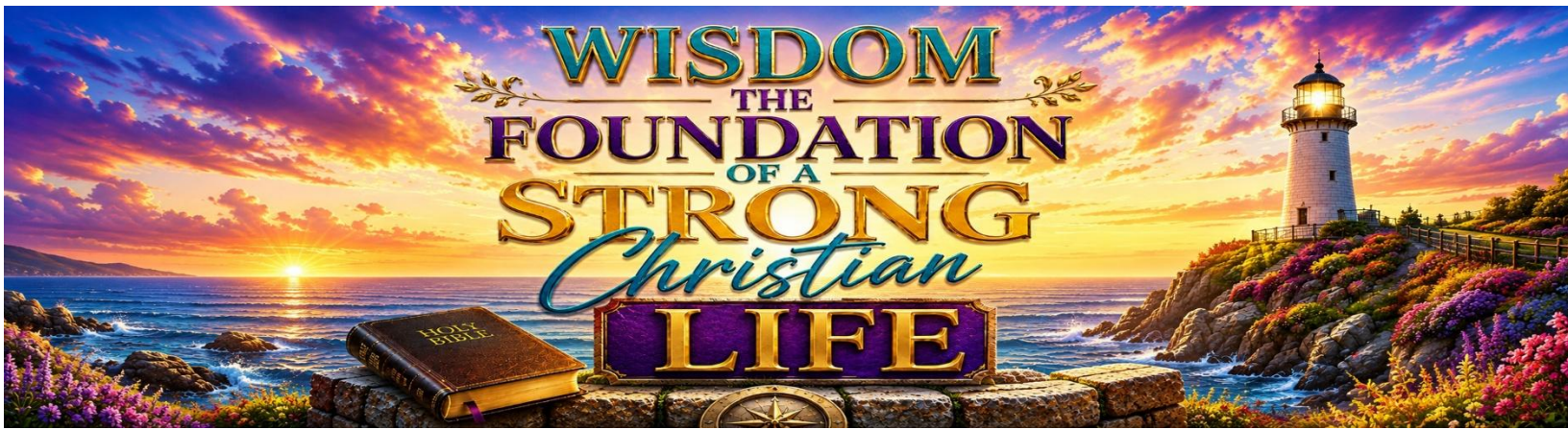




Read: Psalm 111:10

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise.”

The fear of the Lord is not terror that drives us away from God; it is reverence that draws us closer and gives Him authority over every part of our lives. Biblical wisdom begins when we stop asking only, “What do I want?” and begin asking, “What would honor God?” Knowledge may fill our minds with Scripture, but wisdom allows Scripture to transform our attitudes, choices, and relationships. Knowing God’s Word is important, but the deeper question is: *Am I allowing what I know about God to determine how I live today?*

Joseph’s life reminds us that wisdom is often developed in difficult places. The pit taught him dependence, Potiphar’s house taught him responsibility, and the prison taught him patience. None of these seasons were wasted; God used each one to prepare Joseph for the palace. Joseph learned that God’s presence was not determined by his circumstances—God was with him in the house, the prison, and the palace. Perhaps the uncomfortable season you are experiencing is not God’s rejection but His classroom. Instead of asking only, “Lord, when will this end?” ask, *“Lord, what are You developing in me through this?”*

True wisdom is revealed in the way we respond, especially when we have been hurt, disappointed, or provoked. When Joseph faced the brothers who had betrayed him, he chose mercy instead of revenge because he could see God’s purpose beyond his pain. Like the wise builder in Matthew 7, we construct our lives one decision at a time—every response, attitude, and act of obedience becomes part of the house we will eventually live in. Therefore, pause before reacting, listen before speaking, and pray before deciding. Remember: *A reaction is controlled by the moment, but a wise response is controlled by God.* Lord, give us knowledge to recognize Your truth, understanding to see Your hand, and wisdom to live in a way that honors You.



Joseph: A Life Guided by Godly Wisdom

Main Text: Genesis 41:38–39 NLT

“So Pharaoh asked his officials, ‘Can we find anyone else like this man so obviously filled with the spirit of God?’ Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, ‘Since God has revealed the meaning of the dreams to you, clearly no one else is as intelligent or wise as you are.’”

Joseph did not suddenly become wise when he stood before Pharaoh. God had been preparing him throughout his journey. His wisdom was developed as **knowledge became understanding, and understanding was expressed through obedient action.**

1. KNOWLEDGE: Joseph Received Revelation from God

“Now Joseph had a dream, and he told it to his brothers; and they hated him all the more.” — Genesis 37:5

Joseph’s journey began with something God revealed to him. He did not yet understand everything the dream meant or how God would bring it to pass, but he had received knowledge from God.

Knowledge is the starting point. Before we can walk wisely, we must first know what God has said. God gives us truth through His Word and reveals His character, His ways, and His commands to us.

Like Joseph, we may receive truth from God without immediately understanding how it applies to everything happening in our lives. The challenge is to continue trusting what God has revealed even when circumstances do not appear to agree with it.

Reflect:

1. What has God revealed to me?
2. Write one truth from God’s Word that you need to remember this week:

God gives us truth through His Word. We must first be willing to learn what He says.



2. UNDERSTANDING: Joseph Learned God’s Ways Through His Trials

Joseph’s understanding was developed through experience. His journey took him from his father’s house to a pit, from slavery to responsibility in Potiphar’s house, and from false accusation to prison.

Through those experiences, Joseph learned how to **serve, lead, manage, resist temptation, endure injustice, and wait upon God.**

God was developing Joseph even when Joseph could not see the purpose behind his circumstances. His trials became a classroom where what he knew about God was tested, strengthened, and deepened.

Understanding often develops when we begin to recognize God’s hand in what we are experiencing. We stop asking only, “*Why am I going through this?*” and begin asking, “*God, what are You teaching me through this?*”

Reflect:

1. What is God teaching me through my experiences?
2. What may God be developing in you during your present season?

Joseph’s trials taught him how to serve, lead, resist temptation, endure injustice, and wait on God.



3. WISDOM: Joseph Applied God’s Revelation to Save Lives

Joseph’s moment came when Pharaoh was troubled by dreams that no one could interpret. Joseph was brought out of prison and stood before Pharaoh.

God gave Joseph the interpretation, but Joseph did more than explain the dreams. He wisely recommended a plan for preparing Egypt for the coming famine. What God had revealed to Joseph was combined with everything Joseph had learned through years of serving, managing, leading, and waiting.

Joseph was now able to **apply what God had taught him.**

That is wisdom.

Wisdom is more than knowing Scripture. Wisdom is more than understanding what God may be doing. **Wisdom is responding to God's truth in a way that honors Him.**

Joseph's wisdom ultimately became a blessing not only to Pharaoh and Egypt but also to his own family and countless others whose lives were preserved during the famine.

Reflect:

1. How will I respond to what God has shown me?
2. What action will you take in response to what God is teaching you?

Wisdom is more than knowing what is right. It is applying God's truth in a way that honors Him.



BUILDING A LIFE OF GODLY WISDOM

Joseph's life reminds us that godly wisdom is not gained all at once. God develops wisdom in us as we grow in **knowledge, understanding, and obedience.**

Discipline for the Week

As you move through the week:

- **Learn:** Ask, *What has God revealed to me through His Word?*
- **Listen:** Ask, *What is God teaching me through what I am experiencing?*
- **Live:** Ask, *How should I respond to what God has shown me?*

Scripture to Remember

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding..."
— Psalm 111:10

Closing Prayer

Father, thank You for being the source of true wisdom. Teach us to reverence You, seek Your truth, and trust Your ways. Give us knowledge through Your Word and understanding through every season You allow us to experience. Help us not to waste the lessons You are teaching us.

Give us wisdom to put Your truth into practice. Like Joseph, prepare us through every season so that when opportunities come, we are ready to respond with faith, obedience, and wisdom. May the lives we live honor You and become a blessing to others.

In Jesus' name, Amen.