

# HARVEST WEEK 4

## WISDOM & LEARNING

### What is Wisdom?

We see God at work in our lives and in the world. For the wise person the wonders of nature, historical events and the ups and downs of our lives take on a deeper meaning and purpose.

Wisdom is an integration of knowledge and experience with understanding. If you expressed it as a formula, it would go like this. Knowledge/experience plus understanding equals wisdom. So, everybody has knowledge. Everybody knows something. Everybody has experiences, things happen to everybody, but not everybody understands what it is they're experiencing. Not everybody understands what it is they're being exposed to in these experiences.

With the gift of wisdom, we can see God working in your lives and in the world around us. For the wise person, the wonders of nature, past events and the trials and tribulations of our lives take on a more profound meaning and have purpose.

### Making a Plan for Reading Scripture

There are several strategies to read scripture.

If you are new to reading the bible as a form of prayer you may want to start with Jesus life which can be found in the gospels. Mark is the shortest so we invite you to start there.

Reading the bible from front to back can be quite a challenge given that it is separated into books and can be quite overwhelming.

When we talk about prayer, we've talked about a two-pronged approach. A daily quiet time, which includes talking to God and listening to him, and the best way to listen to him is through reading His scripture. A daily quiet time matched with a weekly worship time here in our church, family at mass.

### Temporary vs. Eternal

Sowing and reaping effect multiplies over time. The more you plant, the more you reap for good or for bad, for better or for worse.

People who are sowing seeds of mercy and forgiveness into the lives of others can expect to receive mercy and forgiveness. Those who are planting seeds of charity, or of peace, or of goodwill, or of kindness, and the list goes on and on, can expect the same in their own lives. It is important to think of see things through the lens of eternal vs. temporary. Things such as money, cars, and homes are temporary.

What they're doing is prioritizing the merely temporary over the eternal. When you reverse that through your daily quiet time in your weekly worship, and we're not just talking about going through the motions, or reciting endless prayers, or phoning it in, or coming for communion and rushing back out for your car.

We are talking about lending yourself to the work of worship. When you're doing that, you're learning to see differently. You're looking at your life through a different lens. It's the lens of eternity and that is really what wisdom is, isn't it? It's about seeing differently.

### How do you pass wisdom to your children?

- Pray with them
- Be a good example
- Attend mass regularly
- Enroll your children in Catholic school
- Participate in ongoing faith formation for example: Religious education, Youth ministry, bible studies
- Service to the community and parish