

# *How to Live Wisely*

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PROVERBS 1–9

## THE DEFINITION OF WISDOM

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*Wisdom is a skill—the relational skill of pleasing God in every facet of life.*

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- Do I cry—even *hunt*—for God’s correction? (2:1–22)
- Does how I work, make decisions, handle money, and react to trials show that God is central in my life? (3:1–12)

WILL I KEEP THE WISDOM I'VE GOTTEN?

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- Do I keep on resisting the seductive power of sexual adultery? (7:1–27)
- Will I remain committed to following Jesus? (8:1–36)

## PROVERBS 1–9

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A relationship with God is best pictured by marriage. Like marriage, it's a relationship that encompasses all of life. Like marriage, this relationship with God is entered into decisively, yet it's not once-and-done. It involves daily recommitment and continual strengthening, even as we fight regular temptation.

*Scripture Reading*

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# PROVERBS 9

## THE MAIN POINT OF PROVERBS 9

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*To live wisely, you must decisively reject the inferior pleasures of a life of disobedience and choose the superior pleasures of a life of humble, ongoing submission to God.*



# APPLYING PROVERBS 9

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1. If you're going to be wise, you must carefully compare the pleasures offered in two contrasting ways of life.

“The best word for the role of a parent is *ambassador*. An ambassador represents the one who sent him or her. Parenting is not first about what we want for our children or what we want from our children, but what God has for them and what God requires from them. In everything you do, in all the little moments as a parent, you are representing the one who sent you.”

— *Paul David Tripp, Introduction to Lowe’s Safeguards*

“[Safeguards] means working...to establish a home and a worldview that protects your children. Parents are the first line of defense. We are tasked with the care, protection, and discipling of our children. We must discern immediate and future danger and have a plan for how to combat it. We are the primary educators of our children. Our job is to give them the knowledge and skills to navigate the world around them.”

— *Julie Lowe*, *Safeguards: Shielding Our Homes & Equipping Our Kids*

# APPLYING PROVERBS 9

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1. If you're going to be wise, you must carefully compare the pleasures offered in two contrasting ways of life.
2. If you're going to be wise, you must choose a life of ever-increasing teachableness rather than ever-increasing stubbornness toward God—there's no third option.

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2. If you're going to be wise, you must choose a life of ever-increasing teachableness rather than ever-increasing stubbornness toward God—there's no third option.
3. If you're going to be wise, you must know the Holy One.