

A RIDE NATURE MINISTRY RESOURCE

WISDOM & DISCERNMENT



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THE RIDE NATURE ORGANIZATION

AS A RESOURCE AND TOOL FOR ACTION SPORTS
FOCUSED OUTREACH, EVANGELISM,
AND DISCIPLESHIP.

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INTRO DUCTION

Wisdom and discernment are things that are mentioned over and over again in scripture. There's even a group of texts that are known as the "wisdom literature" (Proverbs, Job, and Ecclesiastes). Wisdom and discernment are qualities that are gained and learned through time, study, and experience. But it is also important to notice that discernment and (word of) wisdom is a spiritual gift of the Holy Spirit in 1 Corinthians 12.

Wisdom is the principal
thing; Therefore get
wisdom. And in all your
getting, get
understanding.
- Proverbs 4:7

WISDOM & DISCERNMENT



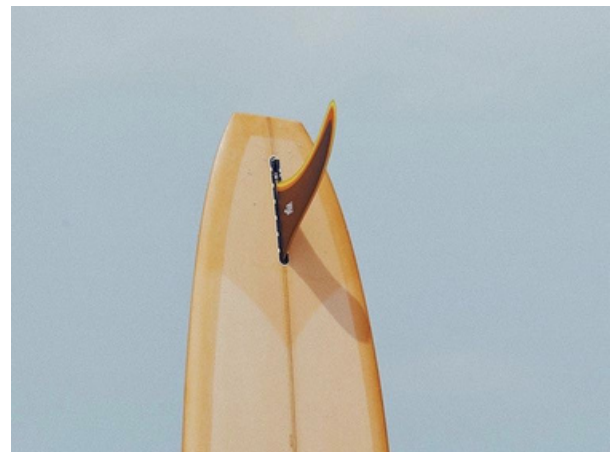


WISDOM

Wisdom- The ability to use your knowledge and experience to make good decisions and judgments.

We need to point out the obvious, there is a difference in knowledge and wisdom. Knowledge is gained through the studying of new information and consists of a rich storage of information. Knowledge is solely the storing of information, and this can be used in two ways, wisely or unwisely.

As we look at wisdom being the ability to use and apply the knowledge that we have, lets remember that our wisdom begins with our knowledge and reverence for the Lord.



“THE FEAR OF THE LORD IS THE BEGINNING OF WISDOM; ALL THOSE WHO PRACTICE IT HAVE A GOOD UNDERSTANDING. HIS PRAISE ENDURES FOREVER!”

- PSALM 111:10

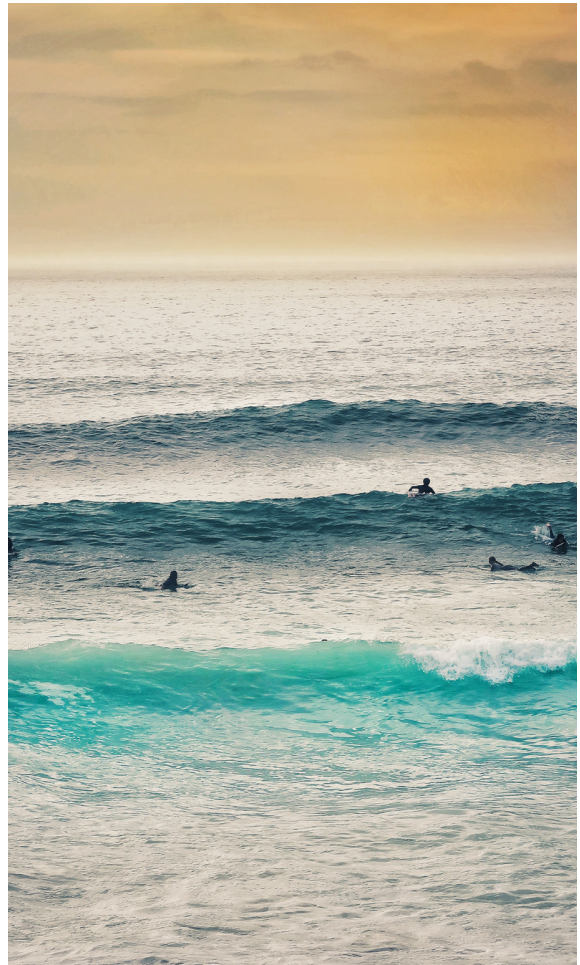
ARE YOU WISE?

This quote by Charles Spurgeon really rings true as we see many examples of very smart individuals who at the same time, are not very wise. Let's look at this passage in James to see the difference in a heavenly wisdom and an earthly knowledge.

James 3:13-18 says, "Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace."

"WISDOM IS THE RIGHT USE OF KNOWLEDGE. TO KNOW IS NOT TO BE WISE. MANY MEN KNOW A GREAT DEAL AND ARE ALL THE GREATER FOOLS FOR IT. THERE IS NO FOOL SO GREAT A FOOL AS A KNOWING FOOL. BUT TO KNOW HOW TO USE KNOWLEDGE IS TO HAVE WISDOM."

- CHARLES SPURGEON



DISCERNMENT

Discernment - Is nothing more than the ability to decide between truth and error, right and wrong. Discernment is the process of making careful distinctions in our thinking about truth. In other words, the ability to think with discernment is synonymous with an ability to think biblically.

Discernment is essentially having a biblical perception of each scenario. It is the active filtering of words and actions through a biblical filter in order to decide if it is biblically true or false. Think of scenarios that you have observed and thought, this doesn't seem "right". This is an example of using discernment.

Lack of Discernment almost always stems from a lack of knowledge and wisdom.

"And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ." ~ Philippians 1:9-10

"BUT EXAMINE EVERYTHING CAREFULLY; HOLD FAST TO THAT WHICH IS GOOD; ABSTAIN FROM EVERY FORM OF EVIL."

- 1 THESSALONIANS
5:21-22

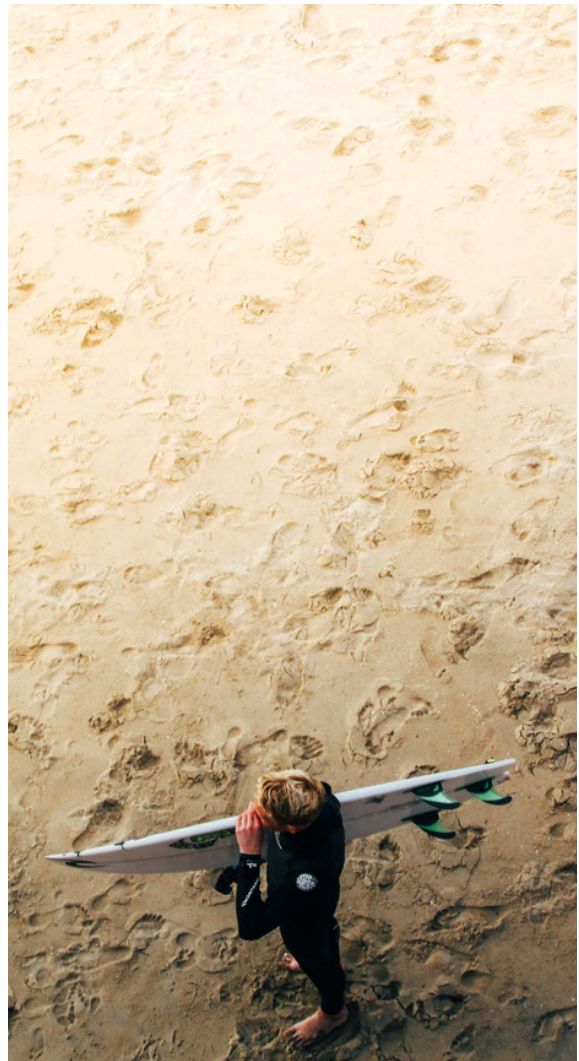


WISDOM GIVEN TO SOLOMON

- 1 KINGS 3:5-12

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you.



WHAT DOES WISDOM LOOKS LIKE?

To answer this question, we must turn to scripture to get a proper view.

As a rule of thumb, you can safely say that wisdom is never going to contradict scripture. No matter how much an idea makes sense in a worldly perspective, if it contradicts scripture then you can be sure that it is not wisdom from above.

James 3:17 says, "But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere."

Matthew 7:24-27 says, "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and

does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand.

And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it."



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ACTION SPORTS MISSION ORGANIZATION
THAT WAS FOUNDED IN 2009,
AND DEDICATED TO GIVING GENEROUSLY,
PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST,
AND MAKING DISCIPLES
TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION
OR TO DISCOVER HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED
PLEASE VISIT RIDENATURE.ORG.



"YOU WILL RECEIVE POWER WHEN THE HOLY
SPIRIT COMES ON YOU; AND YOU WILL BE MY
WITNESSES IN JERUSALEM, AND IN
ALL JUDEA AND SAMARIA, AND
TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH."

ACTS 1:8