

“Wisdom”

I thought it best to define the word *wisdom* before going any farther; according to Oxford Languages it is: “*the quality of having experience, knowledge, and good judgment; the quality of being wise.*” and “*the soundness of an action or decision with regard to the application of experience, knowledge, and good judgment.*” I asked the Lord several times what I was to share this week, and as I was waiting to hear, I was praying for the situation in Israel and the Middle East, and realized how often I used the word wisdom when I prayed for people or situations.

You might have heard someone say “I might not be the sharpest tool in the shed, but I’m not the dumbest either!” I’m pretty sure I started out my young adult life at the duller end of the spectrum, but I have found over the decades as I sought wisdom in the things I do, I’ve become considerably sharper! I once needed to fix a clothes dryer and “Googled” how to fix my particular brand and model; luckily, I found a video made by a little fat Italian guy named Guido who said “Imma gonna show you how to fixa da dryer.” And he did!

Google is a good resource for wisdom to fix our appliances or vehicles, but not for fixing broken things in our lives. Google can’t fix a broken marriage or any other troubled relationship, nor can it correct any bad choices or unwise decisions we’ve made. For these kinds of fixes the only place we need to go is to God’s word - the Bible. I can’t begin to tell you the number of mistakes I have made over the years because I didn’t ask God for wisdom and guidance before doing something!

The truth is, we wouldn’t have so many problems, so much trouble, and so many areas of our lives that needed fixing if we had gone to God or at least to a godly family member or friend first for wise counsel before acting on something we really weren’t sure about! Prov. 4:7a says: *Wisdom is the principal thing* (the most important!); *therefore get wisdom.*” (NKJV) In the NIV, Prov. 4:7b says: “*Though it cost all you have, get understanding.*”

I have to admit, that even as “sharp” as I am these days, I am impulsive by nature, and again, I couldn’t begin to tell you how many purchases I’ve made without fully researching (seeking wisdom about) something, then later wishing I had “done my homework” first! I am a firm believer in Proverbs 16:3 and practice it constantly: “*Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed.*” (NIV) In essence what I’m saying to the Lord is “I’m going to do this, and I desperately need your help to accomplish it successfully!”

And I can tell you that it works, but...it needs to be preceded by asking God if what you’re committing to Him is the WISE thing to do, then waiting for His answer before proceeding. Like the old adage “Think before you act!” Seek wisdom! Amen!

