

Finding Meaning: Wisdom from Ecclesiastes  
The Problem with Wisdom  
Ecclesiastes 2:12-17

Military conflicts. Civil wars. Corrupt governments. Violence. Drug addiction. The news is constantly reminding us that our world is falling apart. But what can we do? We hear frequently, “Education is the answer!” The premise is that if we would just educate people, they will learn to overcome their prejudices. Education will correct their thinking and take them beyond ethnic hatred, violent temperaments, and addictions. Education will enable us to get along with each other—and with ourselves.

1. We cannot find life’s meaning in \_\_\_\_\_ wisdom.
  - A. There is more to \_\_\_\_\_ from wisdom than folly.
  - B. Both the wise and the fool \_\_\_\_\_ and are forgotten.
  - C. Righteousness apart from God is \_\_\_\_\_.
2. We find life’s meaning in \_\_\_\_\_ wisdom.
  - A. The world’s wisdom is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. The world’s wisdom \_\_\_\_\_ the cross.
  - C. The world’s wisdom seeks to glorify \_\_\_\_\_.

We find life’s meaning in Christ who became \_\_\_\_\_ for us.

When we embrace the gospel and begin walking with Christ, He doesn’t just give us the wisdom we need to live righteously. He has become wisdom for us so that when we walk with Christ, we walk with Wisdom. With all of the information available to us, with Google at our fingertips, it is easy to think we can lean on our own understanding and our own ability to know things. But the gospel calls us to pursue God and the wisdom He offers, and we learn very quickly that Christ is the only wisdom worth possessing.

#### Reflection

Wisdom comes in conjunction with our walk with Christ. Let’s be intentional about our walk with Him this week. On a clear night, go outside and look at the stars. Read Genesis 1 and Psalm 8 and consider the beauty and majesty of God who loves us enough to create the cosmos for us. Memorize Proverbs 3:5-6 and be reminded that we are to lean on God and trust in His wisdom rather than our own. Think about the practical ways that makes a life of wisdom more sensible than a life of foolishness. Think about the spiritual significance of a life with Christ as opposed to a life without Him.