

(Proverbs 4:7) The **FIRST** thing is **wisdom. Get it! Though it cost all you have, get understanding.**

- Wisdom has a price... often **time**, **popularity**, or **pride**.

(Proverbs 4:7) **The FIRST thing is wisdom. Get it! Whatever else you get, get understanding.**

- Other potential achievements are not as important as wisdom.

James 1:5-8

- We are **tempted** to seek wisdom > information
- We are **tempted** to seek wisdom > opinions/advice
- We are **told** to seek wisdom by asking God to give it to us.

This can only mean that wisdom IS
God's perspective (*seeing*) and God's
process (*doing*)

PERSONAL... discipline and
control (mind over emotions)

*Avoids self-imposed
hardships and misery

- Then you will walk in safety, your foot will not stumble (3:23)
- Wisdom will protect you... She will watch over you (4:6)
- You will be led along straight paths.
When you walk, your steps will not be hampered. When you run, you will not stumble (4:11-12)

INTERPERSONAL... justice and fairness (righteousness over popularity)

* Enables legacy of pleasantness and peace.

- Then you will understand what is right, just, and fair – the good path! (2:9)
- Her ways are pleasant ways and all her paths are peace (3:17)
- When you lie down, you will not be afraid... Your sleep will be sweet (3:24)

TO FEAR THE LORD IS THE
BEGINNING OF WISDOM” *(Prov. 9:10)*

If I fear, respect, and honor God,
I will see life from his perspective
and it will influence every **strategy**,
decision, and **commitment** of my life!

WISDOM vs. FOLLY

**“Let all who are simple come
in here” (Proverbs 9)**

**“Let all who are in need come
and ask! (James 1)**

- Ask in **FAITH** (Shows **sincerity** and **anticipation** toward action)
- Asking in **DOUBT** is just the desire to “know my options” (nothing more)

The doubter does not receive wisdom because there is not commitment to follow what God would show them. They have not made up their mind to obey!