# Wisdom to Recognize Deception



Grow in godly wisdom to discern truth from lies and stand firm against deception through Scripture and prayer.





#### Table of contents

Introduction	3
Day 1: Q The Source of True Wisdom	4
Day 2: Wisdom Guards Against Deception	10
Day 3: Truth and Discernment	16







#### Introduction

**Wisdom** is more than knowledge; it is the ability to apply God's truth in everyday life, especially when facing deception. In a world filled with misinformation, half-truths, and cleverly crafted lies, being grounded in God's Word helps us safeguard our hearts and minds. *Recognizing deception with wisdom requires spiritual discernment, clarity, and courage.* 

Throughout the Bible, wisdom is portrayed as a precious treasure—worth seeking and holding close. It helps us to sift truth from falsehood, guides our decisions, and protects us from being led astray. The book of Proverbs, in particular, repeatedly calls us to embrace wisdom, describing it as a shield and a light on our path.

As believers, we are called to be discerning, not gullible, understanding that deception often hides behind appealing words and outward appearances. Our grounding in God's unchanging truth enables us to spot lies effectively. This study plan will help you explore Scripture, deepen your understanding of wisdom, and develop practical steps to recognize and resist deception in daily life.

Each day will focus on specific scriptures and reflections that challenge you to grow in insight and maturity. May this journey equip you with the spiritual tools needed to stand firm in truth and walk confidently in God's wisdom.















#### Your Verse

Proverbs 2:6: "For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- James 1:5 "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God..."
- Psalm 111:10 "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom..."







#### Devotional: Wisdom Comes From God Alone

**True wisdom originates from God alone.** Proverbs 2:6 reminds us that knowledge and understanding flow directly from the Lord. This means that human wisdom, apart from God, is limited and often flawed. To recognize deception, we first must seek wisdom from the right source.

In James 1:5, we are encouraged to ask God for wisdom without doubting because He generously gives to all who seek Him. This divine wisdom is different from worldly cleverness. It equips us not just to know facts, but to apply God's truth in a way that protects our hearts and minds.

Beginning with the fear of the Lord—a profound respect and awe for God—is where true wisdom starts (Psalm 111:10). When our foundation is reverence for God, we are less likely to be swayed by deceit or empty promises.

Today, ask God to root your heart firmly in Him, so your perception sharpens and you become sensitive to His truth. Wisdom from God opens our eyes to deception, enabling us to choose truth courageously.







Day 1:  $\bigcirc$  The Source of True Wisdom

## Reflect and Apply

1.	How do you distinguish between worldly wisdom and Godly wisdom in your daily decisions?
2.	In what areas of your life do you most need God's wisdom to recognize deception?
3.	What does 'the fear of the Lord' mean to you, and how does it influence your understanding of truth?







Day 1:  $\bigcirc$  The Source of True Wisdom

## **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about a time when God's wisdom helped you avoid being deceived.
2.	List ways you can intentionally seek God's guidance daily.
3.	Reflect on any struggles you have in discerning truth from lies.







#### Prayer for Today

Lord, I thank You for being the source of all true wisdom. Help me to seek Your guidance with a humble and open heart. *Grant me discernment* to see through deception and recognize Your truth clearly. Root me deeply in Your Word and teach me to fear You with reverence that shapes every choice I make. Guard my mind and heart from lies and confusion. Fill me with Your Spirit that I may walk in Your truth daily. In Jesus' name, Amen. ?















#### Your Verse

Proverbs 14:15: "The simple believe anything, but the prudent give thought to their steps."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- 1 John 4:1 "Test the spirits to see whether they are from God..."
- Matthew 10:16 "Be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves."







#### Devotional: Prudence Protects From Falsehood

Wisdom acts as a protective shield, allowing us to discern truth from falsehood. Proverbs 14:15 highlights the difference between the simple, who believe anything at face value, and the prudent, who carefully consider their paths. This prudence comes from wisdom—a clear-headedness that tests and evaluates information before accepting it.

In 1 John 4:1, believers are cautioned to test the spirits, meaning to evaluate teachings and influences to confirm they align with God's truth. Without this spiritual discernment, it's easy to be led astray by deceptive messages.

Jesus also instructs His followers in Matthew 10:16 to be wise—shrewd as snakes—to navigate a world full of danger, yet innocent in heart, maintaining purity and integrity. This balance is vital; wisdom doesn't breed cynicism but equips us to protect ourselves while reflecting Christ.

To spot deception, you must be thoughtful and vigilant, weighing everything against God's Word. Wisdom sharpens your senses to alert you when something doesn't align with God's truth. Today, ask God to sharpen your discernment and help you exercise prudence in every interaction.







## Reflect and Apply

Are you quick to believe something or do you pause to evaluate its truth against Scripture?
How can you 'test the spirits' more effectively in your current relationships or teachings?
In what ways can you be both shrewd and innocent in dealing with others?







## **Journaling Prompts**

	Describe a situation where taking time to reflect helped you avoid deception.
	List characteristics of wisdom that you want to grow in for better discernment.
3.	Write about challenges you face in balancing vigilance and trust.







#### Prayer for Today

Father, thank You that Your wisdom guards me from deception. Teach me to be prudent—to think carefully and test what I hear and see. May Your Spirit guide me in discernment, helping me to recognize lies and avoid traps. Help me to be wise and shrewd without losing innocence and compassion. Protect my heart and mind in a confusing world. I surrender my understanding to You. In Jesus' name, Amen. 

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Day 3: F Growing in Truth and Discernment

#### Your Verse

Colossians 2:8: "See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy..."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Ephesians 5:15–17 "Be very careful, then, how you live... making the most of every opportunity..."
- John 8:32 "Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."







Day 3: F Growing in Truth and Discernment

## Devotional: Steadfast Growth Guards Against Lies

Growth in wisdom and truth is a continual, active process. Colossians 2:8 warns us about hollow and deceptive philosophies that can take us captive if we are not vigilant. This highlights the reality that deception can be subtle, often wrapped in plausible, attractive ideas.

Paul encourages believers in Ephesians 5:15-17 to live carefully and wisely, making the most of every opportunity, understanding what pleases the Lord. This requires constant attention and a commitment to grow in knowledge and discernment.

Jesus assures us in John 8:32 that knowing the truth brings freedom. As we deepen our relationship with Christ and immerse ourselves in His Word, we become steadily grounded in truth that frees us from lies and deception.

Today, commit to daily growth in truth through Scripture and prayer. Guard your mind, engage your heart, and surround yourself with godly counsel. This ongoing spiritual growth builds a foundation too strong for deception to shake.







Day 3: 🍞 Growing in Truth and Discernment

## Reflect and Apply

What daily habits can help you grow stronger in God's truth?
How do you respond when challenged by confusing or persuasive false deas?
What freedoms has truth brought into your life, and how can you share hat with others?







Day 3: 🍞 Growing in Truth and Discernment

## **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about how Scripture has freed you from deception in your past.
2.	List practical steps to keep growing in wisdom and discernment.
3.	Reflect on how you can be a source of truth and wisdom to someone else.







Day 3: F Growing in Truth and Discernment

#### Prayer for Today

Lord, help me commit to growing daily in Your truth and wisdom. Protect me from being taken captive by empty philosophies and lies. Teach me to live wisely, making every opportunity count to please You. May Your truth set me free from confusion and deception. Strengthen my heart and mind to stand firm and share Your wisdom with others. Thank You for Your faithful guidance. In Jesus' precious name, Amen.







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