

ROOTED

5-Day Devotional • Day 1

THE WEIGHT OF OUR CHOICES

The choices we make today shape the people we become tomorrow.

Have you ever looked back at a decision and wondered, “What was I thinking?” Maybe it was a financial choice, a relationship decision, or even something as simple as what you said in a heated moment. We’ve all been there—making choices that seemed brilliant at the time but left us with deep regret later.

The reality is that our decisions carry more weight than we often realize. Research suggests we make around 30,000 decisions daily, from major life-altering choices to seemingly insignificant moments that quietly shape who we become. Each choice is like a brushstroke on the canvas of our lives, creating a picture that emerges over time. But here’s the encouraging truth: we don’t have to navigate life’s decisions alone or rely solely on our limited perspective.

There’s a better way—a path that doesn’t depend on our best guesses but on God’s perfect wisdom. This journey begins with recognizing that our choices today don’t just determine where we go tomorrow; they shape who we become. The beautiful news is that no matter what decisions have brought you to this moment, today offers a fresh opportunity. You can choose to walk in God’s wisdom, trusting that He sees the bigger picture and wants the very best for your life. Your story isn’t defined by your worst decisions—it can be transformed by choosing His way forward.

PROVERBS 1:1-7

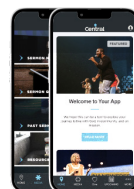
*The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel:
for gaining wisdom and instruction;
for understanding words of insight;
for receiving instruction in prudent behavior,
doing what is right and just and fair;
for giving prudence to those who are simple,
knowledge and discretion to the young—
let the wise listen and add to their learning,
and let the discerning get guidance—
for understanding proverbs and parables,
the sayings and riddles of the wise.
The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge,
but fools despise wisdom and instruction.*

PRAYER

Lord, thank You that my past decisions don’t have to define my future. Help me to see the weight and importance of the choices I make each day. Give me the wisdom to pause and seek Your guidance, trusting that You see what I cannot see and want what’s best for my life. Amen.

REFLECTION QUESTION

Looking at the decisions you’ve made recently, both big and small, how might your life look different if you consistently sought God’s wisdom before choosing?



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5-Day Devotional • Day 2

TAKING GOD SERIOUSLY

The fear of the Lord means that we see God as He really is.

When we hear the phrase “fear of the Lord,” it might conjure images of cowering before an angry deity. But biblical fear of the Lord is something entirely different and far more beautiful. It’s about taking God seriously—seeing Him as He truly is. Imagine standing at the edge of the Grand Canyon for the first time. You don’t run away in terror, but you’re filled with awe and respect for its power and majesty. You take it seriously. You don’t casually lean over the edge or ignore the safety barriers. That healthy respect doesn’t diminish your wonder; it enhances it. This is what it means to fear the Lord. It’s recognizing that God is all-knowing, almighty, all-powerful, all-good, and all-loving. It’s understanding that He knows more about your situation than you do, sees more of the picture than you can see, and wants more for your life than you could even imagine for yourself.

When we truly grasp who God is, wisdom begins. We start making decisions not based on our limited understanding but on His unlimited perspective. We begin to trust that His ways are higher than our ways, and His thoughts higher than our thoughts. This isn’t about fear that paralyzes; it’s about reverence that liberates. When we take God seriously, we’re free to stop carrying the burden of figuring everything out on our own.

JAMES 1:5

If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

PRAYER

Father, help me to see You as You truly are—not as someone to fear, but as someone to revere and trust completely. Give me the humility to acknowledge that Your wisdom far exceeds my understanding. Help me to take You seriously in every decision I face. Amen.

REFLECTION QUESTION

In what areas of your life do you find it hardest to trust that God knows more and wants more for you than you do for yourself?

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5-Day Devotional • Day 3

THE ART OF LISTENING

You can't follow wisdom you haven't heard.

In our noisy world, true listening has become a lost art. We're constantly bombarded with information, opinions, and advice from countless sources. But when it comes to wisdom, there's one voice that rises above all others—God's voice speaking through His Word. Listening to God isn't just about reading Scripture; it's about positioning our hearts to receive what He wants to say to us. It's creating space in our busy lives to hear His whispers of guidance, His words of comfort, and His directions for our path. Think about the last meaningful conversation you had with someone you love. You didn't just hear their words; you listened with your heart, paying attention to what they were really saying. This is how God invites us to approach His Word—not as a religious duty, but as a conversation with someone who loves us deeply.

The beautiful truth is that God wants to speak into every area of our lives. Whether you're facing a major decision, dealing with a difficult relationship, or simply trying to navigate daily challenges, His wisdom is available to you. But wisdom requires more than just hearing—it requires the kind of listening that transforms how we think and live. When we truly listen to God, we begin to see our circumstances through His eyes. Problems that seemed insurmountable become opportunities for His power to be displayed. Relationships that felt broken become places where His love can bring healing.

PROVERBS 15:1

*A gentle answer turns away wrath,
but a harsh word stirs up anger.*

PRAYER

Lord, in a world full of noise and distractions, help me to quiet my heart and truly listen to Your voice. Teach me to approach Your Word not just as information to consume, but as a conversation with You. Open my ears to hear what You want to say to me today. Amen.

REFLECTION QUESTION

What distractions or noise in your life might be preventing you from truly listening to God's voice, and how can you create more space to hear Him?

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5-Day Devotional • Day 4

FROM HEARING TO HEEDING

If listening is the inhale, obeying is the exhale.

There's a world of difference between hearing good advice and actually following it. We can listen to the wisest counsel, nod our heads in agreement, and then walk away unchanged. But true wisdom bridges the gap between knowing and doing. Think of it like breathing—hearing God's Word is like inhaling, but heeding it is the exhale. Both are essential for spiritual life. Without the exhale of obedience, we're just holding our breath, and that's not sustainable or healthy. Many of us have become experts at accumulating biblical knowledge. We can quote verses, discuss theology, and even teach others. But knowledge alone doesn't make us wise. Wisdom comes when we take what we've learned and actually live it out in our daily decisions and relationships. This is where the rubber meets the road in our faith journey. It's one thing to know that God calls us to forgive; it's another to actually forgive someone who has hurt us deeply. It's one thing to understand that God wants us to be generous; it's another to actually give sacrificially when our budget is tight.

The encouraging news is that God doesn't expect perfection from us. He knows we'll stumble as we learn to walk in His ways. But He's looking for hearts that are willing to move from hearing to heeding, from knowing to doing. Each step of obedience, no matter how small, builds our capacity for wisdom and deepens our relationship with Him.

PROVERBS 12:22

*The Lord detests lying lips,
but he delights in people who are trustworthy.*

PRAYER

God, forgive me for the times I've been content to just know Your truth without living it. Give me the courage and strength to move from hearing to heeding, from knowing to doing. Help me to be a person who not only learns Your ways but walks in them daily. Amen.

REFLECTION QUESTION

What's one piece of God's wisdom that you know well but struggle to consistently live out, and what small step could you take today to move from hearing to heeding?

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5-Day Devotional • Day 5

WALKING WITH THE WAY

We have a God who gave us his Son and His spirit to walk with us.

After four days of exploring wisdom, we arrive at the most beautiful truth of all: we don't have to figure out life on our own. We have more than just principles to follow or rules to keep—we have a relationship with the living God who walks with us every step of the way. Jesus didn't just teach about wisdom; He is wisdom personified. When He said, "I am the way," He wasn't just giving us directions—He was offering Himself as our guide. And when He ascended to heaven, He didn't leave us as orphans. He sent His Spirit to continue walking with us, showing us the way and giving us the strength to follow it. This changes everything about how we approach life's challenges.

We're not alone in our decision-making, struggling to figure out the right path through our own limited understanding. We have the God of the universe as our companion, counselor, and guide. Wisdom isn't built in a day—it's the result of thousands of daily decisions to do life God's way. Each morning we wake up with fresh opportunities to choose His path over our own, to trust His perspective over our limited view, to walk in His love rather than our own strength. The journey of wisdom is ultimately about relationship - learning to walk so closely with God that His heart becomes our heart, His ways become our ways, and His wisdom flows naturally through our lives. This is the abundant life He designed for us, and it's available to anyone willing to take the first step.

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-25

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written:

*"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise;
the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate."*

Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

PRAYER

Jesus, thank You for being not just my teacher but my way. Thank You for Your Spirit who walks with me daily, guiding me in wisdom and truth. Help me to remember that I'm never alone in my decisions. Give me the faith to trust Your way even when it doesn't make sense to the world around me. Amen.

REFLECTION QUESTION

How does knowing that Jesus Himself is wisdom and that His Spirit walks with you daily change the way you approach the decisions and challenges you're facing right now?
