



The Way of Understanding

GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST

Evening Message for October 14, 2012 (Ray Reynolds)

TEXT: Proverbs 3:13-26

Introduction: The opening paragraph of the Book of Proverbs summarizes the message of the whole book: “*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction*” (**Proverbs 1:7**). There are two contrasting ways to live: the way of the wise and the way of the foolish. Throughout this series we will see several things that can help us to walk in the “way of the wise.” In this fifth lesson, we will notice the way of understanding. Let’s study together....

Discussion:

I. The Way of the Wise = Gain Understanding

The wise know that God wants us to understand freely (**Proverbs 3:13**).

The wise know that God wants us to be blessed abundantly (**Proverbs 3:13-18**).

The wise know that God wants us to see Him clearly (**Proverbs 3:19-20**).

The wise know that God wants us to live confidently (**Proverbs 3:21-26**).

II. The Way of the Foolish = Lack Understanding

The foolish assume that they know better (**Proverbs 3:5**).

The foolish assume that they feel better (**Proverbs 10:23**).

The foolish assume that they see better (**Proverbs 12:15**).

The foolish assume that they live better (**Proverbs 26:1-12**).

Conclusion: There are only two ways to live: the way of the wise and the way of the foolish. When we choose the wrong way it results in the tragic consequences of pain and death (**Romans 3:23, 6:23**). However, Jesus now provides the path for us to be reconciled to God. Will you surrender to Him? Will you believe in Him? Will you repent of your sins? Will you confess your faith? Will you be immersed into His blood? What path will you choose?

WORD OF THE DAY = “UNDERSTANDING”