

# Pathways

## A Prudent Life

Proverbs 8-9

Heritage Alliance Church

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Pastor Shawn

“Fear of the Lord is the foundation of wisdom. Knowledge of the Holy One results in good judgment.”

Proverbs 9:10

The wrong question we ask... “Is there anything wrong with it?”

The question we need to ask... “What is the wise thing for me to do?”

*“Does not wisdom call out? Does not understanding raise her voice? Does not understanding raise her voice? At the highest point along the way, where paths meet, she takes her stand; beside the gate leading into the city at the entrance, she cries aloud: ‘To you, O people, I call out; I raise my voice to all humankind. **You who are simple, gain prudence; you who are foolish, gain understanding.**’... I, wisdom, dwell together with **prudence**”*  
Proverbs 8:1-5, 12

PRUDENT: Careful planning ahead of time; taking no chances; sensible; discreet.

PRUDENCE: exercising careful thought before taking action; good judgment

*“Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.”* Psalm 90:12

*“Better to spend your time at funerals than at parties. After all, everyone dies— so the living should take this to heart. Sorrow is better than laughter, for sadness has a refining influence on us. A wise person thinks a lot about death, while a fool thinks only about having a good time.”*  
Ecclesiastes 7:2-4

*“So, we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.”*  
2 Corinthians 4:18

*“Show me, O LORD, my life’s end and the number of my days; let me know how fleeting is my life.”*  
Psalm 39:4

### Wisdom & prudence will teach you to put first things first

*“A sluggard does not plow in season; so, at harvest time he looks but finds nothing.”*  
Proverbs 20:4

### Wisdom & prudence will bring understanding to your decisions

Every time you say YES, you say No to something else – What? Is it wise?

Every time you say NO, you say Yes to something else – What? Is it wise?

*“Wisdom will multiply your days and add years to your life. If you become wise, you will be the one to benefit. If you scorn wisdom, you will be the one to suffer.”*

Proverbs 9:11-12

Questions: What is God asking you to make a high value in your life?

What would it look like to put first things first, daily? weekly? Monthly? Etc.

Based on your circumstances, what wise decision is God asking you to make?

What can do today so you will choose wisdom over foolishness tomorrow?