



## Choose Wisely

Lesson 2 • Proverbs 3:2-4, 13-18

### Lesson 1 Review

- The Book of Proverbs is 1 of 5 Wisdom Books in the Old Testament that reveal the **heart** of living a surrendered life.
- The Book of Proverbs specifically teaches us how to **become wise**.
- Proverbs are **short, sharp statements** of truth that are easily passed on.
- The Book of Proverbs reminds us that wisdom is ultimately a **Person**.

*"Jesus is Wisdom. He is the Proverbs wrapped in flesh." – J. A. Medders*  
*Wisdom is the Christ-exalting, Spirit-empowered skill to live your life for the glory of God.*

### Two Reasons Why Surrender Is the Wise Choice

## 1. Surrender is God's PATH to Eternal Success in His Eyes. Proverbs 3:1-4; 13-18

### Seven Rewards of the Surrendered Life

#### #1 A LONGER life.

*"For length of days...they will add to you." (v.2)*

*"[Wisdom] is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called blessed." Proverbs 3:18*

#### #2 A BETTER life.

*"For length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you." (v.2)*

*"Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor." Proverbs 3:16*

#### #3 A FREER life.

*"So you will find favor...in the sight of God and man." (v. 4)*

**Jesus lived a life filled with this kind of freedom and favor.**

*"And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men." Luke 2:52*

#### #4 A FULLER life.

*"So you will find favor and good repute in the sight of God and man." (v. 4)*

*"Keen insight wins favor, but the conduct of the treacherous ends in destruction." Proverbs 13:15*

**Jesus lived a full life even though it was initially a short one.**

#### #5 A HIGHER life.

*"So you will find favor and good repute in the sight of GOD and MAN." (v. 4)*

#### #6 A RICHER life.

*"She [God's Wisdom] is more precious than jewels; and nothing you desire compares with her. (v. 15)*

*1Timothy 6:10; Hebrews 13:5; 2Corinthians 8:9; Revelation 3:17*

#7 A **HAPPIER** life.

*How blessed IS the man who finds wisdom and the man who gains understanding. (v. 13)  
She [wisdom] is a tree of life to those who take hold of her, and happy are all who hold her fast. (v. 18)*

**Why Is Surrender's Reward Not a Prosperity Gospel?**

- ☐ Proverbs are not promises but principles: *Our reward is not guaranteed in this life.*
- ☐ Proverbs are not merely principles but ultimately a Person: *Our reward is in and through this relationship with Christ.*
- ☐ Proverbs views life from God's perspective not the world's pleasures: *Our reward is from Him, through Him, and for Him.*

**Surrendering Is the Wise Choice!**

*Do it and you will be rewarded by God and others!*

## 2. Surrender Is God's **PLAN** for Eternal Salvation in His Son.

- Jesus lived the surrendered life **FOR** us. *Philippians 2:5-11*

**Eternity Past:** *In the incarnation the Son surrendered His **WEALTH** in glory to do His Father's will. (2:6-7)*

**Here on Earth:** *In redemption the Son surrendered His **WILL** to do the Father's will. (2:8; Matthew 26:39)*

**Eternity Future:** *In the New Creation the Son will surrender His **WHOLE** Kingdom to the Father. (2:9-11; 1Corinthians 15:24-28)*

- Jesus lives the surrendered life **THROUGH** us. *1Corinthians 1:23-25, 30; Philippians 2:12-13*

**The Surrendered Life Is Active Not Passive.**

*"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6*

**Choose Wisely Not Poorly!**

*There are many ways to surrender poorly but only one way to surrender wisely and be rewarded!*

- ☐ **NON**-surrender: *Say you surrender with our lips but not with your heart or life.*
- ☐ **HALF**-surrender: *Double-minded and lukewarm surrender that is not really surrender at all.*
- ☐ **ONE TIME** surrender: *Do it once so you can say you did and then live life the way you choose.*
- ☐ **TOTAL** surrender: *The only kind of surrender that truly fears the LORD and is rewarded by the LORD!*
- ☐ **CONTINUAL** surrender: *The proof of total surrender is by one choice and one day at a time!*

*"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter." Matthew 7:21*

*"Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth [and in my heart] as it is in heaven." Matthew 6:10*

**Choose Wisely and Fear the LORD**

- What kind of surrender characterizes your life?
- Have I ever chosen to receive the surrendered life Jesus lived **for** me, so He can live the surrendered life **through** me?
- Memorize and meditate on **Proverbs 3:5-6** for next week.