Finding Wisdom Together: Embracing Wise Counsel



Discover the power of wise counsel and community as you learn to surround yourself with truth-tellers and iron-sharpening friends.





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Introduction

Wisdom is an invaluable treasure, yet it is rarely gained in isolation. The Bible repeatedly highlights the essential role of wise counsel and supportive, truthful friends in guiding us through life's complexities. This study invites you to explore how surrounding yourself with *iron-sharpening* relationships influences your spiritual growth and decision-making.

Communities of faith and fellowship become fertile grounds for wisdom to flourish. They hold us accountable, encourage us, and provide insights beyond our limited perspectives. Proverbs 27:17 reminds us, "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." Such friendships help refine our character and deepen our understanding of God's ways.

Throughout this 7-day journey, we'll dive into Scripture that underscores the value of wise counsel, learn how to recognize truth-tellers, and embrace the challenge of humility that comes with receiving correction. We are reminded that wisdom isn't just knowledge but also the ability to apply insight within the context of loving community.

Prepare your heart to seek guidance, open your mind to learn from others, and strengthen your bonds with those God has placed around you. By the end of these days, you'll be equipped with biblical truths and practical encouragement to cultivate a circle of wise, authentic relationships that foster lasting wisdom.

















Your Verse

Proverbs 11:14 - "For lack of guidance a nation falls, but victory is won through many advisers."

Supporting Scriptures

- Proverbs 15:22 "Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed."
- Ecclesiastes 4:9 "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor."







Devotional: Seeking Counsel Brings Victory

Without wise counsel, decisions often falter. Proverbs 11:14 speaks directly to the necessity of multiple advisers. This principle ensures that our plans benefit from varied perspectives, reducing the risk of failure due to blind spots.

God created us for community, knowing that wisdom isn't meant to be acquired alone. By surrounding ourselves with trusted advisers, we gain strength, insight, and affirmation. Every wise person needs others to walk alongside them in life and faith.

Think of the difference between a lone traveler and a group trekking together. The group shares knowledge of paths, warns of dangers, and lifts each other when weary. So it is with wise counsel—it steers us toward victory when we choose to embrace it.

As we begin this study, ask God to guide you in recognizing and welcoming those trusted truth-tellers He has placed in your life.







Reflect and Apply

Who are the trusted advisers in your life that you turn to for guidance?
In what areas could you benefit from seeking more wise counsel?
How do you typically respond when others offer correction or advice?







Journaling Prompts

1.V	Write about a time when wise counsel helped you avoid a mistake.
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- 2. I	List three people you trust to provide honest and loving advice.
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	Reflect on any fears or hesitations you have about receiving advice from others.
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Prayer for Today

Lord, help me to value the counsel You provide through others. Open my heart to receive guidance with humility and grace. Surround me with wise, truth-telling friends who will encourage and correct me for my good. Teach me to listen well and to seek community as You intended. May I grow in wisdom through the fellowship and sharpen my faith for Your glory. Amen.



















Day 2: **(**) Choosing Iron-Sharpening Friends

Your Verse

Proverbs 27:17 - "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another."

Supporting Scriptures

- Ecclesiastes 4:12 "Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."
- 1 Corinthians 15:33 "Do not be misled: 'Bad company corrupts good character.""







Day 2: **(**) Choosing Iron-Sharpening Friends

Devotional: Relationships That Shape Us

Not all friendships have equal influence on our spiritual growth. Proverbs 27:17 gives us a vivid image of how true friends sharpen us, challenging and encouraging us to become the best versions of ourselves. These ironsharpening friends are willing to speak truth, even when it's uncomfortable.

Choosing such friends requires intentionality. We must guard our hearts, avoiding relationships that pull us away from God's path. Ecclesiastes 4:12 reminds us that strong bonds, especially in spiritual matters, offer protection and resilience.

But iron sharpening iron means friction—it's not always easy. It takes openness to correction, vulnerability, and a commitment to mutual growth. Reflect on your friendships: Are they helping you grow in wisdom? Do your friends lovingly hold you accountable?

Seek to cultivate relationships where honesty, grace, and mutual upliftment are at the forefront. These friendships become a powerful force in your journey toward Godly wisdom.







Day 2: **(**) Choosing Iron–Sharpening Friends

Reflect and Apply

1.	Who among your friends challenges and encourages your spiritual growth?
2.	How do you respond when a friend lovingly corrects you?
3.	Are there relationships you need to strengthen or reconsider for your own wisdom?







Day 2: ① Choosing Iron-Sharpening Friends

Journaling Prompts

1.	Describe a friendship where you have experienced growth through honest conversation.
2.	Write about ways you can be an iron-sharpening friend to others.
3.	List qualities you desire in friends who help you grow in wisdom.







Day 2: ① Choosing Iron-Sharpening Friends

Prayer for Today

Father, guide me to friendships that sharpen and strengthen my faith. Help me to be open to correction and courageous in offering truth with love. Surround me with people who reflect Your wisdom and grace, and teach me to be the kind of friend that builds others up. May our relationships glorify You and grow our hearts in wisdom. Amen. \heartsuit

















Day 3: X Truth-Telling as an Act of Love

Your Verse

Ephesians 4:15 – "Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ."

Supporting Scriptures

- Proverbs 24:26 "An honest answer is like a kiss on the lips."
- Galatians 6:1 "Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently."







Day 3: X Truth-Telling as an Act of Love

Devotional: Love Speaks Truth Clearly

Speaking truth is not always easy, but it is vital for growth. Ephesians 4:15 teaches us that the goal of truth-telling is maturity in Christ and that it must be done in love. When truth is shared with compassion, it builds trust and deepens relationships.

Proverbs 24:26 reminds us that honest words can be a gracious gift—a "kiss on the lips." Such truth-telling is often restorative, rather than condemning. Galatians 6:1 calls us to gently restore, showing kindness even when correcting.

When we embrace truth-telling as an act of love within community, we participate in God's work of sanctification for ourselves and others. This calls us to be brave and tender simultaneously, offering wisdom that heals and guides.

Consider how you can develop courage to speak honestly while embodying Christ's love in your community.







Day 3: 🎇 Truth-Telling as an Act of Love

Reflect and Apply

	How comfortable are you with speaking truth in love within your close relationships?
2.	Recall a time when gentle truth-telling helped you grow or heal.
	In what ways can you balance honesty and kindness when offering correction?
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Day 3: 🎇 Truth-Telling as an Act of Love

Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about the impact of a truthful conversation you had recently.
2.	List practical ways to speak truth with love going forward.
	Reflect on any fears you have about being honest with others and how to overcome them.







Day 3: 🎇 Truth-Telling as an Act of Love

Prayer for Today

















Day 4: W Humility in Receiving Counsel

Your Verse

James 1:19–21 – "Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry..."

Supporting Scriptures

- Proverbs 12:15 "The way of fools seems right to them, but the wise listen to advice."
- Philippians 2:3 "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves."







Day 4: W Humility in Receiving Counsel

Devotional: The Humble Hearer of Wisdom

Humility is essential to receiving wise counsel. James 1:19 urges us to be quick listeners and slow to anger—qualities that foster openness to correction and insight. Without humility, we risk ignoring valuable guidance or responding defensively.

Proverbs 12:15 contrasts the fool, who trusts only their own way, with the wise person who welcomes advice. Philippians 2:3 encourages us to elevate others by valuing their input sincerely, which opens the door to deeper relationships and greater wisdom.

When we listen with humility, we acknowledge our limitations and rely on God's provision through others. This posture not only cultivates learning but also models Christlike character.

Reflect on your attitudes toward the counsel you receive today. Is there room for increased humility in your heart?







Day 4: 😂 Humility in Receiving Counsel

Reflect and Apply

	Do you find it easy or difficult to listen when others give you advice? Why?
2.	In what ways does pride affect your ability to receive counsel?
3.	How can you practice humility to become a better learner and friend?







Day 4: W Humility in Receiving Counsel

Journaling Prompts

	Write about a time when humility helped you accept and grow from advice.
2.	List areas in your life where you need to cultivate greater humility.
3.	Reflect on how valuing others' perspectives can enrich your wisdom.







Day 4: 🖏 Humility in Receiving Counsel

Prayer for Today

God, grant me a humble heart to receive Your wisdom through others. Help me to listen well, to pause before responding, and to accept correction without defensiveness. Teach me to value the counsel You provide through community so I may grow in grace and knowledge. Mold me to be more like Christ each day. Amen. \bigwedge















Your Verse

Hebrews 10:24–25 – "Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds."

Supporting Scriptures

- Proverbs 27:6 "Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses."
- Galatians 5:22–23 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace...self-control."







Devotional: Embracing Godly Accountability

Accountability is a gift when rooted in love and community. Hebrews 10:24–25 calls us to actively encourage one another toward love and good deeds. This means loving correction and mutual encouragement are vital parts of Christian fellowship.

Proverbs 27:6 reminds us that sometimes the truest friends are those who give honest 'wounds'—truth that challenges our behaviors for our betterment. That kind of accountability fosters growth in the fruit of the Spirit, including self-control, patience, and kindness.

In healthy communities, accountability transforms into encouragement and protection. It requires trust and a commitment to God's purposes over personal comfort.

Consider how you engage in accountability relationships. Are you both receiving and providing accountability that builds up God's family?







Reflect and Apply

1.	How do you typically respond to accountability in your life?
2.	What fears or resistances might you face when embracing correction?
	How can you encourage others lovingly while holding firm to biblical truth?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about a time accountability helped you grow spiritually.
2.	List ways you can offer loving accountability to friends and family.
3.	Reflect on steps to build stronger accountability relationships in your community.







Prayer for Today

Father, help me to honor and embrace accountability in community. Give me courage to accept correction and wisdom to lovingly speak truth to others. May my relationships be fueled by Your love, spurring us all towards goodness and growth. Strengthen the bonds that hold us together in Your Spirit. Amen. 💝 🖤 🙏







Day 6: Frowing Wisdom Through Prayers and Counsel









Day 6: F Growing Wisdom Through Prayers and Counsel

Your Verse

James 3:17 - "But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit..."

Supporting Scriptures

- Psalm 25:4-5 "Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me."
- Colossians 1:9 "We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives."







Day 6: F Growing Wisdom Through Prayers and Counsel

Devotional: Praying and Learning Together

Wisdom from heaven transforms our character and community. James 3:17 describes it as pure, peace-loving, and merciful—in essence, wisdom that reflects God's heart. This kind of wisdom cannot be earned alone; it is a gift cultivated through prayer and learning.

Psalm 25:4–5 invites us to ask God for guidance and teaching, acknowledging our dependence on Him. Similarly, Paul's prayer in Colossians 1:9 models how our pursuit of wisdom should always be bathed in prayer for understanding and revelation through the Spirit.

Continuously seeking God while learning from trusted community members creates a synergy that fosters wise living. It shapes how we make decisions and interact with others in love.

Today, commit to growing in wisdom by fostering both prayer and Godly counsel within your relationships.







Day 6: 7 Growing Wisdom Through Prayers and Counsel

Reflect and Apply

1. I	How does prayer influence your ability to receive and apply wisdom?
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	n what ways can you deepen your dependence on God when seeking counsel?
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	Are there prayer habits you want to develop to increase your understanding?
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Day 6: 7 Growing Wisdom Through Prayers and Counsel

Journaling Prompts

1.	Write a prayer asking God for heavenly wisdom in your life.
2.	List ways you can integrate prayer more consistently with seeking counsel.
3.	Reflect on how your community inspires you to grow spiritually.







Day 6: Forowing Wisdom Through Prayers and Counsel

Prayer for Today

Lord, fill me with Your heavenly wisdom. Teach me to pursue wisdom through prayer and through the wise counsel You provide in community. Help me to be peace-loving, merciful, and considerate, reflecting Your Spirit. Lead me daily on Your paths as I seek Your truth in all I do. Amen. \bigwedge

















Day 7: **(G)** Living Out Wisdom in Community

Your Verse

Colossians 3:16 - "Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom."

Supporting Scriptures

- Matthew 18:20 "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."
- Proverbs 13:20 "Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm."







Day 7: **Out Wisdom in Community**

Devotional: Wisdom in Action Together

Wisdom is demonstrated and multiplied within community. Colossians 3:16 encourages us to let Christ's message permeate our lives so thoroughly that we can teach and admonish one another with all wisdom. This means living out what we've learned through fellowship.

Matthew 18:20 promises Jesus' presence when we gather, reassuring us that true community is spiritually empowered. Proverbs 13:20 underscores the importance of choosing companions wisely, as our associations deeply affect our spiritual trajectory.

As you complete this study, reflect on how you can actively foster and participate in Godly wisdom within your community. Remember, wisdom is not static; it is living and growing through your life and your relationships.

Commit to walking with wise friends, sharing truth in love, and encouraging one another daily. Your journey toward wisdom is a vibrant, ongoing expression of God's grace implemented in community.







Day 7: **(3)** Living Out Wisdom in Community

Reflect and Apply

1.	How are you currently living out wisdom with others?
	What practical steps can you take to deepen your community connections?
3.	How does knowing Christ is present with you shape your relationships?
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Day 7: **(iii)** Living Out Wisdom in Community

Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about the role community has played in your spiritual wisdom journey.
2.	List specific ways you can actively contribute to Godly wisdom in your group.
3.	Reflect on how you feel God's presence in your fellowship with others.







Prayer for Today

Jesus, thank You for the wisdom You share through community. Help me to live out Your message richly as I teach and encourage others. May I choose companions who uplift and sharpen me in faith. Remind me daily that You are present wherever two or three gather in Your name. Fill our fellowship with Your grace and wisdom. Amen. (?)



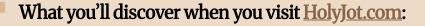




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