Walking Wisely: Avoiding the Company of the Wicked



Discover how Proverbs 1:10-19 guides us to avoid wicked influences and walk in wisdom and righteousness daily.





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Introduction

The **Bible** is a treasure trove of wisdom, offering guidance on how to live a life that pleases God and benefits those around us. One of the key pieces of wisdom it teaches is the importance of *choosing our companions carefully*. Proverbs 1:10–19 serves as a stern warning about the dangers of surrounding ourselves with those whose hearts are bent on evil. This passage vividly describes how the company of the wicked can drag us down into destructive paths, enticing us with promises of easy gain through dishonest means.

Why is avoiding the company of the wicked so crucial? Because our choices of whom we spend time with deeply influence our thoughts, actions, and ultimately our destiny. The friends we choose can lead us toward righteousness and prosperity or toward sin and ruin. The Bible underscores the principle that bad company corrupts good character, reminding us to guard our hearts and minds vigilantly.

Over the next three days, we'll explore biblical wisdom on how to recognize the enticements of the wicked, build strong, godly relationships, and cultivate a discerning heart that chooses holiness over harm. With practical reflection, journaling prompts, and prayer, this study invites you to commit to walking wisely by keeping close to God and away from those who would seek to lead you astray. May your heart be encouraged and your steps ordered as you dive into God's word!















Your Verse

Proverbs 1:10-19 NIV - "My son, if sinners entice you, do not give in to them."

Supporting Scriptures

- Psalm 1:1 "Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take..."
- 1 Corinthians 15:33 "Do not be misled: 'Bad company corrupts good character.""







Devotional: Spotting the Subtle Enticements to Sin

Proverbs 1:10–19 presents a vivid depiction of how sinners try to lure others into their destructive plans. They entice with promises of easy rewards, but the path they tread leads to harm. These words are a crucial warning that helps us guard our hearts against temptation.

How do we recognize these enticements today? They may not always appear as blatant calls to evil but can be disguised in peer pressure, compromise, or even well-meaning but ungodly advice. Being alert to the subtle ways that temptation shows up helps us to stand firm in God's truth.

Another important takeaway is that refusing to join in the schemes of the wicked is a powerful act of obedience. It requires courage and wisdom to say "no" when society or friends pull us toward shortcuts or unethical behavior. Yet, God promises blessing and protection for those who choose His path instead.

Today, reflect on the specific ways you might be tempted to compromise your walk with God. Ask Him to give you discernment to spot those dangerous enticements before they cause harm.







Reflect and Apply

	In what situations do you find yourself most tempted by the influence of others?
	How can you differentiate between healthy friendships and relationships that might lead you astray?
3.	What practical steps can you take to avoid being enticed by sinful plans?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about a time you faced temptation and how you responded.
2.	List qualities that you believe make a friend a godly companion.
3.	Describe how your current friendships influence your spiritual walk.







Prayer for Today

Lord God, thank You for the wisdom in Your Word that warns me about the dangers of bad company. Please open my eyes to the subtle enticements that might lead me away from Your truth. Help me to stand firm with courage and discernment, choosing friends and paths that honor You. Guard my heart from compromise and draw me closer to Your holy ways. Fill me with Your strength and peace as I seek to walk wisely. *Amen.* \bigwedge







Day 2: V Building Godly Relationships









Day 2:

Building Godly Relationships

Your Verse

Psalm 1:1 NIV - "Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take..."

Supporting Scriptures

- Proverbs 13:20 "Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm."
- Ecclesiastes 4:9 "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor."







Day 2:

Building Godly Relationships

Devotional: Nurturing Relationships That Strengthen Faith

Psalm 1:1 highlights the blessing in avoiding bad company and instead walking in the ways of the righteous. The friendships and associations we choose affect our character and spiritual growth profoundly.

Building godly relationships involves intentionally seeking out those who encourage your faith, bolster your integrity, and help you live for God's glory. True friends are those who lovingly correct, support, and inspire you to follow Jesus more closely.

At the same time, God designed us for community—He knows we thrive best when we are not isolated but connected with others who share our values. Ecclesiastes reminds us that two working together can accomplish much more than one alone. Our spiritual battles are easier when we have companions who pray with us, listen to us, and hold us accountable.

Today, think about who in your life embodies godliness and wisdom. How can you nurture these relationships and possibly create new ones that build you up in the faith?







Day 2: **(**) Building Godly Relationships

Reflect and Apply

1.	Who are the people in your life that help you grow spiritually?
2.	How can you be an encourager to others on their faith journey?
3.	What can you do to avoid friendships that lead you away from God?







Day 2: **(**) Building Godly Relationships

Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about a godly friend who has impacted your life positively.
2.	Describe ways you can invest more deeply in spiritual friendships.
3.	Reflect on any relationships that might threaten your walk with God.







Day 2:

Building Godly Relationships

Prayer for Today

Heavenly Father, I thank You for the gift of relationships that encourage and challenge me to live rightly. Help me to seek and foster godly friendships that draw me closer to You. Give me wisdom to recognize when a relationship is harmful and the courage to distance myself when necessary. Surround me with people who love You and love me well. Guide my heart to be a source of encouragement and strength for others as well. *Amen.* \heartsuit















Your Verse

Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV - "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him..."

Supporting Scriptures

- Hebrews 5:14 "But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil."
- James 1:5 "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God... and it will be given to you."







Devotional: Growing Discernment Through Trust and Prayer

Cultivating discernment is essential to avoiding the company of the wicked. Proverbs 3:5–6 teaches us to trust fully in the Lord and not rely solely on our limited understanding. This dependence on God opens the door for Him to guide our steps away from harmful influences.

Just as physical muscles grow stronger through exercise, spiritual discernment develops through consistent practice—daily Bible reading, prayer, and reflection. Hebrews reminds us that mature believers are those who have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil so they don't fall prey to temptation.

When faced with choices about whom to associate with and what paths to take, a discerning heart seeks God's wisdom above all else. James encourages us to ask God boldly for wisdom, promising that He gives generously to all who seek Him.

Today, commit to growing in discernment by leaning into God's Word and seeking His guidance in every decision. Sensitivity to His voice will keep you on the path of righteousness and far from wicked influences.







Reflect and Apply

	How can you become more sensitive to God's guidance in your daily decisions?
2.	What spiritual disciplines help you develop wisdom and discernment?
3.	In what areas do you need to ask God for greater understanding today?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Describe a time when God's wisdom helped you avoid a dangerous situation.
2.	Write about how you currently seek God's direction in relationships.
3.	List practical ways you can strengthen your discernment daily.







Prayer for Today

Lord Almighty, I ask You to grow my heart in discernment. Help me to trust You fully, to lean not on my own understanding, and to submit every relationship and decision into Your hands. Teach me to recognize what is good and what is evil through Your Spirit's guidance. May Your wisdom protect me from the snares of the wicked and lead me always in Your path of life and peace. I depend on You alone. Amen.







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