

SERMON NOTES:



31st May, 2026

Part 5 - For the Life of the World
WISDOM

Pastor Mick Spann

Big Idea:

- Wisdom is learning to live in harmony with God, His purpose and His Kingdom.

Key Passage: Romans 13:1-7

Two Different Creation Stories

Ancient Babylonian (Enuma Elish)

- Creation comes through: Violence, Rivalry, Selfish gods
- Humans are created as slave labour to serve the gods

Genesis Creation Account

- Creation begins with: "In the beginning, God created..."
- Creation is: Intentional, Ordered, Meaningful and Good.
- Humanity is made in God's image as royal stewards and partners in creations flourishing

Wisdom tells us about the purpose of creation

- Psalm 8 - Creation points beyond itself to God.
- Romans 1:20 - Creation reveals God's power, nature and wisdom
- Creation is not meaningless, nor is it divine... Creation points back to the glory of its creator.

Wisdom tells us about our place

- Psalm 139 - God knows us, sees us and holds us.
- Job 38 - We are creatures, not the creator.
- This wisdom humbles us as we recognise that we are small, fragile and yet deeply known and loved.

Jesus is the Wisdom of God Embodied

- John 10:10 - Jesus came to bring life in all its fullness
- 2 Peter 1 - God provides everything needed for life and godliness for those who KNOW Jesus.

Knowing Jesus

The Greek word Peter uses "epignosis" (translated Knowledge) refers to:

- Experiential knowing, relational knowledge and full recognition
- Wisdom does not come from merely knowing ABOUT Jesus... Wisdom is KNOWING Jesus personally

True Wisdom Has a Narrow Gate... and that gate is a person

Without Christ knowledge becomes empty information and wisdom is an attempt at self-improvement. Both are doomed to failure without relational knowledge of Jesus.

Psalm 9:10 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,
and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."

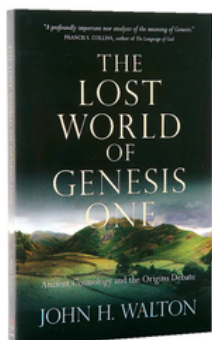
**Wisdom is not knowing the proverb, winning arguments or being successful.
Wisdom is knowing the King. Everything good flows from there.**

Challenge: Walk daily with Jesus:

- See God clearly
- See yourself rightly
- Ask for the Holy Spirit to help us live faithfully to Jesus in speech, spending, relationships, time management and decision making.

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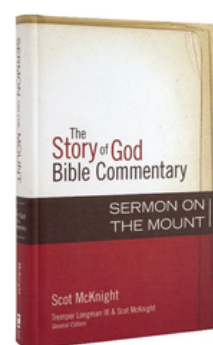
Resources that Mick found helpful for mornings message:



The Lost World of
Genesis One



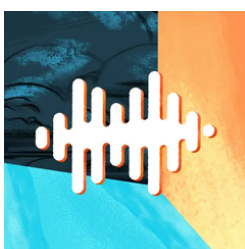
The Fear of the
Lord Is Wisdom



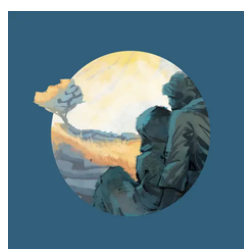
The Sermon on
the Mount



FREE Podcast Series
Wisdom - Bible Project



FREE Podcast Series
Exile - Bible Project



Wisdom is Action

SMALL GROUP OUTLINE

CONNECT – *help people get comfortable*

What is your approach to learning a new skill? Do you start by asking a lot of questions, or do you start by trying it out on your own?

REVIEW

Watch Episode #5: Wisdom



Read the key idea, verse, and passage. What insights did you take away from this week's scripture and message?

Key Idea Knowledge is wisdom when we walk in obedience.

Key Verse *Matthew 7:24-25*

Key Passages *Psalms 8:1-9*

DISCUSS – talk through the content to gain understanding

- What stood out to you in the video? What is your response to the idea that knowledge becomes wisdom when it remembers the Creator?
- What are some ways you see God's "fingerprints" in creation every day? In what ways do they point back to God?
- In what ways can wisdom show us who we are? What are some attitudes that can prevent wisdom from showing us who we really are?
- Read Proverbs 14:15-16. How does this wisdom tell us about ourselves or about God?

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- What do you think about the idea that wisdom helps us be more, serve more, know and love God more? Give examples.
- What is God's desire for the use of our knowledge? How can prideful or self-centered knowledge work against God's purposes?
- In what ways do each of the following help us grow in our relationship with Christ?
 - The written Word (Scripture)
 - The living Word (Jesus)
 - Creation
 - Corporate worship
 Which has had the greatest impact on your personal transformation to love and serve like Jesus?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE – taking time to listen to God and respond

Read: 2 Peter 1:3-4 slowly, focusing on the things we have been given.

Journal:

- Write out a prayer of thanks to God for these things, citing examples of them in your own life.

Read: 2 Peter 1:5-8 slowly.

Journal:

- Write out (or circle) each step listed in these verses.
- Underline one step you can see evidence of in your life.
- Underline one step that you can begin putting into practice this week.

Group Debrief:

- Share what this experience of being with Jesus was like for you.
- What are the words you think Jesus is inviting you to put into practice this week?
- How will this help you love and serve Jesus?

CHALLENGE – *live it out in the coming week*

This week, read Matthew 5-7. Begin each day reading a small section of Jesus' teaching. Ask God to empower you to put Jesus' words into practice transforming your attitudes and actions. Each evening re-read the passage. Reflecting on your day, in what way did you see your attitudes and actions transformed to align with Jesus' teaching? What did you learn that you want to put into practice tomorrow? Ask God for a teachable spirit and a humble heart to love and serve like Jesus.

PRAY – share requests with one another

Share current joys, hopes, or challenges. Pray for one another.