever known.
 - But Jesus tells them "ye believe in God, believe also in me."

Open Chat

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- Question:
- *Have you experienced time(s) when your heart was troubled by a matter that you felt you had no control over? Share with the class what those experiences were. Also share what you did about what you were experiencing.*

Receiving the place (John 14:3-4)

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- Jesus wanted the disciples to understand that His going away was ultimately going to benefit them.
- He was going away to “prepare a place” for them and then would come back and “receive” them to Himself so that they could be with Him again.
- This expression refers to the rapture when Christ will return and call all believers to Himself and give them the joy of being with Him and His Father forever.
- While we wait, we should be about our heavenly Father’s business.

Getting to the Place (John 14:5-6)

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- Thomas claims ignorance in vs. 5, speaking for the group, Thomas says unto Jesus “Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?”
- The disciples had heard earlier what Jesus said about His death and resurrection, *but they failed to understand it.*
- The disciples expected Jesus to establish His kingdom on earth.
- They had been sent out to preach that the kingdom of heaven was at hand.
- Now that Jesus was going away, they didn't know what to expect next.

Getting to the Place: (John 14:5-6)

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- Jesus makes it plain and reveals four truths to His disciples:
 - I am the way - Jesus makes it plain that He was and is the object of faith.
 - I am the truth
 - I am the life
 - No man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

How to Know the Father - John 14:7-10

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- A. A need to know (John 14:7-8)
 - Jesus mildly rebukes the Disciples by reminding them that by now they should know Him well enough to know the “Father” also.
 - Jesus then said, “and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him.”
 - Jesus was saying that He and the “Father” are the same!
 - John 12:44-45 puts it clearly where Jesus said “*He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on Him that sent me. And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me.*”
 - We must remember as believers that scripture is consistent in proclaiming that Jesus, the Son of God was a visible manifestation of God.

How to Know the Father - John 14:7-8

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- A. A need to know (John 14:8)
 - At this point the fact that the disciples are still lacking in their understanding of Jesus and His Father is blatantly evident in the next request they made to Jesus.
 - *“Phillip said, LORD, show us the Father, that is all we need.”*
 - Even though Phillip was a disciple, he and the other disciples would only be content if Jesus would provide a “theophany”, a visible manifestation of God, such as what had occurred in the Old Testament.
 - Phillip did not know that Jesus was the pre-incarnate Christ who had appeared many times in the Old Testament theophanies, as the *Angel of the Lord*.

How to Know the Father - John 14:9-10

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- B. A need to observe (John 14: 9-10)
 - Jesus responds to Phillip's question by saying, "I have been with you this long and yet you have not learned to recognize who I really am and that the Father is in me? You still ask me to show you the Father?"
 - Yet again, Jesus explains that "he that hath seen me hath seen the Father."
 - In verse 10 Jesus goes on to ask Phillip if he believed the relationship He and the "FATHER" had.
 - Jesus has been showing them the "FATHER" all along.

How To Glorify The Son - John 14:11-14

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- A. The importance of belief (John 14:11-12)
 - Jesus makes a clear statement that He and His "Father" exist in each other.
 - This is where the concept of the tri-unity of God comes into play.
 - *God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit*
 - *Each member of the Godhead (Father, Son, Holy Ghost) possess full and equal deity*
 - *The Bible teaches on both the oneness of God and the plurality of the Godhead by faith*
 - *Jesus assured his disciples that anyone who "believes" in Him will do "the works" that He did, and in fact they would do even "greater works"*

How to Glorify the Son (John 13-14)

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- B. The certainty of prayer (John 14:13-14)
 - Jesus knew He was going to see His Father as the last part of verse 12 says.
 - He wanted His disciples to know that when He did, He would send the Holy Spirit to enable His servants in their ministries.
 - Even more so, Jesus left His servants with the privilege of prayer.
 - He tells them “ And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.”
 - Jesus assures His disciples that He would do anything they requested in His “*name*” meaning according to His will.
 - When Jesus responds to our prayers that are in His will, His answers will bring glory to “*the Father*” through the Son.

Open the Chat

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- Does the promise of answered prayer apply to us today?
- Share your prayer structure, i.e., do you use ACTS, or some other format.
- A - Adoration
- C - Confession
- T - Thanksgiving
- S - Supplication

Practical Points For Review -

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1. Our hearts are at peace when we learn to trust Jesus as almighty God and Lord of all.
2. Believers can take supreme comfort in knowing that Jesus has prepared a place for us in heaven.
3. When you feel that you have lost your way, remember that Jesus has shown you the way.
4. In Jesus, we have found the way to God, the truth of God, and the eternal life of God; and we are on the right path.
5. The better we know Jesus the Son, the better we know God the Father.
6. Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Finito!

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Let's encourage one another to work and pray in Jesus' name, or more specifically, ask according to His will!