

January 1, 2023
La Jolla Christian Fellowship
Learning Curve: A Study of Proverbs – Ep. 1 Living the Question
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Proverbs 1:1-7 NIV 1984

1 The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel: 2 for **attaining** wisdom and discipline; for **understanding** words of insight; 3 for **acquiring** a disciplined and prudent life, doing what is right and just and fair; 4 for giving prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the young— 5 let the wise listen and **add** to their learning, and let the discerning **get** guidance— 6 for understanding proverbs and parables, the sayings and riddles of the wise. 7 **The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.**

God is always speaking to us.

Question: What is God trying to say to me?

“Discernment is the spiritual process that accesses and seeks to understand what God is trying to say.” ~ Henri Nouwen

TRUSTING THE PROCESS: Hearing from God is not a one stop shop that only opens when you need to make the big decisions in life. What should I devote my life to? Whom should I marry? Where should I live? Rather it is a lifelong commitment to **REMEMBER GOD in all of life’s transactions.**

STARTING THE PROCESS

Proverbs 1:7

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.

The word **Fear** can be interpreted as **REMEMBERING** God and living in the questions of, **“God, what are you doing and what are you saying?”**

THE CAVEAT: Proverbs 1 makes it clear that wisdom has a bridesmaids:
DISCIPLINE

GET: Proverbs 1:1-7 — creates a process for living the wise and disciplined life that begins with a call to pursue. It calls us to GET.

1. **GET: Vs. 2** for **attaining** wisdom and discipline; for understanding words of insight; 3 for acquiring a disciplined and prudent life, doing what is right and just and fair;
 - a. **Discernment is an active pursuit:** ATTAIN, ACQUIRE, UNDERSTAND, ADD, GET.
 - i. **How do we do that?**
 1. Discernment is rooted in the core disciplines of the Christian life, prayer, community, worship and ministry.

Discerning the voice of God happens in the ebb and flow of our silence before God and our activity with God.

THIS WEEKS CHALLENGE:

1. Cancel the noise.
2. Live in the questions, “God, what are you doing and saying.”
3. Get rooted in the community.