

## session 2 study guide

# discovering the right path

the gift of wisdom and  
the gift of knowledge

### dig

*For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit,  
and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit.*

1 CORINTHIANS 12:8

Is it possible to have knowledge without wisdom? Is it possible to have wisdom without knowledge? In this study, we will examine two related but separate gifts mentioned in the Bible: the gift of wisdom and the gift of knowledge.

### the gift of wisdom

Have you ever met a person you would label as “wise”? Some people just seem to have the ability to give solid counsel and good advice. These people likely have the gift of wisdom. Although the Bible challenges all of us to pursue wisdom, there are some people who have an exceptional ability to see clearly.

1. How would you describe wisdom? What do you think it means to be “wise”?

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2. The book of Proverbs is filled with illustrations of how we should live and has much to say on the value of knowledge and wisdom. Read Proverbs 2:1-15. According to verses 1-5, what 7 steps are required before you can gain wisdom?

If you . . .

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. . . you will find the knowledge of God.

3. Read verses 7-9. What does God do for those who receive His wisdom?

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4. List the results of allowing wisdom to enter your life according to Proverbs 2:10-12.

Verse 10:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Verse 11:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Verse 12:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

5. James 3:17 draws a picture of godly wisdom. List the qualities of wisdom that are given in this verse.

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6. Who do you know who embodies these traits of wisdom? What is it about them that leads you to this conclusion?

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7. If God said to you, “Ask for whatever you want me to give you” (1 Kings 3:5), what would you ask for?

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8. Read 1 Kings 3:4-15. What does Solomon request from God?

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9. Why does Solomon ask for this?

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10. Because God is pleased with Solomon's request, what else does God provide him with?

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11. What do the following verses reveal about wisdom?

Psalms 111:10: \_\_\_\_\_

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Proverbs 1:20,29-33: \_\_\_\_\_

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Proverbs 4: 1-7: \_\_\_\_\_

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Proverbs 9:9: \_\_\_\_\_

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12. According to Job 28:20-28, where does wisdom come from?

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13. Why is the attainment of wisdom so esteemed in the Bible?

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14. How can you go about finding God's wisdom?

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### the gift of knowledge

The biblical gift of knowledge has little or nothing to do with your I.Q. or what grade you received on your last math test or English paper. The spiritual gift of knowledge has been defined as the ability to understand truth that is unknown by natural means.

Open your Bible to 2 Samuel. David is the central figure in the two books of Samuel, but the second book focuses on his life as a leader and king of Israel. David was a great king, but he had his flaws. In 2 Samuel 11, David becomes enamored with Bathsheba, another man's wife, and ends up sending her husband, Uriah, to the front lines of battle, where he is killed. In 2 Samuel 12, we catch up with David in a conversation with the prophet Nathan about his misdoings.

1. Read 2 Samuel 12:1-14. Why does Nathan begin with the tale of the rich man, the poor man and the feast?

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2. How does Nathan know of David's sin?

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3. How does David respond when he is confronted with the truth about his actions?

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4. What is God's purpose in having Nathan confront David?

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5. The book of Proverbs contains a great deal of advice about wisdom. Explain the meaning of the following verses.

"Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is stupid" (Proverbs 12:1).

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"A prudent man keeps his knowledge to himself, but the heart of fools blurts out folly" (Proverbs 12:23).

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"It is not good to have zeal without knowledge, nor to be hasty and miss the way" (Proverbs 19:2).

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6. How do you believe the gift of knowledge could be a benefit for the Body of Christ?

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**reflect**

1. How can it be difficult for someone who has the gift of wisdom or knowledge?

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2. How might God use the gifts of knowledge or wisdom?

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3. Do you believe that you have the gift of wisdom or knowledge? What in particular makes you believe that you have these gifts? Can you remember a time when you believe that you used these particular gifts? Explain.

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4. In what areas of your life do you need wisdom right now?

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5. What specific ways can you see God using the gift of knowledge in your youth group or in your family?

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## meditation



For the LORD gives wisdom, and from his mouth  
come knowledge and understanding.

PROVERBS 2:6