

30 DAYS TO BUILD

# *A Better Home*

## **BE CAREFUL**

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Ephesians 5:15-17 "Be very careful, then, how you live - not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is."

## **Three Truths About Careful Living**

### **1. Be careful how you live because CHOICES have CONSEQUENCES.**

Ephesians 5:15 "Be very careful, then, how you live..."

**God has given all of us free will. We all have the power to make choices.**

Deuteronomy 30:19-20 "Today **I have given you the choice** between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness **the choice you make**. Oh, that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live! **You can make this choice** by loving the Lord your God, obeying Him, and committing yourself firmly to Him."

Romans 6:16 "Don't you realize that you become the slave of whatever you choose to obey? You can be a slave to sin, which leads to death, or you can choose to obey God, which leads to righteous living."

Galatians 6:5 "We are each responsible for our own conduct."

2 Corinthians 5:10 "For we must all stand before Christ to be judged. We will each receive whatever we deserve for the good or evil we have done in this earthly body."

**Your choices today affect your outcome tomorrow.**

Galatians 6:7-8 "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life."

Proverbs 13:16 "Wise people think before they act; fools don't - and even brag about their foolishness."

**To get better consequences you have to make better choices!**

**2. Be careful how you live because WISDOM has REWARDS.**

**Ephesians 5:15 "Live not as unwise but as wise."**

## **Careful = Wise; Careless = Unwise**

Ephesians 5:17 "Do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is."

### **The Rewards of Wisdom:**

Proverbs 3:13-18 "Joyful is the person who finds wisdom, the one who gains understanding. For wisdom is more profitable than silver, and her wages are better than gold. Wisdom is more precious than rubies; nothing you desire can compare with her. She offers you long life in her right hand, and riches and honor in her left. She will guide you down delightful paths; all her ways are satisfying. Wisdom is a tree of life to those who embrace her; happy are those who hold her tightly."

Proverbs 4:6-8 Wisdom brings protection, greatness, and honor.

Proverbs 8:10-35 Wisdom is better than silver and gold, better than rubies, and better than anything else. It brings riches, honor, enduring wealth, joy, life, and favor from the Lord.

Proverbs 9:11-12 "Wisdom will multiply your days and add years to your life. If you become wise, you will be the one to benefit."

Proverbs 24:14 "Wisdom is sweet to your soul. If you find it, you will have a bright future, and your hopes will not be cut short."

The question we should bring to bear on every decision, invitation, and relationship is

**“What’s the wise thing to do?”**

### **3. Be careful how you live because the DAYS are EVIL.**

Ephesians 5:16 “Making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.”

Proverbs 13:20 “Walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble.”

Romans 12:2 “Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.”

**In light of my past experience, current circumstances, and future hopes and dreams, what’s the wise thing to do?**

**Memory Verse for this week:** Ephesians 5:15–16 “Be very careful, then, how you live – not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.”

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