

HOW GODLY WISDOM BENEFITS US

Note to the speaker:

Explain with warmth and conviction why the Bible is a book of true wisdom and how it provides practical direction for people of all ages. Highlight the benefits that come from applying God's wisdom when coping with life's challenges

WISDOM IS PROVED RIGHTEOUS BY ITS WORKS (3 min.)

Although humans have made remarkable progress in science, medicine, and technology, man's wisdom has failed to eliminate war, crime, and poverty; it has not made people more loving, peaceful, or reasonable (2Ti 3:1-5)

Human wisdom fails because it rejects the Source of true wisdom, Jehovah God (Pr 9:10; Jer 8:9)

Godly wisdom is found in Jehovah's written Word and is "proved righteous by its works," by the good results that it produces in the lives of those who choose to live by it (Mt 11:19b; Isa 48:17)

GODLY WISDOM BENEFITS YOUNG PEOPLE (5 min.)

Young people who develop a personal relationship with Jehovah are happy because their lives are meaningful and they have a secure future (Ps 73:28; Jer 29:11, 12)

They know that Jehovah God loves them and that it is for their own good that he wants them to be clean morally and to use their youthful energy to serve him (Ps 84:10; 148:12, 13)

Being guided by Jehovah's counsel spares youths the painful results that come from bad associations and degrading entertainment and from becoming unevenly yoked with unbelievers (De 7:3, 4; Pr 13:20; 1Co 7:39b; 2Co 6:14; 1Jo 2:15-17)

Young ones who read God's Word "day and night" and live by it bring honor to Jehovah (Ps 1:1, 2, 6; 119:9; *w01* 8/15 6-7, box)

GODLY WISDOM BENEFITS MARRIED COUPLES (5 min.)

In his Word, God dignifies both the husband and the wife and expects them to show genuine love and respect for each other (Mt 19:4-6; Eph 5:28, 33; *w13* 5/15 18 par. 17)

Problems that arise in marriage can be overcome when spouses apply the wisdom from above and keep the lines of communication open (1Co 13:4-7; Jas 3:17, 18; *w12* 5/15 12 par. 19)

A couple who truly love each other will not let pride, the childish silent treatment, or other unchristian traits mar their marriage

Those who apply godly wisdom in their marriage avoid making serious mistakes, find genuine contentment, maintain a good conscience and, above all, show their love and respect for Jehovah, the Originator of marriage

GODLY WISDOM BENEFITS US IN TIMES OF PERSONAL DIFFICULTY (15 min.)

Godly wisdom can help us to weather any storm, so that we need not despair or panic when problems arise (Ps 23:1-4)

When facing economic pressures:

Keep the Kingdom and Jehovah's righteousness first in your life, fully confident that he will "make the way out" for you (1Co 10:13; Mt 6:33; *w14* 4/15 21 par. 17)

If the lure of employment opportunities abroad requiring separation from your family seems like "the way out," pray for godly wisdom and follow Jehovah's commands and principles (Pr 13:4; 28:6; Jas 1:5)

Some have ignored the risks of living apart from their spouse and children and have suffered painful consequences (*w14* 4/15 19-20 pars. 8-11)

View your family obligations as Jehovah does, making the spiritual needs of your family your priority (De 6:6, 7; *w14* 4/15 18-19 par. 7)

When distressed by serious health problems:

Keep on asking Jehovah for wisdom to help you to endure and to be guided by Bible principles when choosing health treatments (Pr 14:15; *w06* 3/1 25 pars. 12-13)

Regardless of the situation, avoid social or spiritual isolation from the congregation; we need the love of our brothers, as well as Jehovah's spirit, which is present at Christian gatherings (Pr 18:1; Na 1:7; Mt 18:20)

Whatever your limitations may be, it is comforting to know that Jehovah understands your present circumstances (Isa 33:24; Mr 12:41-44)

When coping with stress and loneliness:

Keep your mind fixed on your hope for the future, and continue to have an active share in the ministry (Ac 20:35; 2Co 4:18)

Singleness, divorce, and bereavement are common reasons for feeling lonely even though we have the truth

Godly wisdom can keep you from making bad decisions out of restlessness or desperation (Ps 55:22; 1Ti 5:5)

When feeling discouraged or lonely, supplicate Jehovah for his peace

Do not hesitate to call on your spiritual brothers and sisters for help (Php 4:6, 7; *w13* 6/15 19 par. 10)

TAKE DELIGHT IN JEHOVAH'S WISDOM (2 min.)

Jehovah's wisdom is always proved righteous and benefits us no matter what our circumstances in life may be

[Read James 1:5]

Pray for his wisdom, apply it, and trust Jehovah to help you deal with life's problems successfully (Jas 3:13)

Take delight in Jehovah's wisdom and in your privilege of having a relationship with him now and for all eternity (Jer 9:23, 24)

(Public talk by circuit overseer, starting September 2014. Not all cited texts need be read or commented on)

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TO BE COVERED IN 30 MINUTES

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