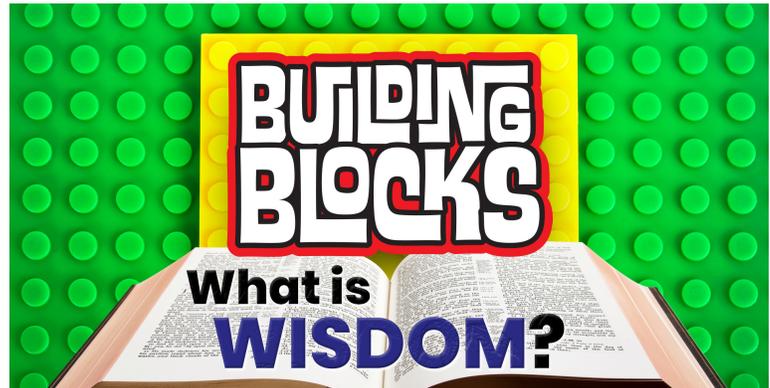


5 • “What’s the Wise Thing to Do?”



“What is WISDOM?” Wisdom is “knowing which way to go.” God has provided us with a treasure chest of written

wisdom: “Your _____ is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” (Psalm 119:105). He’s made known to us “the path of life” (Psalm 16:11), and he expects us to listen to him as our Guide: “Whoever heeds instruction is on the _____ to life” (Proverbs 10:17).

So what sort of questions should we be asking if we really want to know which way we ought to go? How can we figure out what the wise thing to do is? Here are four REALLY important questions:

- “Has God told me anything about ‘right’ or ‘_____’ in this situation?”

The _____ of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction. (Proverbs 1:7)

So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin. (James 4:17)

- “How does this pass through the **Philippians 4:8** filter?”

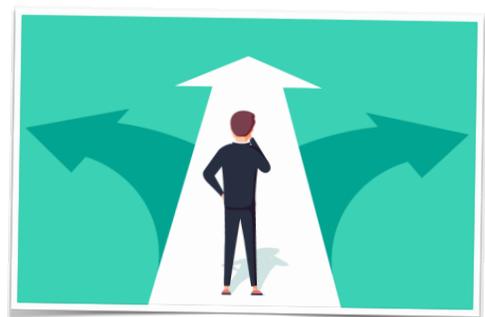
Finally, brothers, whatever is _____, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is _____, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

- “How would I like to be treated in this situation?”

“So whatever you _____ that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.” (Matthew 7:12)

- “This may be a ‘good’ thing, but can I fit it in without sacrificing the ‘best’ things that matter most of all?”

“And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it...they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are _____ by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature.” (Luke 8:7, 14)



“What’s the wise thing to do?” It’s one of the most important questions we can learn to ask!

FOUNDATION STONES

Let's think through those questions that were highlighted in the video.



▶ **“Has God told me anything about ‘right’ or ‘wrong’ in this situation?”**

- Can you think of a few examples? What situations might we find ourselves in where God has clearly communicated to us, “This is wrong”?

▶ **“How does this pass through the **Philippians 4:8** filter?”** What do these words mean? How can they help us make wise decisions...

- True?

- Honorable?

- Just?

- Pure?

- Lovely?

- Commendable?

- Excellence?

- Worthy of praise?

▶ **“How would I like to be treated in this situation?”**

- Can you think of a time when you might have the opportunity to practice the Golden Rule?

▶ **“This may be a ‘good’ thing, but can I fit it in without sacrificing the ‘best’ things that matter most of all?”**

- How might lots of “good” things come to crowd out and choke what is most important?

If I'm struggling to determine what the wise thing to do is at different moments in life, **what should I do?**