

# THE WAY OF WISDOM

## How to Make Wise Decisions

**FEBRUARY 25, 2024**

Smart people do dumb things all the time. That's the difference between a smart person and a wise person—wisdom helps us to make the kinds of decisions we'll be proud of and avoid the ones we'll regret.

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### MESSAGE NOTES AND HIGHLIGHTS

- Sometimes, smart people do dumb things.
  - Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. | Ephesians 5:15-16
  - Wise people understand that all of life is connected.
  - The present becomes the past and impacts the future.
  - Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. | Ephesians 5:17
  - The prudent see danger and take refuge, but the simple keep going and suffer harm. | Proverbs 27:12
  - Wise people acknowledge what they desperately don't want to see.
  - Wise people see danger and don't ignore it.
  - The simple see the same danger, or don't see it all, and suffer the consequences.
  - You can't change your past, but starting right now, you can change what your past will be.
  - A prayer of wisdom: Heavenly Father, help me see trouble coming long before it gets here. Then give me the wisdom to know what to do and the courage to do it.
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### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Sometimes, smart people do dumb things. None of us are immune. So...what's the dumbest thing you've done in recent memory?
2. Wise people understand that all of life is connected—*this* affects *that*. Can you think of a time when you tried to compartmentalize an aspect of your life, and it spilled over into other areas? Or what's a decision you could make now, good or bad, that would affect other areas (and people) in your life?
3. Wise people see danger and don't ignore it. Foolish people see it and keep it going. What's the best example of how this has been true in your life—a time when you were wise *or* foolish?
4. You can't change your past, but starting right now, you can change what your past will be. What is one thing that God has been nudging you to stop ignoring and to do something about, so that you can change what story you end up telling?