

'The Indispensable Holy Spirit' Series

Message 1: The Spirit of Wisdom

Scripture: I Kings 3:3-15, Deut 34:9, Is 11:2ff

Introduction: Now knowledge alone is not enough to be a success. Some people are very knowledgeable, but failures in life. They do not lack facts. They lack wisdom. There is a dearth of understanding. Wisdom is adapting what we know to what we have to do. Wisdom is the ability to make the right choices at the opportune time. When this is done consistently, it marks maturity and development.

Now how to we get wisdom? It comes from God. Wisdom (chokmah) is the fountain of the potential of life. It derives from God and is the a gift from Him.

Isa 11:2-4

**2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him--
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of power,
the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD--
3 and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.
He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,
or decide by what he hears with his ears;
4 but with righteousness he will judge the needy,
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.**

Scripture: I Kings 3:3-15.

**3 Now Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of his father David, except he sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.
4 The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place; Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar.
5 In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream at night; and God said, "Ask what you wish me to give you."**

Truth: If you want success ... to do something worthwhile ... then you must seek for wisdom.

I. If you want to succeed in wisdom, love God.

- A. Solomon is 20 years old.
 - B. The key word here is that this young man, scarcely more than a teen, loved the Lord.
 - 1. Now we have to pause here to ask what that means?
 - 2. 'Ahav' means to have an affection for ... to desire.
 - 3. So Solomon delighted in God, longed to know him more, desired Him in his life. He did not want to be without God.
- II. If you want to succeed, respect your parents.
- A. Verses 3,6-7 Solomon watched dad ... David.
 - B. Look at the way he speaks of his dad. 6-7
 - C. Look kids ... don't be too quick to judge mom and dad.
 - 1. They are not perfect either.
 - 2. But if they have hearts for God, follow them and go beyond them in loving God. It is a recipe for wisdom.
- III. If you want to succeed, you must recognize you need for wisdom –7
- A. I am a little child ... insignificant, unimportant, young, small.
 - B. Solomon recognizes his need ...
 - I am in over my head ... and the task is bigger than I can imagine.
 - C. When we are young, we often think we know best Learn from
- IV. If you want to succeed, ask for wisdom.
- A. God has said to Solomon in a dream ... ask for what you desire!
 - 1. Solomon is sure about what he needs ...
 - a. an understanding heart to judge the people
 - b. a discerning heart to know good from evil
 - 2. Understanding means a 'hearing' heart.
 - a. God, let my heart hear you ...
 - b. It is listening, and obeying what God says.
 - 3. Discernment means knowing in the mind when something is good (kindness, gladness, joy, health) and evil (injurious, noxious, painful, and brings sadness).
 - B. When God hears this, He responds with favor ...
- Concl. Look at Deut 34:9 "Now Joshua son of Nun was filled with the spirit of wisdom because Moses had laid his hands on him. So the Israelites listened to him and did what the LORD had commanded Moses." Ah, something worthwhile ... all from wisdom!