



**Wisdom: More Than You Know**  
**Sermon Discussion Questions – May 5, 2023**

***Scripture Passages:***

**Genesis 1:26-** Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

**Genesis 3:5-** “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

**Psalms 139:13-16-** You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother’s womb. 14 Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. 15 You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. 16 You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.

**1 Peter 2:9-** 9 . . . for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God’s very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

**Ephesians 2:10-** 10 For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

**Proverbs 3:5-6-** Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding.  
6 Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

**Proverbs 7:7-8-** I saw some naive young men, and one in particular who lacked common sense.  
8 He was crossing the street near the house of an immoral woman, strolling down the path by her house.

**Proverbs 7:13-21-** She threw her arms around him and kissed him . . .16 My bed is spread with beautiful blankets, with colored sheets of Egyptian linen. 17 I've perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon. 18 Come, let's drink our fill of love until morning. . . 19 for my husband is not home. He's away on a long trip . . . 21 So she seduced him with her pretty speech and enticed him with her flattery.

**Proverbs 7:22-25-** He followed her at once, like an ox going to the slaughter. He was like a stag caught in a trap, 23 awaiting the arrow that would pierce its heart. He was like a bird flying into a snare, little knowing it would cost him his life. 24 So listen to me, my sons, and pay attention to my words. 25 Don't let your hearts stray away toward her. Don't wander down her wayward path.

**Jeremiah 6:16-** This is what the Lord says: "Stop at the crossroads and look around. Ask for the old, godly way, and walk in it. Travel its path, and you will find rest for your souls.

### ***Warm Up:***

What are some of your favorite summer activities, and how do they help you relax and unwind during the warm weather months?

### ***Discussion:***

1. Read Genesis 1:26. Pastor Tom has shared this Scripture with us for the past few weeks. What does it mean to be made in the image of God, and what attributes do we share with Him?
2. Read. Genesis 3:5. Pastor Tom shares how we buy the same lie as Adam and Eve did, living into the accusation that constantly says, "I am not good enough."

How does the belief that we are "not enough" affect our relationships and interactions with others? How can we overcome the lies of the enemy and reject the false identity of "not enough"?

3. "You are made in the image of God. How is it even possible that you are not enough? That is a lie, out of the pit of hell, and you should reject it with every word of truth found in God's word."- Pastor Tom. Read through Psalm 139:13-16, 1 Peter 2:9, and Ephesians 2:10.

What are some practical ways that we can reflect God's nature and character in our daily lives? How might Scripture help us along the way?

4. "Butterfly effect is the idea that small things can result in larger differences in a later state."- Pastor Tom. Pastor Tom also explained how a butterfly effect can act out of our state of "not good enough" and lead to desolation. Wisdom, though, can help discern when these choices are prevalent and when to take the straight path.

How does the butterfly effect relate to our understanding of wisdom? How might wisdom inform our decisions to this effect?

5. Read Proverbs 3:5-6. "Trust that God's rules are the best way to live, and do not lean on what you know. Why? Because of whose image we are made in. If we are made in God's image, it can only mean the best way for life is in alignment with that image."- Pastor Tom.

How does the belief in our identity as image bearers of God shape our purpose and direction in life? What is the importance of wisdom in navigating the challenges of life and reflecting God's likeness in creation?

6. "Many of us feel we are on a straight path, but we are not. That is because we have a terrifying ability to rationalize anything." -Pastor Tom.

In what ways can rationalization lead to living in "not enough" and straying from the path of wisdom?

7. Read through Proverbs 7. Solomon tells this story to his sons and illustrates our ability to fool ourselves when we are living in "not enough." Solomon, in this story, explains how we are to learn from the foolish man.

How can the story of the foolish young man in Proverbs 7 serve as a warning for making unwise decisions in our own lives?

8. Read. Jeremiah 6:16. Pastor Tom echoes the words from Jeremiah here to stop and look for the way God wants to lead you towards.

In what ways can you apply the principle of seeking God's will in all your decisions and trust Him to guide you in order to stay on the right path in your own life?

***Next Steps:***

Pastor Tom gave some great next steps next time we find ourselves at a crossroads.

Pause—where are you headed?

Change direction—stop flirting with disaster.

Choose home—I reject “not enough” and choose who God says I am.

Feel free to use these questions to guide your reflection or conversation:

What might you need to choose today that results in walking in the way of Jesus?

How might you practically choose this in the midst of temptation?

Who could help you in these moments of crossroads?