

God Time Day 1: Options Galore!



We have so many options. The average American makes a combination of around 35,000 choices per day. While some may be insignificant, others are not and, minus 7 hours sleeping, that comes out to over 2000 choices per hour. No wonder we can feel overwhelmed! Part of why we have so many decisions to make is because we are confronted with so many options. (One example: buying cereal or shampoo.) Friends, we have options galore.



Read Proverbs 4:7
Wisdom is supreme — so get wisdom. And whatever else you get, get understanding.

John Maxwell says, “Life is a matter of choices, and every choice you make makes you.” That may seem to be an overgeneralization, but our decisions bear weight. This week we’ll look at how to gain wisdom and make good decisions when we’re faced with so many options.

Without looking it up, what is your definition of wisdom?

God Time Day 2: Gaining Wisdom



Read Proverbs 9:10
The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

Fearing the Lord means revering Him and submitting to His will, ways, and guidance. This is wisdom. In short, it is living a worshipful, obedient life. It is within this worshipful, obedient life, that we can practice making good decisions. God will not always show us *specifically* what to do, but when we submit to His will, ways, and guidance, we can trust Him to keep us within the boundaries of wisdom.

On a scale of 1-10, how would you rate your level of submission to God’s will, ways, and guidance?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

What will you do this week to move up 1-2 points? What is the plan?

God Time Day 3: Walk



Read Proverbs 13:20
The one who walks with the wise will become wise, but a companion of fools will suffer harm.

Underline what the verse says happens to the person who “walks with the wise.”

We are designed by God to be social; we live connected to others in a web of relationships. There is interesting research that shows that our friends’ behaviors and attitudes affect us. That makes sense. More interesting is that our friends’ friends affect us too, even if we haven’t met them. Why? Because they affect our friends, who in turn affect us.

A Bible story illustrates this. King Rehoboam, Solomon’s son, sought advice when the people complained about how he ruled them.



Read 1 Kings 12:8 and 13
⁸But he abandoned the counsel that the old men gave him and took counsel with the young men who had grown up with him and stood before him. ¹³Then the king answered the people harshly. He rejected the advice the elders had given him...

The result? The people rebelled and the kingdom was split.

The Bible tells us that if we want to be wise, we should be careful to walk with wise people. Look back at yesterday’s God Time. What is the beginning of wisdom?

Pray about this: Are those you associate with truly wise?

How will you “walk with the wise?” (E.g., join a 4G group, go to Bible study, serve with other committed Christians, find a mentor, etc.) List three ways and get started today.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

God Time Day 4: Ask



Read James 1:5-8

⁵Now if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God — who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly — and it will be given to him. ⁶But let him ask in faith without doubting. For the doubter is like the surging sea, driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord, ⁸being double-minded and unstable in all his ways.



Circle anything in the passage that stands out to you.

The passage above tells us how to gain wisdom: *ask God*. The context of this passage is trials; James tells us that wisdom is needed in trials. However, it also teaches that God is the giver of wisdom for any circumstance and that this wisdom is given to “askers” who have a saving faith in Christ – those who know God. This is more about the quality (or object) of faith and less about the quantity of faith. The NLT translates verse 6 this way: when asking, “*be sure that your faith is in God alone.*” If you trust God, ask for wisdom. Then trust that He’ll keep His word in giving it.



Read Jesus’ words in John 10:27

My sheep hear my voice, I know them, and they follow me.

We can know God’s voice through the Bible, or when His Spirit brings words and truths of the Scriptures to mind. But here’s the deal, once we know it, we need to show it with our actions. That is a sign of true wisdom: application.

Where would you say most people go first when they want or seek wisdom?

Where do you go *first*?

What do you need to change or keep the same, so that your answer will always be “God”?

God Time Day 5: Decide



When faced with difficult decisions, many people freeze and make no decision at all, which is a decision. Or, we might act like a squirrel in front of a moving car. Ironically, the squirrel ultimately decides which way to run, and the result can be... well, *flattening*. Deciding can be scary.

When we can’t decide, we sometimes treat the Bible like a magic 8 ball. Remember those? We ask a question, shake it up (or open it up), and seek the answer. But the Bible is written to make us wise unto salvation and to live a life of godliness. It’s all about Jesus– not all about us. So what help is there when we *just need to decide*?



Read Proverbs 4:18

The path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, shining brighter and brighter until midday.

Underline what the path of the righteous is like. (Note: the righteous are Believers.)

The Bible gives many instances of how God is with us, giving us wise counsel. (Psalm 32:8, Isaiah 41:10, Colossians 1:9) Yes, sometimes, God might give us a specific nudge, but many times, we can make decisions based on the information, grace, guidance, love, and light that He has already made known to us through His Word and then brings to our mind. (John 14:25-26) Most of all, wisdom comes from walking with the Lord, or by “*keeping in step with the Spirit.*” (Galatians 5:16-26)

What decisions are you struggling with right now?

Here are a few practical steps to help you work through those decisions:

1. Pray.
2. If possible, give the decision time and thought.
3. Commit the decision to God.

Remember, if you need wisdom,

Walk with the wise, **Ask** God, and then **Decide**.