

FOLLOWING JESUS IN THE AGE OF AI

Proverbs 2:1-18

Peter Foxwell. Cornerstone Church. July 12, 2026.

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ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IS HERE

It's already shaping our lives.¹

- 4 in 10 Christians use AI for prayer and Bible study.
- 1 in 3 adults trusts AI's spiritual advice as much as their pastor's.

So, we're diving into the Bible to find the wisdom we need to navigate a rapidly changing world.

INTRODUCING WISDOM AND PROVERBS

The book of Proverbs is an ancient collection of God-inspired wise sayings.

- It is common sense from God's perspective.
- The foundation of wisdom is the fear or the reverence of God.
- The New Testament reveals Jesus to be the wisdom of God. We become wise when we follow Jesus.

PROVERBS 2:1-18

Read the passage in your Bible or at www.bible.com

- 2:1-4: If ...
- 2:5-11: Then ...
- 2:12-18: Protection and Life

¹ ¹ <https://www.barna.com/research/christians-trust-ai-flourishing-spiritual-authority/>

1. THE URGENCY OF WISDOM - verses 1-4

The king's son needed wisdom to use his power in a godly manner.

- So, his dad heaps on words to communicate urgency:
 - Accept my words
 - Store up my commands
 - Listen closely
 - Direct your heart (internal guidance system)
 - Call out
 - Lift your voice
 - Seek it like silver (like a miner digging through rocks to find it)
 - Search for it like treasure

We're not born wise.

- Wisdom has to be learned - sooner rather than later.
- It takes effort and urgently searching to find wisdom.

2. THE GIFT OF WISDOM - verses 5-11

God loves to make us wise.

- It's his gift to us.

James 1:5 (CSB) Now if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God — who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly — and it will be given to him.

- Solomon writes intentionally: if his son seeks wisdom, then he'll receive.

Proverbs 2:6 (CSB) For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

Wisdom helps us see that:

- God is taking care of us (verses 5-8).

- God is directing us (verses 9-11).

3. THE BENEFIT OF WISDOM - verses 12-18

Wisdom saves us from ruin and destruction both now and in eternity.

- Our life-choices lead us to life or death:

Proverbs 2:18 (CSB) ... for her house sinks down to death and her ways to the land of the departed spirits.

Solomon uses two graphic examples to describe the benefit of wisdom:

- The temptation of easy money (verses 12-15) Wise living would spare his son from a life of crime and the deadly influence of criminals.
- The temptation of easy sex (verses 16-19). Wise living will also spare his son from sexual immorality and its negative consequences.
- And wise living will spare us from disaster and lead us on the path to life.

FOLLOWING JESUS IN THE AGE OF AI

Five safeguards when using AI. Keep in mind that:

- AI is a machine, it is not God (vv. 1-5). It cannot replace God.
- AI can inform, but it cannot transform you into a godly person (vv. 6-10). Don't let AI replace your relationship with God.
- AI is a tool, not a friend made in God's image. It is a false friend (vv. 12-18). It uses simulated empathy to engage you.
- AI gives advice, but it's not always good (verses 12-15). Who trained it?
- Live by faith not fear (vv. 7-8). God is good, faithful and able, so trust him and his promises to care for you.

Follow the wisdom of Proverbs 3:5-7.

PERSPECTIVES ON AI

Artificial Intelligence is rapidly reshaping how we work, communicate, and make decisions. For Christians, the rise of AI is not merely a technological development but a theological moment that calls for wisdom, discernment, and faithfulness.

Scripture reminds us that human beings are uniquely created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27). While AI can process data, generate language, and mimic creativity, it does not bear God's image, possess a soul, or exercise moral responsibility. This distinction is crucial. AI is a tool—powerful, but ultimately subordinate to human stewardship under God's authority.

Used rightly, AI can serve the common good. It can assist in medical research, enhance communication, and even support ministry efforts such as Bible study, administration, and outreach. In this sense, it reflects humanity's God-given mandate to cultivate and steward creation (Genesis 1:28).

However, AI also presents significant dangers. It can amplify deception, erode truth, and tempt us toward intellectual laziness or misplaced trust. Christians must resist the urge to treat AI as an authority rather than a tool. Our ultimate trust belongs to God and His Word, not to algorithms or machines (Proverbs 3:5-6).

As we engage with AI, we must do so thoughtfully, asking not only what we can do, but what we should do. In all things, we seek to glorify God, love our neighbor, and walk in truth.

Written with AI assistance.