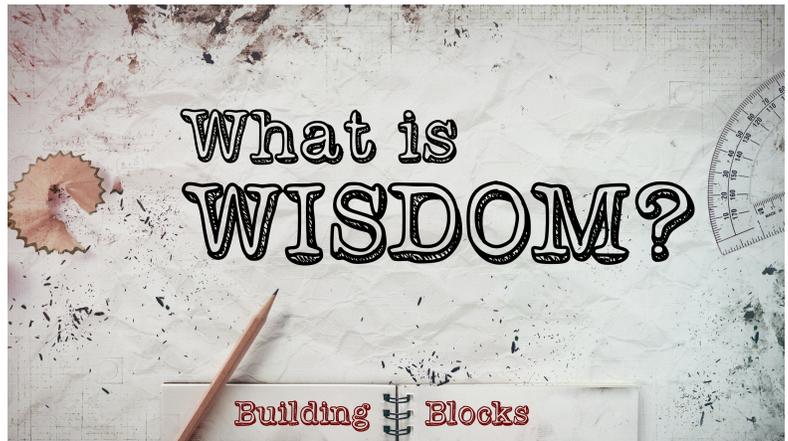


2 • The Lord Gives Wisdom

“What is WISDOM?” The simple definition we’re using is “**knowing which way to go.**” We need wisdom, but where can it be found?

That’s the question Job is wrestling with in **Job 28**. We heard last week that “**wisdom is better than jewels**” (**Prov 8:11**), but Job and the people of his time knew where to find jewels (**Job 28:1-11**).



“But where shall **wisdom** be found? And where is the place of **understanding**?” (**Job 28:12**).

- ❖ Most people don’t know how _____ wisdom really is (**28:13a**)
- ❖ It can’t be found in the ordinary places we buy stuff (**28:13b**)
- ❖ Wisdom isn’t in the _____ of the earth (**28:14a**)
- ❖ Wisdom isn’t in the sea (**28:14b**)
- ❖ Wisdom can’t be _____ for any amount of money (**28:15-19**)
- ❖ Wisdom isn’t in the sky (**28:21**)
- ❖ Wisdom isn’t even on the other side of _____ (**28:22**)

“From where, then, does **wisdom** come? And where is the place of **understanding**?” (**Job 28:20**). Listen carefully to the answer in **Job 28:23-28**:

“ _____ understands the way to it,
and he knows its place.
For he looks to the ends of the earth
and sees everything under the heavens.
When he gave to the wind its weight
and apportioned the waters by measure,
when he made a decree for the rain
and a way for the lightning of the thunder,
then he saw it and declared it;
he established it, and searched it out.

And he said to man, ‘Behold, the _____ of the Lord, that is wisdom,
and to turn _____ from evil is understanding.’”



In fact, God not only “**understands the way**” to wisdom, he _____ wisdom (**Prov 2:6; Dan 2:20-22**). So what can I do to receive what my Creator is willing to give? We have a lot to talk about, but **James 1:5** challenges me to “ _____.” How? **Let’s talk about it!**

For Class & Family Discussion:

- As you survey **Job 28**, how would you describe the big point in your own words?
- We heard wisdom and understanding coupled together in **Job 28:12, 28:20, and 28:28**. What is “**understanding**” and how is it related to wisdom?
- **Job 28:28** emphasizes “**Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom.**” Notice how **Psalm 111:10** and **Proverbs 9:10** deepen our understanding a little more. What is this “**fear**” and how does it form the very “**beginning of wisdom**”?
- **Job 28:28** also highlights “**and to turn away from evil is understanding.**” What do wisdom and understanding have to do with turning away from evil? How are they connected? In fact, why *must* they go together?
- Let’s turn our Bibles back to **Proverbs 2** and read **2:1-15** together. What is Solomon communicating? How would you summarize the big idea in your own words?
- Our video ended in **James 1**. Let’s read **1:5-8** together. How can I “**ask**” God for wisdom? Is that a one-time sort of thing? If not, how often should I ask? And why does he seem to care so much about *how* I ask?
- With everything we’ve talked about in mind, how is this wisdom—“**the wisdom from above**” (**James 3:17**)—truly “**better than jewels**” (**Prov 8:11**)?

For NEXT Wednesday:

- Next Wednesday we’ll take a big picture look at *Proverbs* as a book **full** of wisdom. Want to do a little bit of thinking ahead? Take the time to read and meditate on **Proverbs 1**. We’ll have lots to talk about together!