
Proverbs
Seek Wisdom
Find Life



Wisdom and Relationships: Counsel, Counselors and Consultation

What qualities would you look for in a person from whom you are seeking advice?

A secular response:

- Empathy
- Wisdom
- Objectivity
- Trustworthiness
- Perspective
- Calmness

Microsoft Pilot



What qualities would you look for in a person from whom you are seeking advice?

A Christian response:

- Empathy
- A Christian who knows & lives the Word of God
- Someone who is aware of biological factors
- Humility
- A strong believer you'd want to emulate

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Outline:

I. What does receiving good counsel look like?
II. What are the benefits of wise counsel?
III. What are the consequences of not following wise counsel?
IV. Jesus Christ, the Wonderful Counselor



I. What does receiving good counsel look like?

Proverbs 12:15: “The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, But a wise man is he who listens to counsel (NASB).
“The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, But he who heeds counsel is wise.” (NKJV)

13:10: “Through presumption comes nothing but strife, But with those who receive counsel is wisdom.”

19:20 “Listen to counsel and accept discipline, That you may be wise the rest of your days.”



I. What does receiving good counsel look like?

19:21 “Many are the plans in a man's heart, But the counsel of the LORD, it will stand.”

16:9 “The mind of man plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps”



II. What are the benefits of wise counsel?

Prov. 1:5 “A wise man will hear and increase in learning, and a man of understanding will acquire wise counsel”

8:14 “Counsel is mine and sound wisdom; I am understanding, power is mine.”

27:9 “Oil and perfume make the heart glad, so a man's counsel is sweet to his friend.”

21:30 “There is no wisdom and no understanding and no counsel against the LORD.”



French philosopher Voltaire





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II. What are the benefits of wise counsel?

12:20 “Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil, But counselors of peace have joy.”

11:14 “Where there is no guidance, the people fall, But in abundance of counselors there is victory.”

15:22 “Without consultation, plans are frustrated, But with many counselors they succeed.”

24:6 “For by wise guidance you will wage war, And in abundance of counselors there is victory.”



In an abundance of counselors is victory and success in two ways:

1) In the present

2) Over a life time!

Paul Tripp: “One of God’s sweetest gifts to us between the time of our conversion and the ‘not yet’ of our homegoing is the gift of the body of Christ. God has not left us to ourselves but has blessed us with an abundant community of help.



We find an excellent example of communal Christianity in 2 Corinthians 1:8-11 where the Apostle Paul writes:

‘For we do not want you to be unaware, brethren, of our affliction which came to us in Asia, that we were burdened excessively, beyond our strength, so that we despaired even of life; indeed, we had the sentence of death within ourselves in order that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead; who delivered us from so great a peril of death, and will deliver us, He on whom we have set our hope. And He will yet deliver us, you also joining in helping us through your prayers, that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the favor bestowed upon us through the prayers of many.’”



Tripp believes one of the primary instruments of help God uses is the church. To experience the blessing and provision that is available within the body of Christ, there are four things we must do:

1) Avoid Isolation

2) Confess Blindness

3) Let People Interrupt

4) Seek Wise Counsel: “It is dangerous to make important life decisions alone.…

We humbly need to invite wise and godly counselors into our lives. I’m not talking about professional help…”



III. What are the consequences of not following wise counsel?

15:22 “Without consultation, plans are frustrated, but with many counselors they succeed.”

1:24-26 “Because I called, and you refused; I stretched out my hand, and no one paid attention; and you neglected all my counsel, and did not want my reproof; I will even laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your dread comes”



III. What are the consequences of not following wise counsel?

1:30,31 “They would not accept my counsel, they spurned all my reproof. So they shall eat of the fruit of their own way, and be satiated with their own devices.”

Gal. 6:7 “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.”



IV. Jesus Christ, the Wonderful Counselor

Isaiah 9:6 “For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.”

Colossians 2:3: “In whom (in Christ) are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”



IV. Jesus Christ, the Wonderful Counselor

Heb 4:15: “For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.

The Lord Jesus sympathizes with our weaknesses

He was tempted in all things as we are yet without sin.

As Scripture says of Jesus: “He knew no sin” (2 Cor. 5:21)
He “committed no sin” (1 Pet. 2:22)
“and in Him there is no sin.” (1 John. 3:5).



Bill M: “To argue that His temptation was not meaningful if He could not sin is fallacious. One purpose of the temptation was to demonstrate conclusively that He could not sin. If you put gold to the test, the test is no less valid because the gold is pure. If there were impurity, the test would show it.”

Heb 4:16 “Let us therefore draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need.”





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