

Wisdom in Uncertain Times Devotion: Part 1

Proverbs are defined at www.dictionary.com as *a short pithy saying in general use, stating a general truth or piece of advice*. Proverbs are universal truths of how to live life with kindness, love and goodness in all decisions or actions. And they provide in detail the consequences of not choosing to live a life with kindness, love and goodness. In essence, a proverb is an instruction of living a healthy life. Proverbs provide guidance of living an ethical and moral life, a life that exemplifies John's Wesley's three rules for living:

- 1) Do no harm.
- 2) Do good.
- 3) Stay in love with God

In this four-part series, four proverbs will be used to provide wisdom in a time of uncertainty, rapid change, discernment of truth and managing constant fear. May you find wisdom during this time and always as you continue to navigate the challenges of life.

Proverbs 1:1-7

Life is a series of choices and associated consequences. It is very true that experience is the best teacher. However, when we only rely on experience we choose to not gain and learn from the experiences of those who have gone before us. It may be the experiences of a parent, spouse, partner, family member, friend, movie star, addict, murderer, pastor, and/or teacher. To learn from someone else means you have to be humble and let pride go.

Proverbs 1:1-7 clearly outlines why we should learn and gain wisdom and instruction. It is for the purpose of living life righteously in justice and equity. And that what you gain in learning about how to live life in this way is a skill that will allow you to make the difficult choices in life and remain righteous by living in fairness. Where in your life have you not lived in righteousness? Where in your life have you stood for justice and equity? When we fail at living in righteousness, we are not being wise. For righteousness' consequences are always healthier than living in a life of injustice.

During this time of the Corona virus and the associated issues of illness, death, job loss, lock down, etc., are you living a life of righteousness or living a life that creates injustice and inequity? Are you following the guidelines for the betterment of all or are you ignoring them because that is what you want to do? Proverbs is clear that when we choose to learn wisdom, we are choosing a righteous life.

May you humble yourself to a life of wisdom and righteousness and may you create justice in all you do. Amen.

by Rev. David Piltz