

## **Wisdom**

In Proverbs 3, Solomon tells us several things about the person who gains wisdom:

- He is "blessed" (v.13).
- He has found something "better that gain from silver" and "better than gold" and "more precious than jewels." He says, "Nothing you desire can compare with her" (vv.14-15).
- He has "long life" and "riches and honor" (v.16).
- He has "pleasantness" and "peace" (v.17).
- Solomon points out that it is by wisdom that the Lord founded the earth (vv.19-20).
- The person who has wisdom will find life and grace (vv.21-22).

Obviously, then, wisdom is something to be desired. There are many ways of looking at this precious commodity...

One has said, "You can only become wise by noticing what happens to you when you aren't." Charles Swindoll defines wisdom as "the God-given ability to see life with rare objectivity and to handle life with rare stability."

The biblical concept of wisdom is quite different from the classical view of wisdom, which sought through philosophy and man's rational thought to determine the mysteries of existence and the universe. The first principle of biblical wisdom is that man should humble himself before God in reverence and worship and be obedient to his commands. So Proverbs 9:10 reads, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."

Biblical wisdom can be found in many places. Of course, you can look in God's Word: "The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple" (Ps. 19:7). Wisdom is also found in the truths we learn from life. Remember, wisdom is often equated with experience. The aged are wiser than the young because they have learned these lessons.

When these two sources are combined – God's Word and experience – one can become exceedingly wise. So here are two practical applications:

- Don't neglect Bible study. The Bible is God's Word, the breath of the one who created the heavens and earth. The greatest secrets of life are bound up in its pages.
- Keep company with older, wiser people who have walked with the Lord for a long time. Through their lives they have obtained a wisdom that you can't get from books or from your own, limited experiences.

Seek wisdom and you will be blessed.

**Drew Kizer,  
Ashville Road church of Christ**

## *A Year in Review*

***“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:19-20***

December 20<sup>th</sup> marked one year in our new location. As with any transition, we have had our highs and lows. We have lost truly beloved members to death, but we have also gained new life. We have had numerous brothers and sisters restore their walk with Jesus Christ and continue in that walk to this very day. In addition to this, four amazing people decided to put on Christ in baptism. For this, we are extremely thankful.

We held a successful Vacation Bible School and open house to show the community what we are truly about. We have packed food bags for children who might not otherwise have anything to eat on the weekends. We held a successful couple's retreat, youth retreat, Monday Youth Meeting, and Thursday Nights Together devotional series. Some of our members even left the country for a week to share the word of God with children and adults in Nicaragua.

The amazing thing is that these two paragraphs don't even begin to touch the hem of the garment when it comes to how much work and effort has been put into fulfilling the challenge set before us by Jesus himself before his return to Heaven. The first Sunday we met in this building, our shepherds stood before us and said it is time to roll up our sleeves and get to work in this community for our Lord. You took that challenge seriously.

But we cannot celebrate yet! Remember, the work is not done until our lives have ended or the Lord returns. Yes, this past year was incredible, but though I am not a prophet or the son of a prophet, I predict greater things for 2017. On Sunday morning, look around where you sit. You are likely to see someone that you do not know. Take it upon yourself to talk to that person. We have grown significantly in number because you take genuine interest in people. While it is my prayer that we continually grow in number, we must not forget that growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ is of the utmost importance. Let's love God, love each other, and continue to fulfill the challenge in the verses above.

**Joshua Houston**

## PRAYER REQUESTS:

Selma Boyd, Ernestine Taylor, Margaret Taylor, Edna Vance, Lester & Ann Clark, Sue Reeves, Kevin Watson, Melba Young, Jeanie Young, Odell Grissom, James Randolph Jernigan, Doyle Fults, Nora Fann, Shirley Tenpenny, Amanda Birdwell and baby

**\*\*Virgie Leonard** is at NHC for rehab

## SHUT INS:

Rita Reed, Mabel Robertson, Houston Henry, Oleta Bullard, Tommy & Shirley Bibb, Dan & Lorene Stephens, Melba & Jeanie Young

## NURSING HOMES & ASSISTED LIVING:

### **\*MEMBERS**

**ADAMS PLACE:** Nora Fann\*

**DIVERSICARE OF SMYRNA:** Jean Nickens\*

**NHC:** Lizzie Bush, Geri Melton\*, Sue Reeves\*,

**STONES RIVER MANOR:** Margaret Davidson\*, Jeweldean Hall\*, Virgie Leonard\*, Ernestine Taylor\*, Laura Wiser\*, Lillian Whitworth, Edna Vance\*

### MILITARY:

Tony Berry

## NEWS & NOTES

- Our sympathy is extended to the family of **Paul Holland**; he passed away on Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>. He was a former member of Salem Creek. Memorial service was held at Fosterville.
- Our sympathy is extended to the family of **Melinda Vance**; she passed away on Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup>. She was the daughter-in-law of Edna Vance and former member of Minerva Drive. Services were held at Woodfin Memorial Chapel.
- A combined **Senior Saints & Youth Group game night** is planned for Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 5 pm. We will have a meal of salad, soup and desserts before games. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer. Please list what you plan to bring and indicate if you need a ride. Come join us for an evening of food and fun. Please see Larry Benson or Joshua Houston if you have any questions.
- East Main church of Christ will have a **Young Men's Seminar** (grades 5-12) on February 4, 2017. See the flyer on the bulletin board for details.

### *Mark Your Calendar*

Visitation Meal:

Team 1: January 8

Team 2: January 15

Men's Breakfast @ IHOP, January 10

Salem Creek church of Christ  
 2525 Salem Creek Drive  
 Murfreesboro, TN 37128



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 Murfreesboro, TN 37133-2067

Email: [office@salemcreekcoc.org](mailto:office@salemcreekcoc.org)

We're on the web!  
[www.salemcreekcoc.org](http://www.salemcreekcoc.org)

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

### Sunday

Morning Worship	9:00 am
Bible Classes	10:15 am
Evening Worship	5:30 pm

### Wednesday

Ladies Morning Bible Class (Sept-May)	10:00 am
Evening Bible Classes	6:30 pm

### ELDERS

B.K. Ham  
 Jim Hatfield  
 Jon Holland  
 Andy Mitchell  
 Randall Phifer  
 Keith Short

### MINISTER

Ron Harper

### ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Joshua Houston

### DEACONS

Rick Acklin	Rick Corum
Larry Benson	Andy Melton
Michael Bowman	Brian Melton
Craig Buckner	Alan Pepper
Joe Byars	Wendell Wilson

### FOR THE RECORD

*December 25, 2016*

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>AM worship</b>	<b>250</b>
	<b>Bible classes</b>	<b>143</b>
	<b>PM worship</b>	<b>---</b>
	<b>Contribution</b>	<b>\$7,756.00</b>

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>PM Bible classes</b>	<b>129</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>AM Ladies Class (Sept-May)</b>	<b>---</b>

*\*When county schools are closed due to inclement weather A.M. ladies class will be cancelled\**

### *To Our Honored Guests...*

*We are happy you chose to worship with us today! Please stay after our assembly so that we can get acquainted with you and your family. We invite you to come back as often as you have opportunity!*

*We were honored by your presence!*

### GREETERS

*Please be at the door  
 30 minutes prior to service*

#### January 1

Bobby & Jackie Sims

#### January 8

Dean Thompson Louise Smithson

