

## A Firm Foundation

### Solid truths for a shifting world

July 31, 2022 Pastor Shawn



“Trust in the LORD with all your heart;  
do not depend on your own understanding.  
Seek his will in all you do,  
and he will show you which path to take. “

Proverbs 3:5-6

WHY do we have such difficulty making good decisions?

#### The Art of Self Deception

Unfortunately, REGRET, doesn't protect us from the future if we don't learn HOW we got ourselves into the messes we created.

*Instead of spending great effort to make the right decisions, we usually spend more effort trying to make our decision right.*

The wrong question we ask:

#### Is there anything wrong with it?

*“You say, “I am allowed to do anything”—but not everything is good for you. And even though “I am allowed to do anything,” I must not become a slave to anything... You say, “I am allowed to do anything”—but not everything is good for you. You say, “I am allowed to do anything”—but not everything is beneficial.”*

1 Corinthians 6:12, 10:23

ASKING THE BEST QUESTION:

#### “What is the wise thing to do?”

*“Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.”*

Ephesians 5:15-17

Proverbs 1:20-27, Proverbs 2:1-8, Proverbs 3:21-26

*I am convinced that God's will in our life, isn't as obscure as we would like it to be. It's simply a matter of seeking it out with a willingness to be obedient to what we hear!*

Why do we miss or avoid God's wisdom?

“How long, you **simpletons**,

will you insist on being simpleminded?

How long will you **mockers** relish your mocking?

How long will you **fools** hate knowledge?

Proverbs 1:22

Often, we think our circumstances, emotions, and temptations are UNIQUE.

Our greatest moral regrets are always preceded by a series of UNWISE CHOICES.

Decisions, not intentions, determine destinations

“For **simpletons** turn away from me (wisdom)—to death.

**Fools** are destroyed by their own complacency.

But all who listen to me will live in peace,

untroubled by fear of harm.” Proverbs 1:32-33

Don't Let Fear Steer

Don't Let Pride Guide

Don't let nine to five drive

Don't let the dollar become a collar

Don't let desire inspire

Don't let neglect direct

#### **GUIDE TO A LIFE OF WISDOM**

1. “Trust in the Lord with all your heart.
2. “do not depend on your own understanding.
3. “Seek his will in all you do

The Promise:

“and he will show you which path to take.” Proverbs 3:5-6

#### **Questions for reflection**

What is your normal process for making important decisions?

What would it look like to apply Proverbs 3 to your life?

(This week trying asking “what is the wise things to do?” and listen to what you hear inside.)

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