



THE WAY OF WISDOM

COMMUNITY
OF GRACE

10561 W Pinnacle Peak Road
Peoria, AZ 85383

Hey, Grace'rs,

Here are some words of **wisdom** I discovered on the internet (and if it's on the internet, it must be wise!)

- If you can't blind them with brilliance, baffle them with nonsense.
- If you do something bad, make sure there's someone else around to blame.
- If you ever get caught sleeping on the job, slowly raise your head and say: In Jesus' name, Amen.
- If your sink is full of dirty utensils, put some clean dishes in the draining rack so it looks like you're working on it.

The Bible has a better take on wisdom (and if it's in the Bible it really is wise!)

- **Get wisdom**—*it's worth more than money; choose insight over income every time.* (Proverbs 16:16—The Message)
- **To acquire wisdom** *is to love yourself; people who cherish understanding will prosper.* (Proverbs 19:8—NLT)
- **The fear of the LORD** *is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding.* (Psalm 111:10—NRSV)

According to the Bible, **wisdom is a way of life**—it's living out **the way of Jesus**:

"But the wisdom from above is first of all pure. It is also peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. It is full of mercy and the fruit of good deeds. It shows no favoritism and is always sincere." (James 3:17)

In other words, the **Way of Wisdom** is **the way of bold, reckless grace**. It's the commitment to love the God who loves you with all you are and love your neighbors as you love yourself. That kind of wisdom will not only change you but the world around you.

Over the next four weeks we're going to **follow Jesus in the Way of Wisdom**—a focused, prayer-based, **generosity journey** built around these four themes:

- **Wonder:** Be Curious!
- **Identity:** Be In Christ!
- **Sufficiency:** Be Content!
- **Extravagance:** Be Generous!

It's an **adventure into trust** that will impact our lives, our families, our relationships, our congregation, and our world.

At the heart of this Wisdom journey is **God's extravagant generosity toward us** and God's call to be **wise conduits of generosity** through the mission of Grace.

With Christmas up ahead, Pastor Josh coming on board, and a new year of untold opportunities, now is the time for us as people of Grace to once again ask the question:

God... where do you want me/us to be in my/our giving for this next year of mission?

Enclosed you will find the following **WISDOM** tools:

- A **brochure** outlining our adventure together with a map to guide you as you move toward practicing extravagant giving.
- A **prayer cling** to be placed where you will see it each day asking the question: God, where do you want me to be in my giving?
- You will also be receiving a weekly email with **five two-minute devotionals** to help focus you on the weekly theme.

In the book of James the author writes:

"If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you." (James 1:5—NRSV)

Wisdom is following **Jesus as he leads you** in every area of life, including your giving.

I'm praying that this will be a year of **bold, reckless wisdom as we follow Jesus** into this *moment* of prayer and generosity.

I'm praying for you!

Pastor Tim

