

FOOLPROOF

Help Me Out

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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."

"What's the wise thing to do?"

Three Steps to Foolproof Your Decisions

1. In order to foolproof your decisions you have to LEARN to LISTEN.

Proverbs 14:12 "There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death."

Personal decisions are emotional by nature.

Proverbs 4:10-11 "My child, listen to me and do as I say, and you will have a long, good life. I will teach you wisdom's ways and lead you in straight paths."

Don't trade what you want MOST for what you want in the MOMENT.

Proverbs 9:9 "Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still."

Proverbs 1:5 "A wise man will hear and increase in learning, and a man of understanding will acquire wise counsel."

Wise people recognize what they don't know and listen to those who do.

Proverbs 12:15 "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man is he who listens to counsel."

2. In order to LISTEN you have to UNPLUG your EARS.

Mark 4:23-24 "Jesus said, 'Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand.' Then He added, 'Pay close attention to what you hear. **The closer you listen, the more understanding you will be given - and you will receive even more.**'"

2 Timothy 4:3-4 "For a time is coming when people will no longer **listen** to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear. They will reject the truth and chase after myths."

Proverbs 15:22 "Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed."

Proverbs 19:20 "Listen to advice and accept discipline, and at the end you will be counted among the wise."

2 Kings 14:10-11 “You have indeed defeated Edom, and you are proud of it. But be content with your victory and stay at home! Why stir up trouble that will only bring disaster on you and the people of Judah?’ **But Amaziah refused to listen...**”

The #1 cause of unwise decisions is PRIDE.

3. In order to UNPLUG your EARS you have to open your HEART.

Matthew 13:14-15 “This fulfills the prophecy of Isaiah that says, ‘When you hear what I say, you will not understand. When you see what I do, you will not comprehend. **For the hearts of these people are hardened**, and their ears cannot hear, and they have closed their eyes - so their eyes cannot see, and their ears cannot hear, and their hearts cannot understand, and they cannot turn to me and let me heal them.’”

Ephesians 5:17 “Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is.”

James 3:13 “If you are wise and understand God’s ways, prove it by living an honorable life, doing good works with the **humility that comes from wisdom.**”

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

Proverbs 11:14 "Where there is no counsel, the people fall; but in the multitude of counselors there is safety."

Memory Verses: Proverbs 4:10-11 "My child, listen to me and do as I say, and you will have a long, good life. I will teach you wisdom's ways and lead you in straight paths."

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