



Essentials of Faith—The Wisdom of God
Part Four Psalm 19:7-13

Pastor Dan Turpin

WestCoastChurch.com

Objective Sentence: Every leader should embrace the basic essentials of faith because they are the fundamental elements of one's spiritual life.

Introduction: Today we will focus on Education—educating ourselves Spiritually by growing in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Francis Bacon said:* Knowledge is Power. King Solomon declared, “**Proverbs 18:15** (Amplified) The mind of the prudent [acting with or showing care and thought for the future] is ever getting knowledge, and the ear of the wise is ever seeking (inquiring for and craving) knowledge.” **Psalm 19:7 declares,** “The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple.” Last week we learned that **when God speaks things happen.** His Word—Spoken and Written is living and powerful bringing order out of chaos, light from darkness, possibilities from barrenness, and life from dust. *Pastor Dan:* Have you ever heard the phrase, “Out of the mouth of babes?” Let me share some examples: Patrick, age 10, said, “Never trust a dog to watch your food.” Michael, 14, said, “When your dad is mad and asks you, “Do I look stupid?” don’t answer him.” Michael also advises, “Never tell your mom her diet’s not working.” Randy, 9 years of age said, “Stay away from prunes.” One wonders how he discovered that bit of wisdom. I can say be sure that when you eat chocolate candy make sure it is really chocolate candy. One day when I was seven or eight, I ate some chocolate candy on my mother’s dresser. Knowing I shouldn’t be eating it, I decided to only eat half the box—hoping she wouldn’t notice I took some. I went down to the park, climbed up the latter of the big metal slide and when I sat down to slide something horrible happened—mom’s X-Lax worked wonderfully, doing what it was designed to do. Naomi, 15 said, “If you want a kitten, start out by asking for a horse.” Lauren, age 9 said, “Felt markers are not good to use as lipstick.” Dan, age 10 said, “Don’t stand behind your sister when she’s swinging a baseball bat.” And Eileen, age 8 said, “Never try to baptize a cat.”

#1. *The Testimony [Word] of the Lord is sure [reliable, steadfast and trustworthy] making wise the simple (Psalm 19:7)*

A. *Pastor Dan: The world's greatest area of undeveloped territory lies between our ears.*

1. **Knowledge** (*Proverbs 1:5* A wise man will hear and increase knowledge and a man of understanding will attain to wise council.)

- a. **2 Peter 2:2-5** Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, ³ as His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, ⁴ by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption *that is* in the world through lust. ⁵ But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, ⁶ to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, ⁷ to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. ⁸ For if these things are yours and abound, *you* will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins
- b. **Hosea 4:6** My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.
- c. **Benjamin Franklin:** An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.
- d. **Proverbs 1:7** The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction
- e. **Blaine Lee:** What we actually learn, from any given set of circumstances, determines whether we become increasingly powerless or more powerful

A Pastor gave an unusual sermon one day, using a peanut to make several important points about the wisdom of God in nature. The Minister greeted her at the door and she said to him, "Very interesting, Pastor. I never expected to learn so much from a nut.

Charlie Steinmetz (April 9, 1865 – October 26, 1923) was a Prussian-born American mathematician and electrical engineer and professor at Union College. He possessed one of the greatest minds in the specialty of electricity the world has ever known; but his body was plagued by disease making him a dwarf and hunchback. He fostered the development of alternating current that made possible the expansion of the electric power industry in the United States, formulating mathematical theories for engineers. He made ground-breaking discoveries ... that enabled engineers to design better ... especially electric motors for use in industry. He built the generators for Henry Ford's first auto plant. One day, those generators broke down, and production came to a halt. A few mechanics and technicians worked effortlessly, but could not solve the problem. Every hour the plant was down meant a large loss of money. Finally, Ford called Steinmetz and the genius came, tinkered around for a few hours, threw the switch, and the plant returned to full operation. A few days later, Henry Ford received a bill from Mr. Steinmetz for ten thousand dollars – a considerable sum of money in those days. Although Ford was extremely wealthy by this time, he returned the bill with a note that said, "Charlie, isn't this bill just a little high for a few hours of tinkering around with those motors?" Steinmetz returned the

bill, stating, “For tinkering around on the motors: \$1; for knowing where to tinker, \$9,999. Total bill: \$10,000.” Henry Ford paid the bill.

2. **Wisdom** (*Ecclesiasticus 12:13* Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man).
 - a. **Vance Havner:** Wisdom is the proper use of knowledge.
 - b. **Proverbs 4:7** Wisdom *is* the principal thing; therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding. ⁸ Exalt her, and she will promote you; she will bring you honor, when you embrace her. ⁹ She will place on your head an ornament of grace; a crown of glory she will deliver to you.
 - c. **James 1:5-8** If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. ⁶ But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷ For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ *he is* a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.
 - d. **Charles Spurgeon:** To know is not to be wise. Many men know a great deal, and are all the greater fools for it. There is no fool so great a fool as a knowing fool. But to know how to use knowledge is to have wisdom.
 - e. **Pastor Dan:** Solomon was a great dispenser of wisdom but he was not a great appropriator of the wisdom and knowledge God had given him. He knew how to rule others but He did not know how to govern himself or his passions.
 - f. **1 Kings 3:5-12 NLT** God appeared to Solomon in a dream ... and said, “What do you want ask and I will give it to you. ⁶ God, you have made me king instead of my father ... I am like a little child who doesn’t know his way around. ⁸ Here I am in the midst of your own chosen people, a nation so great and numerous ...! ⁹ Give me an understanding heart so that I can govern your people well and know the difference between right and wrong. For who by himself is able to govern this great people of yours. ¹⁰ The Lord was pleased that Solomon asked for wisdom. ¹¹ He said, “Because you have asked for wisdom ... not ... for a long life or wealth or the death of your enemies ... ¹² I will give you what you asked for! And I will also give you what you did not ask for—riches and fame!
 - g. **Jenniefer Brownworth** uses wisdom when praying for her marriage: I pray for—Wisdom—to understand my man; Love—to forgive him; Patience—for his moods; because Lord, if I pray for Strength, I’ll beat him to death. Amen
 - h. **Joshua 1:8** This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth but you shall meditate on it day and night that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it; then you shall make your way prosperous and then you will have good success.
 - i. **Larry Lea:** Wisdom is the God-given ability to perceive the true nature of a matter and implement the will of God into it.

Rick Warren; The Purpose Driven Life: **Proverbs 11:30 NLT** The seeds of good deeds become a tree of life; a wise person wins friends. **Proverbs 11:30 NKJV** I have been at the bedside of many people in their final moments, when they stand on the edge of eternity, and I have never heard anyone say, “Bring me my diplomas! I want to look at them one more time. Show me my awards, my medals, that gold watch I was given.” When life on earth is ending, people don’t surround themselves with objects. What we want around us is people – people we love and have

relationships with. In our final moments we all realize that relationships are what life is all about. Wisdom is learning that truth sooner rather than later. Don't wait until you're on your deathbed to figure out that nothing matters more. Relationships with people matter when it comes to sharing Christ with others. .

Erwin McManus: Followers of Paul. People don't really begin to follow Jesus until they begin to follow you. Englewood will only come to know Jesus as it comes to know you. They will actually begin following you around to see if you have actually met God. And following you actually guarantees they will encounter God and they will become a follower of God. It's about you. People in this town will say I don't know about Jesus but I know about you. They will say I don't about God but I know about you. There is something in you that will pull them in as you live a life that honors Jesus in You.

One of the things that I love about God is that you don't have to believe in Him for Him to believe in you.