

Wednesday Word

**Proverbs 3:13-18** “Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding, for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold. She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her. Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called blessed.”

As most of you all know, I grew up in University Place, not one mile from Titlow Park and Narrows Bridge. I grew up riding my bike on the endless backroads and trails of the city. There was a small community church kitty corner from my high school and it always had inspirational quotes posted on the reader board that was by the street so people could see it as they passed by. It seemed the quote changed weekly and while there was much wisdom and inspiration shared, one quote I remember specifically that was displayed in my sophomore year of high school.

***“Communication leads to Understanding.”***

That was it. It is simple but so true.

Have you ever had a misunderstanding with someone? Have you ever found yourself in conflict at work or in your family and it just seemed that you and the other people were on two separate pages? How often do we fail to see someone else’s point of view because we don’t bother to listen or even to ask for further perspective?

The book of Proverbs, chapter three, speaks of wisdom and understanding being more precious than rubies and more profitable than Gold and that in her path is peace.

I have found throughout my life that if I find myself in conflict or misunderstanding, it always helps to stop, be quiet, and listen to the other person. So many times, expectations are just misaligned and through that offense creeps in. We become so set in our ways we don’t want to submit our position even if we haven’t even heard from the other person.

I think there is such a challenge for us this week to seek out understanding through communication. No need to be competitive about being right but surrendering our position for the good of peace in our relationship.

Let’s prayerfully consider these things this week!

I love you and God Loves you!

Pastor Eric Lundberg