



The Way of Prudence

GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST

Evening Message for November 25, 2012 (Ray Reynolds)

TEXT: Proverbs 8

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 particular lesson, we will notice the way of prudence. Let’s study together....

Discussion:

I. The Way of the Wise = Prudence

The wise understand that prudence covers their shame (**Proverbs 12:16**).

The wise understand that prudence guards their mouth (**Proverbs 12:23**).

The wise understand that prudence fills their mind (**Proverbs 14:8**).

The wise understand that prudence stops their ears (**Proverbs 14:15**).

The wise understand that prudence influences their actions (**Proverbs 15:5**).

The wise understand that prudence blesses their study (**Proverbs 18:5**).

II. The Way of the Foolish = Impulsive

The fool impulsively hardens their heart (**Proverbs 8:5**).

The fool impulsively seeks the deceptive path (**Proverbs 12:8**).

The fool impulsively acts with rebellion (**Proverbs 13:6**).

The fool impulsively follows in foolish steps (**Proverbs 14:18**).

The fool impulsively refuses to take precautions (**Proverbs 23:3, 27:12**).

The fool impulsively spews foolishness from their mouth (**Proverbs 29:11**).

Conclusion: Please consider reading once chapter each week in December. 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 = “PRUDENCE”