

ESTABLISHED IN WISDOM

In a world filled with quick opinions, fleeting trends, and constant noise, true wisdom stands as a rare and steady guide. The book of Proverbs offers more than clever sayings—it invites us into a way of life rooted in reverence, discernment, and godly insight. This devotional plan, *Established in Wisdom*, will walk you through key passages in Proverbs, drawing out the rich, practical truths that shape character, decision-making, relationships, and spiritual maturity.

Each day, you'll explore a different aspect of wisdom—from the fear of the Lord as its foundation to the daily disciplines that help wisdom grow. Whether you're facing a major life decision, seeking healthier relationships, or simply wanting to grow in spiritual depth, this plan will ground you in God's unchanging truth. Allow the ancient words of Proverbs to renew your perspective and establish your life on a solid foundation of divine wisdom.

DAY 1

SURRENDERING TO GOD'S PLAN

Reading: Proverbs 21:30-31; Jeremiah 29:11-13

In our pursuit of wisdom and success, we often rely on our own understanding and plans. However, today's scripture reminds us that no wisdom, insight, or plan can succeed against the Lord. This isn't meant to discourage us from planning or using our God-given intellect. Rather, it's an invitation to align our plans with God's perfect will.

Reflect on areas in your life where you might be working against God's flow. Are there plans you're holding onto too tightly? Dreams you're pursuing without seeking God's guidance? Take a moment to surrender these to the Lord. Remember, God's plans for you are good, designed to give you hope and a future.

Today, practice intentional submission. Before making decisions, pause and ask, "God, is this in line with Your will?" Trust that when we flow with God's plan, even if it doesn't make sense to us, we're positioning ourselves for His best.

DAY 2 FINDING STRENGTH IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Reading: Psalm 46:1-11; Isaiah 41:10

Life often feels like navigating through crowded hallways, pushing against the flow. In those moments, we can feel overwhelmed, confused, and alone. But today's scripture reminds us that God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Just as Pastor Teddy said he found it easier to wait for the hallways to clear, sometimes our greatest strength comes from pausing and recognizing God's presence. In the midst of your busy day, take intentional moments to "be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10).

Reflect on times when you've felt God's presence most strongly. How did it impact your perspective and actions? Today, practice being aware of God's presence. Whether you're in a meeting, running errands, or facing a challenge, whisper a quick prayer: "God, I know you're here with me." Let this awareness be your source of strength and peace.

DAY 3

EMBRACING GOD'S LOVE IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES

Reading: Romans 8:31-39; 1 John 4:7-21

The sermon touched on the idea that sometimes opposition comes from unexpected places - even religious circles. This can be deeply discouraging and make us question God's love. Today's scripture, however, assures us that nothing can separate us from the love of God.

God's love isn't dependent on our circumstances, others' approval, or even our own performance. It's a constant, unshakeable force that holds us through every trial and triumph. Reflect on areas in your life where you might be struggling to feel God's love. Are there past hurts or current challenges clouding your view of His affection for you?

Today, intentionally receive God's love. Start your day by saying out loud, "God loves me, unconditionally and eternally." When faced with opposition or discouragement, return to this truth. Let God's love be the foundation from which you extend love to others, even those who may oppose you.

DAY 4

CULTIVATING SELF-CONTROL AND SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE

Reading: Galatians 5:22-23; 2 Peter 1:5-8

Self-control is listed as a fruit of the Spirit, indicating its importance in our spiritual growth. Just as physical discipline leads to better health, spiritual discipline leads to stronger faith and closer communion with God.

Reflect on areas in your life where you struggle with self-control. It might be in your words, actions, thoughts, or habits. Remember, the goal isn't perfection, but progress empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Today, choose one area to focus on. It could be controlling your temper, being more disciplined in prayer, or resisting a particular temptation. Ask the Holy Spirit to empower you in this area. Each time you're tempted to lose control, pause and pray, "Holy Spirit, I need Your strength right now." Celebrate small victories and remember that growing in self-control is a lifelong journey.

DAY 5 EMBRACING HOPE AND GOD'S FUTURE

Reading: Romans 15:13; Hebrews 11:1-6

This week's sermon concluded with a powerful reminder from Jeremiah 29:11 - God has plans to give us hope and a future. In a world that often seems hopeless, we're called to be people of hope, not just for ourselves but as a light to others.

Hope isn't mere optimism; it's a confident expectation in God's goodness and faithfulness. It's the seed of spiritual revolution in our lives and the world around us. Reflect on areas where you might have lost hope. Perhaps in a relationship, a dream, or a long-standing prayer request.

Today, actively choose hope. Start by writing down three things you're hoping for, big or small. Pray over these, surrendering them to God while maintaining expectation. Then, be a bearer of hope to others. Encourage someone who's struggling, speak life over a situation that seems hopeless, or simply share a smile with a stranger. Remember, as bearers of God's hope, we have the power to spark change in our spheres of influence.