

TEACHABLE

Part 3 of RELATIONSHIP RESET. James 3:17.
Peter Foxwell. Cornerstone Church. November 20, 2022.

I WISH I'D LISTENED

In May, Kim and I were headed to Wheaton, IL ...

"Open to reason" = teachable.

James 3:17 (ESV) But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, **open to reason**, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.

IT'S WISE TO LISTEN TO WISE ADVICE

Relationship Principle #3: It's wise to listen to wise advice.

Proverbs 12:15 ESV The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.

Listening to unwise advice can sabotage relationships.

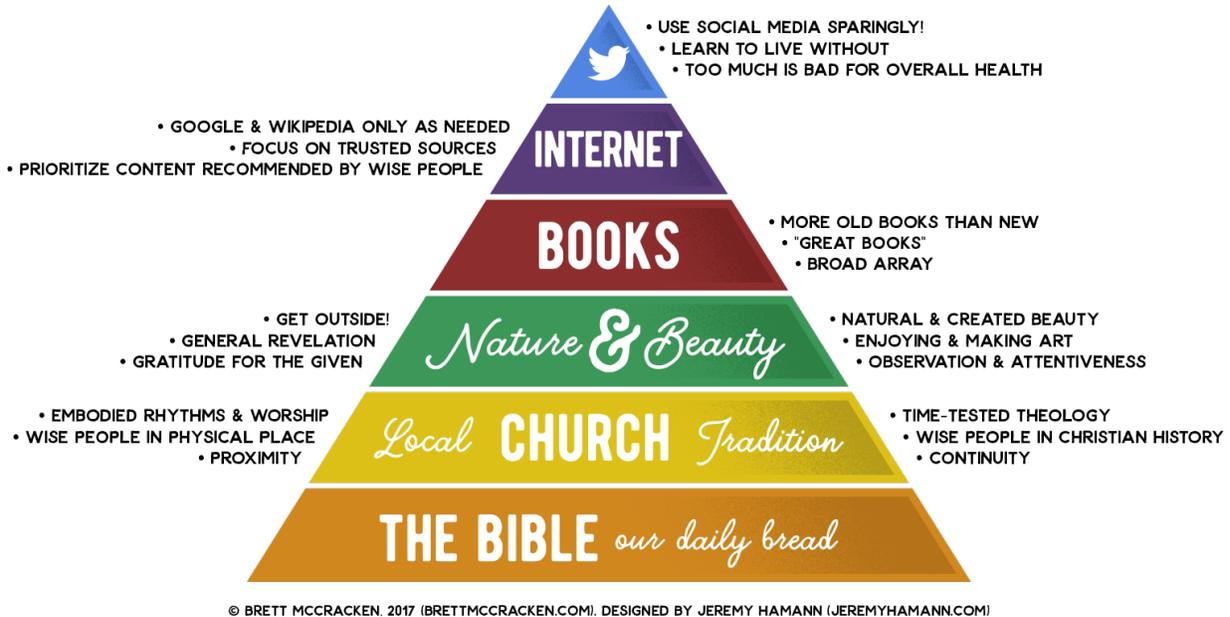
1 Kings 12:6-8 ESV Then King Rehoboam took counsel with the old men, who had stood before Solomon his father while he was yet alive, saying, "How do you advise me to answer this people?" And they said to him, "If you will be a servant to this people today and serve them, and speak good words to them when you answer them, then they will be your servants forever." But he abandoned the counsel that the old men gave him and took counsel with the young men who had grown up with him and stood before him **(they advised him to bully people)**.

- It's good the king sought advice.
- It's not good that he followed unwise advice. Carefully evaluate.

WHERE TO FIND WISE ADVICE

McCracken: The Wisdom Pyramid: Feeding Your Soul in a Post-Truth World.

Wisdom Pyramid



His point is simple: Garbage in, garbage out. So guard what goes in.

- Wisdom from social media = least reliable, least "nutritious." Limit intake.
- Wisdom from the Bible = most reliable, most "nutritious." Increase intake.

Proverbs 2:6-7 (ESV) For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; 7 he stores up sound wisdom for the upright ...

- Wisdom from our church = can be reliable and "nutritious." Increase intake.

FINDING WISDOM IN OUR CHURCH

There are three sources of wisdom in our church:

1. Wisdom from our worship celebrations and other gatherings.

- God is front and center.
- His wisdom (Bible) is read, taught, prayed and sung.

James 1:5 (ESV) If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him

Wisdom from the history of God's people.

- We have thousands of years of accumulated wisdom - books & traditions.
- Embrace the good and helpful; e.g. Liturgy, confessions, catechisms, etc.

Proverbs 15:14 (ESV) The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge but the mouths of fools feed on folly.

Wisdom from our wise brothers and sisters in the church.

- The church family is a living library of godly knowledge, skill, insight..

Proverbs 19:20 ESV Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future.

AVOID TWO MISTAKES

Do not divorce wisdom from _____.

Proverbs 1:7 ESV The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Do not divorce wisdom from _____ Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 1:30-31 (ESV) And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God ... (Also Colossians 2:3).

CORNERSTONE GROUPS - TALK IT OVER

Pick one or more of these questions to discuss this week.

Start Talking. Get the conversation going.

- What's the best advice you ever gave or received? Explain.

Start Thinking. Review Sunday's teaching.

- Review Sunday's study guide or watch Peter's teaching on YouTube.
- What part of the teaching most impacted your thinking?
- Read Proverbs chapter two and identify the many benefits of true wisdom.
- Discuss the meaning and application of 1 Corinthians 1:18-31.

Start Sharing. Apply Sunday's teaching.

- What part does godly wisdom play in your decision-making? Where do you go to find godly wisdom? What are some examples?
- Describe a time you ignored godly wisdom and what happened as a result.

Start Praying. Be bold.

Father, you are wise, and you are the wisdom that we need. Guide and remind us to seek out and apply your wisdom to our daily lives. Show us the "smart" thing to do in every situation. We confess that we have often ignored or forgotten the wisdom you offer us. Please forgive us and cleanse us by the precious, saving blood of Jesus. Work in us the discipline needed to become wise people to whom people come for good advice. Thank you for Jesus who is our greatest wisdom from God. We pray all these things in Jesus' Name. Amen!

Keep Reading. In preparation for next Sunday.

- Read a chapter of Proverbs every day. Ask God to make you wise.
- www.paultripp.com/wednesdays-word/posts/everything-you-need-wisdom
- pastorrick.com/god-wants-to-give-you-wisdom/
- www.desiringgod.org/articles/screen-sabbaths