

## **DAY 9 | GOD's Guidance and Wisdom**

Tuesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>

As we continue our time of prayer and fasting, we are reminded of the importance of seeking God's wisdom and guidance. His wisdom helps us make decisions beyond our understanding, and His guidance ensures we stay on the right path. When we trust and acknowledge Him, He promises to direct our steps.

**Wisdom-** the quality of having experience, knowledge, and good judgment; the quality of being wise.

**Guidance-** advice or information aimed at resolving a problem or difficulty, especially as given by someone in authority.

Lord, thank you for the closed doors as well as the open doors, so many times I act without wisdom and it has caused me to experience some hardships that I would not have had to go through had I been led by your guide, Holy Spirit. As we walk into the Year of the Open Door, I thank you for wisdom as you guide me through the open doors. I understand that as I act with your wisdom, I am acknowledging you, because I am not leaning to my own understanding.

### **What is the foundation of wisdom according to Proverbs 9:10?**

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

### **What should one do when lacking wisdom, as stated in James 1:5?**

If anyone lacks wisdom, they should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to them.

### **What does Proverbs 3:5-6 teach about trusting God for guidance?**

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths.

## How does Proverbs 4:7 emphasize the importance of wisdom?

Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore, get wisdom. In all your getting, get understanding.

### Points of Reflection

1. Reflect on a time when you acted without seeking God's guidance. What was the outcome, and how could applying wisdom have changed it?
2. Are you actively seeking wisdom daily in your decisions? How can you make this a priority in your walk with God?
3. What steps can you take to ensure you are not leaning on your own understanding but instead trusting God's direction?

**Key Scriptures:** *Proverbs 9:10-11, James 1: 2-8, Jeremiah 29:11, Proverbs 3:11-26 , Proverbs 4:5-23, Proverbs 2:1-11*

**Proverbs 9:10-11** <sup>10</sup>“The fear of the Lord *is* the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One *is* understanding. <sup>11</sup>For by me your days will be multiplied, And years of life will be added to you.

**James 1: 2-8** <sup>2</sup>My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, <sup>3</sup>knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. <sup>4</sup>But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. <sup>5</sup>If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of GOD, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. <sup>6</sup>But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. <sup>7</sup>For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; <sup>8</sup>*he is* a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

**Jeremiah 29:11** <sup>11</sup>For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

**Proverbs 3:11-26** <sup>11</sup>My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor detest His correction; <sup>12</sup>For whom the Lord loves He corrects, Just as a father the son *in whom* he delights. <sup>13</sup>Happy *is* the man *who* finds wisdom, And the

man *who* gains understanding; <sup>14</sup>For her proceeds *are* better than the profits of silver, And her gain than fine gold. <sup>15</sup>She *is* more precious than rubies, And all the things you may desire cannot compare with her. <sup>16</sup>Length of days *is* in her right hand, In her left hand riches and honor. <sup>17</sup>Her ways *are* ways of pleasantness, And all her paths *are* peace. <sup>18</sup>She *is* a tree of life to those who take hold of her, And happy *are all* who retain her. <sup>19</sup>The Lord by wisdom founded the earth; By understanding He established the heavens; <sup>20</sup>By His knowledge the depths were broken up, And clouds drop down the dew. <sup>21</sup>My son, let them not depart from your eyes— Keep sound wisdom and discretion; <sup>22</sup>So they will be life to your soul And grace to your neck. <sup>23</sup>Then you will walk safely in your way, And your foot will not stumble. <sup>24</sup>When you lie down, you will not be afraid; Yes, you will lie down and your sleep will be sweet. <sup>25</sup>Do not be afraid of sudden terror, Nor of trouble from the wicked when it comes; <sup>26</sup>For the Lord will be your confidence, And will keep your foot from being caught.

**Proverbs 4:5-23** Get wisdom! Get understanding! Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth. <sup>6</sup>Do not forsake her, and she will preserve you; Love her, and she will keep you. <sup>7</sup>Wisdom *is* the principal thing; *Therefore* get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding. <sup>8</sup>Exalt her, and she will promote you; She will bring you honor, when you embrace her. <sup>9</sup>She will place on your head an ornament of grace; A crown of glory she will deliver to you.” <sup>10</sup>Hear, my son, and receive my sayings, And the years of your life will be many. <sup>11</sup>I have taught you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in right paths. <sup>12</sup>When you walk, your steps will not be hindered, And when you run, you will not stumble. <sup>13</sup>Take firm hold of instruction, do not let go; Keep her, for she *is* your life. <sup>14</sup>Do not enter the path of the wicked, And do not walk in the way of evil. <sup>15</sup>Avoid it, do not travel on it; Turn away from it and pass on. <sup>16</sup>For they do not sleep unless they have done evil; And their sleep is taken away unless they make *someone* fall. <sup>17</sup>For they eat the bread of wickedness, And drink the wine of violence. <sup>18</sup>But the path of the just *is* like the shining sun, That shines ever brighter unto the perfect day. <sup>19</sup>The way of the wicked *is* like darkness; They do not know what makes them stumble. <sup>20</sup>My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. <sup>21</sup>Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart; <sup>22</sup>For they *are* life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh. <sup>23</sup>Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it *spring* the issues of life.

**Proverbs 2:1-11** My son, if you receive my words, And treasure my commands within you, <sup>2</sup>So that you incline your ear to wisdom, *And* apply your heart to understanding; <sup>3</sup>Yes, if you cry out for discernment, *And* lift up your voice for understanding, <sup>4</sup>If you seek her as silver, And search for her as *for* hidden treasures; <sup>5</sup>Then you will understand the fear of the Lord, And find the knowledge of GOD. <sup>6</sup>For the Lord gives wisdom; From His mouth *come* knowledge and understanding; <sup>7</sup>He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; *He is* a shield to those who walk uprightly; <sup>8</sup>He guards the paths of justice, And preserves the way of His saints. <sup>9</sup>Then you will understand righteousness and justice, Equity *and* every good path. <sup>10</sup>When wisdom enters your heart, And knowledge is pleasant to your soul, <sup>11</sup>Discretion will preserve you; Understanding will keep you,

**Suggested Scripture Reading:** *Proverbs 3:5-6, 1 Kings 3:1-15, Ecclesiastes 2:26, Psalm 32:8*

**Proverbs 3:5-6** <sup>5</sup>Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; <sup>6</sup>In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

**1 Kings 3:4-15** <sup>4</sup>Now the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place: Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. <sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and GOD said, "Ask! What shall I give you?" <sup>6</sup>And Solomon said: "You have shown great mercy to Your servant David my father, because he walked before You in truth, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with You; You have continued this great kindness for him, and You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as *it is* this day. <sup>7</sup>Now, O Lord my GOD, You have made Your servant king instead of my father David, but I *am* a little child; I do not know *how* to go out or come in. <sup>8</sup>And Your servant *is* in the midst of Your people whom You have chosen, a great people, too numerous to be numbered or counted. <sup>9</sup>Therefore give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?" <sup>10</sup>The speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing. <sup>11</sup>Then GOD said to him: "Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked long life for yourself, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have asked the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern justice, <sup>12</sup>behold, I have done according to your words; see, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any

like you arise after you. <sup>13</sup>And I have also given you what you have not asked: both riches and honor, so that there shall not be anyone like you among the kings all your days. <sup>14</sup>So if you walk in My ways, to keep My statutes and My commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.”<sup>15</sup>Then Solomon awoke; and indeed it had been a dream. And he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, offered up burnt offerings, offered peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

**Ecclesiastes 2:26** <sup>26</sup>For GOD gives wisdom and knowledge and joy to a man who *is* good in His sight; but to the sinner He gives the work of gathering and collecting, that he may give to *him who is* good before GOD. This also *is* vanity and grasping for the wind.

**Psalm 32:8** I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye.

### **Why do we fast?**

Fasting is a spiritual discipline that helps us focus on God, break spiritual strongholds, and receive clarity, strength, and renewal.

**Isaiah 58:6** “*Is* this not the fast that I have chosen: To loose the bonds of wickedness, To undo the heavy burdens, To let the oppressed go free, And that you break every yoke?

### **The power of prayer**

Prayer connects us with God to bring about transformation and align our will with His.

**James 5:16** The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.