

#3 "WISDOM"

Psalm 127:1

Building a strong house requires wisdom.

Proverbs 24:3, 4 (NLT) A house is built by wisdom and becomes strong through good sense. Through knowledge its rooms are filled with all sorts of precious riches and valuables.

Proverbs 14:1 (NIV) The wise woman builds her house, but with her own hands the foolish one tears hers down.

Proverbs 21:20 (NIV) In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil, but a foolish man devours all he has.

Common sources of information and knowledge about house-building:

- Our past experiences.
- The current culture.

What does the current culture teach us about house-building?

- No absolutes, morality is relative.
- The Bible is outdated.
- Feelings are supreme.
- Relationships are disposable.
- Comfort and convenience determine levels of commitment.
- Moral boundaries are restrictive.
- People are basically good — given the right environment they will do right.

- Our friends and associates.

Romans 12:2 (NLT) Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will know what God wants you to do, and you will know how good and pleasing and perfect His will really is.

Matthew 7:24-27 (NIV) Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who

built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.

How do we get wisdom?

- Value it.

Proverbs 4:7, 8 (NIV) Wisdom is supreme; therefore get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding. Esteem her, and she will exalt you; embrace her, and she will honor you.

- Seek it.

Proverbs 2:2-6 (NLT) Tune your ears to wisdom, and concentrate on understanding. Cry out for insight and understanding. Search for them as you would for lost money or hidden treasure. Then you will understand what it means to fear the LORD, and you will gain knowledge of God. For the LORD grants wisdom! From His mouth come knowledge and understanding.

- Listen for it.

Proverbs 19:20 (NIV) Listen to advice and accept instruction, and in the end you will be wise.

- Observe it.

Proverbs 6:6 (NIV) Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise!

- Learn by precept, principle, and pain.

Psalm 19:7 (NIV) The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

Proverbs 3:11-13 (NIV) My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline and do not resent His rebuke, because the LORD disciplines those He loves, as a father the son he delights in. Blessed is the man who finds wisdom, the man who gains understanding.

Psalm 119:67 (NIV) Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I obey Your word.

Psalm 119:71 (NIV) It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn Your decrees.