

Proverbs 22-08-24b

We're in the book of Proverbs chapter 1 we have come to verse 24 Wisdom is calling out very Publicly very prominently very accessibly There is no excuse There is no Way that someone can claim. I didn't have access. I didn't hear the message this Call has been issued where everyone can hear anyone can respond The call in verse 23 is to turn Interestingly our special music was turn your eyes upon Jesus It is so easy to get our eyes on the world to get our eyes on circumstances to get our eyes on Disappointments or on challenges or on any number of things entertainments, even our blessings can distract us and it is Essential that we turn We turn our eyes we turn our thoughts and most importantly we turn our hearts the foundational Decision that is spoken of in Hebrews In terms of the foundation of faith is Change of mind turning change of mind away from dead works Hebrews 6 1 Leaving the discussion of the elementary The simple things of Christ let us go on to perfection to maturity Not laying again the foundation he has just rebuked them for Needing milk and not solid food at such time as you ought to be teachers You have need that one teach you again the first principles these first principles are reviewed here in brief the foundation of turning Repentance change of mind away from dead works works of death works that do not have any eternal fruit They perish with the using At best they are ephemeral temporary Change of mind away from dead works and of faith toward God It is by means of faith that we lay hold of the eternal that which we can take with us No matter what we build no matter what we accumulate no matter what we accomplish It will be left behind if it is not done in faith and does not Lay up for us treasure in heaven Something that will reflect God's glory be a part of God's plan and purpose Part of why God put us here and gave us our spiritual gift anything we do that does not Partake of God and his purpose and his plan that does not reflect the glory of his Son the Lord Jesus Christ and the Deliverance that is ours in him is sin Whatever is not of faith is sin so Our repentance our change of mind and all of us have to change our mind because we're born this way.

We're built this way The world bends us this way And we have to all Change our minds we can choose to repent But the change of mind the renewing of the mind is the Spirit of God in the Word of God We make the choice, but we do not have the power, but we can choose to have the power poured out into us and onto us Choice is not power but the decision Qualifies us to receive the power of God He came unto his own and his own received him not Second Thessalonians you can turn there. It's important to see it in its context Second Thessalonians at the point that the lawless one is revealed in second Thessalonians 2 8 He is going to be consumed with the breath of the Lord's mouth and destroyed with the brightness of his coming the coming of that one is according to the working of Satan with all power signs and lying wonders There are powers that are at work. There are unseen forces as well as seen forces There are over-the-table moves and there are under-the-table moves on the part of the enemy on the part of Satan and those who are in his employ and have been deceived into following his ways Look at verse 10

power signs and lying wonders and with all unrighteous deception Wisdom is truth anything else is Deception the word to deceive in Greek is planao PL a n a o Planao it is the word group from which we get planet How did people looking up at the sky distinguish the planets from the stars? The stars maintained a fixed relationship to one another the Big Dipper is always the Big Dipper Orion is always Orion What did they notice there were? wandering stars planao stars they Deviated they wandered away from the established fixed pattern in the heavens And so they were the wandering ones planao planets That's the word that is used for deception deception means to be led astray To be caused to wander now I've used this illustration many times, but I can't think of a better one.

We're all familiar with a magnetic compass and We all have an innate Conscience our sense of right and wrong it is called a moral compass right we look at something and we have a Reaction within our soul that either affirms or Denies something is right it either affirms or denies that something is wrong. It is our compass and The more Convinced we are by that compass the more strongly we feel Well my compass tells me that is just wrong my compass tells me this over here is right What does scripture tell us our compass cannot be trusted It doesn't matter how brightly the digital numbers shine You got these in your car that tell you you're you're driving You know north northwest or you're driving south or whatever we've got these compasses You can even get it to show you the degrees you're on a course of 97 degrees it's just slightly south of due east The It doesn't matter how steadily the compass needle points to what we think is north and I've given you some personal illustrations of this that that had a devastating effect people died Because other people didn't understand how a magnetic compass works when it is near a power pole People died it cost people their lives, and it was friendlies these people were on the same side They blew up their own neighborhoods because they trusted the compass in their aiming circle which they had set up directly next to a huge power pole with giant power carrying cables that have according to the uniform right-hand rule if the current is flowing this way then the Magnetic field is flowing this way and the magnetic field altered the direction of the needle significantly So that what they thought they were shooting at the enemy was landing in their own neighborhoods Blowing up civilian households killing women and children Which is why they appealed to somebody with artillery knowledge to come figure out. What are we doing wrong? and it took a while, but having Come to this one particular battery there It doesn't matter that how carefully you have read the compass if your compass has been distorted by an outside force You can't trust a compass that can be externally influenced Do you ever wonder why there's no reconciliation? Politically or socially and on a lot of important issues people are fully convinced in their own mind that they're absolutely right and Do not stop to think is there something that has influenced my compass and no matter how strongly I feel I Need to check and see if the reason I feel this way may not be valid Maybe the foundation on which I'm basing these conclusions needs analysis This is the gift.

What is wisdom offering if we turn at her rebuke? I Will pour out my spirit on you I will give you my words That spirit and those words Correct the compass Nothing else can do it Nothing else can cancel out the influences that make our compass wrong and We believe that we're right What does scripture say there is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the ends thereof are the ways of death Why is it that we don't just intrinsically know that that it's going to result in death Because we trust the feeling of rightness that we have and it's dangerous The other guy who is violently directly vehemently and scornfully opposed to you feels just as right in his soul as We do You can't trust the feeling of rightness. We need an outside Objective standard of truth. That's what wisdom is and she is calling out Why will you live in stupidity? How long are you going to love? Just the feeling of being right and the feeling of looking at others and saying they're wrong and I'm right How long are you going to love that turn at my rebuke so I can pour out my spirit and give you my words This will give you absolute truth that not only pertains in this life but enters into the eternal life of the next That lays up for us treasure in heaven that reflects God's glory qualifies us for future Participation in everything God is going to do as well as what he's doing now We can't foolishly trust our conscience because we are all as an unclean thing Our righteousness is filthy rags we fade Our iniquities like the wind carry us away Unless we are anchored unless we are rebuked corrected and instructed in righteousness by the Word of God It's critically important.

Look at this in 2nd Thessalonians How is it that people are going to fall for the agenda of the Antichrist as he is called the beast? His coming is in accordance with the working of Satan. What do you know about Satan? He's a liar from the beginning He roams the earth seeking whom he may devour He is a liar and the father of lies over and over again Satan is associated with untruth So the working of Satan and the power signs and lying wonders misleading wonders With all unrighteous deception This comes from Plano again Unrighteous deception now, here's the thing because it is unrighteous deception even if you can't detect the lie You don't need a lie detector if you have a truth detector if you have a righteousness detector So even if I don't know the facts behind something that is happening or is being presented or is being told to me if It is inherently unrighteous. And if I have an unrighteousness detector The two are are built together.

The deception and the unrighteousness are linked So if I can detect the unrighteousness I don't have to get an investigative team and go sleuthing for clues and evidence To figure out what exactly happened. The unrighteousness will warn me the unrighteousness will be detectable With unrighteous deception among those who perish why These are the ways that lead to death the way that seems right But the ends are ever the ways of death these people are going to perish Why? Because they did not receive the love of the truth Wisdom is crying out from the top of the walls at the open gates in the courtyard in the open square Wisdom is crying out The love of the truth instead of the love of simplicity is on offer It's available If we say I don't want to love stupidity. I want to love truth.

We can receive a love of the truth Even if it's not inherent you think well, you know, some people just love that Bible stuff and some don't some people just love You know verses and you know Jesus and angels and and others of us were practical. We're trying to make our way in the world We're trying to put food on the table. We're the ones that make things go, you know, we're the blue collar We're the backbone and I don't have time for all of this highfalutin philosophical theological, sorry, no To love the truth is to convert your blue collar salt of the earth Backbone efforts into something of eternal value You're not plowing your life into something that is going to perish the elements Will melt with a fervent heat the heavens are going to roll up like a scroll this earth and its forms are passing away How many times does the Bible have to tell us you're wasting your time? trying to create a grand scheme of renewal Now keep in mind and we're going to cover this on Sunday.

There is a difference in what is corporate what is large? What is organizational and what is individual? Individually, can I be a good steward individually? Can I be environmental and say I'm not going to contribute to pollution? I'm not gonna trash my area because it dishonors God not that I'm worried about Mother Earth I'm worried about dishonoring my father in heaven. He made this The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof The worlds and they that dwell therein. He's the one that founded it.

He established it. This is his He has entrusted some tiny portion of it to me Am I going to garbage it up or am I going to care for it intended? Am I going to? to Do be the very best steward of it that I can be That is the motivation for Green thinking that is the motivation for environmentalism. That is the motivation I cannot control what the rest of the world does I can control what I do I can make sure that my portion if God comes and says I gave you this little patch.

What did you do with it? Did you defile it? Did you corrupt it? Did you trash it or did you care for it as a gift and a stewardship from me? That's my motivation and when I act on that motivation and I do What I do heartily as unto the Lord and not unto men not to be seen by men but To glorify and return. Thanks to my father in heaven I have not only done a good thing on this earth and for this planet, but I have Bought into I have invested in eternity I have qualified myself for future stewardship in the new heavens and the new earth Do you think God's gonna want a bunch of litter bugs in the new heavens in the new earth? I don't think so but notice it's the people that are going forward not this planet and It is the rehabilitation of us Turn you at my rebuke Don't be deceived. How many times the scriptures say be not deceived I've got a a list here that I can't even begin to to cover Galatians 6 7 & 8 one that that I memorized as a child with my mother Galatians 6 7 & 8 be not deceived.

God is not mocked. What does it say? How does it start be not deceived? You can't Scorn the plan and program of God God is not going to be mocked. He's not going to be ignored.

He's not going to be Set aside Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap he that sows to his flesh Shall of the flesh reap corruption, but he that sows to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life and peace Not just life and peace now, but life and peace forevermore If you sow to the flesh this flesh is going away. We're gonna get a whole new issue of flesh We're gonna have a whole new environment in which to operate But we ourselves our nature our soul what we have learned the skills we have developed the faith that we have Exercised the righteousness that we have laid hold of by faith goes forward No Paint powder and polish down here goes forward But the reasons for which we did it the nature that we cultivate in this life Absolutely goes forward weak nature now few opportunities in the future develop our nature now Wonderful opportunities to participate to be a part of what God is doing in the future The Remember the parable of the ninety and nine that safely lay in the shelter of the fold, but one was lost in the hills far away One had gone astray that word astray plan a Must have gotten deceived the grass was greener on the next hill over and The shepherd goes to seek and to save that which was lost Notice it was lost it was possessed. It is a part of the flock This is not a picture of going out to save the quote lost our whole nomenclature is is faulty when we talk about saved and lost if you lost something it means you used to have it an Unbeliever has never been possessed by God They're not a part of God's people not a guarded part of God's possession certainly in this age Not a part of the body of Christ the shepherd goes out to recover a straying Deceived sheep that belongs to him It's not a goat that he's going to recruit.

It's not a wild sheep that he's going to tame. It's this is Part of the flock that used to be a hundred one went missing it has become lost I have found my sheep which was lost Planao Matthew 24 for we've seen this throughout Matthew 24 in our recent study See to it that no one misleads you Many are going to come saying false things and will mislead many Matthew 24 5 Matthew 24 11 Matthew 24 24 if it were possible They will deceive they will Planao Even the very elect even the chosen even those who ought to know better if they're not careful They will be deceived their compass is going to tell them. This is God.

This is truth. This is Christ this is this is excellent stuff and Even they will be misled carried off taken astray Jesus told the Sadducees When he said they asked him this woman that was married to seven brothers And when they all get to the resurrection which in which they did not believe whose wife will she be and he said you do Err not knowing the scriptures of the power of God you do Planao you are misled you are deceived you have strayed from the truth Because you don't know the scriptures or God's power the scripture and The spirit that's the power of God, and you don't understand it Sometimes it's translated new American Standard says you are greatly mistaken that just doesn't catch it You've been you've been taken by the nose and dragged off the path by your faulty assumptions Jesus himself was accused of misleading the people in John 7 47 When the Pharisees and the authorities sent soldiers to go to

Jesus and they came back and they said we've never heard anybody speak like this man And they said what have you been led astray also? a false accusation Paul says in 1st Corinthians 15 33 do not be deceived bad company corrupts good morals If you keep bad company you're inviting deception you're inviting being led astray you and what does this mean? How do you know if somebody's bad company other than their record album cover? How do you know if someone is is Someone an individual or a group with whom we should not associate how do we know? well you have to know the truth of God and You have to know what these people espouse what they say what they support what they do and you have to compare the two You can't just say well. I think they're kind of mean I I don't like their their approach.

I don't like their saucy attitude. I don't like their Set of aphorisms. I don't like the shirts.

They wear or the hats they wear or whatever If if you want to decide whether or not someone is bad fellowship bad Companionship you have to know what they espouse believe and say and what the Word of God Espouses and says and what we know is truth from that and if those two do not line up and You continue an association with those who have bad values bad goals Bad points of view it will corrupt good morals scripture says so It's the old Illustration throw a rotten apple into a barrel of good ones good apples don't turn the bad one good that corruption spreads one direction Second Timothy if you're still in Thessalonians Timothy is a pastor and Paul's apostolic guidance to him is fraught with warnings against deception and against falsehood First Timothy chapter 1 verse 3 as I urged you when I went into Macedonia Remain in Ephesus that you may charge some that they teach no other doctrine false Doctrine stuff paraded as God's truth that isn't nor give heed to fables and endless genealogies which cause disputes rather than godly edification which is in faith I've often Speculated about this and I did a little work on it this past week. Why does Paul warn against? Fables is the word muthas or mythos where we get the word myth And it just means a story that has explanatory value, but isn't true You know The chariot that carries the Sun across the sky it's a myth it has explanatory value, but it's not true There's not really a chariot that carries the burning light across the sky so Stories that have explanatory value. This is why things are the way they are and They are linked here and one or two other places myths and genealogies I thought genealogies is this just the the Jews having pride of Ancestry back to Abraham or whatever.

I don't think so The genealogy is Origin stories. This is where this came from He's bad because look at his genealogy there. It's bad seed.

There's bad blood there. There's something in the background that that caused this and In my mind and I admit this is a bit of a stretch, but I can't help but make the connection today in Christianity there is a lot of Tying of what is what are seen to be shortcomings and failures in the modern church to shortcomings and failures in the past We are descended from the southern churches that practice slavery We're descended from the

German Christians who allowed the Holocaust we you know the it's it's this and it's that in the genealogy of the church you look at our history and this corruption has spread from the days of Constantine all the way down to the present and it's it's Inquisition and You can certainly see examples of of Wrongheadedness of deception and Plano in history but Calling that out and saying the genealogy is the problem is not the solution You can illustrate how someone can carry a Bible to church on Sunday and then go to work at the death camp on Monday and say How important is it that our faith? Penetrate every aspect of our life and that we're not inured and we're not blind and we are not deceived that our compass doesn't point north and It's not really north Absolutely, we need to check but you can't focus and you can't make a career and you can't write 350 page books on that and expect to do Christians or the Christian faith any good? What is the only power that will prevent that? For individuals turn you at my rebuke. Let me pour my spirit out on you.

Let me share my words of truth with you That's the only power to change the heart pointing out mistakes of the past Never works, it doesn't work politically. It doesn't work socially and it certainly cannot work spiritually. There is no power in it no power the power of God resides in two places only his spirit and his word both of which are given to us and Embodied in his son the Lord Jesus Christ.

That's why the Lord Jesus Christ is our Savior and There is salvation in none other There is no other name. There's no other plan. There's no other Mechanism, there's no other message you can deliver but Jesus Christ That's it nothing else has the power to change us Giving heed to fables and endless genealogies first Timothy 1 for which caused disputes Rather than godly edification it divides rather than uniting it creates arguments instead of consolidating on what is shared our Belief our salvation our Savior from which some having strayed This is your plan.

Oh idea Have turned aside to idle talk Desiring to be teachers of the law understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm They don't even understand what they're talking about We know the law is good if is used lawfully and so on you turn over to chapter 4 of 1st Timothy the Spirit expressly says in the latter times some will depart from the faith Giving heed to what kind of spirits deceiving spirits plan a oh, I sing spirits and doctrines of demons doctrines That are sourced in evil spirits Minions of Satan Isn't this interesting how can you get a doctrine from a demon? There's no demon Bible that you know suddenly materializes in the room, and well this was written by the demon You know BL Zephyrus or something How do you get a doctrine from a demon? Well if the Holy Spirit inspires men, and they are carried along and right inspired scripture And that's the Word of God. How do you think the word of demons and the word of Satan is going to be perpetrated? Men are going to be carried along it is going to come from people People are going to write books people are going to make videos people are going to preach sermons And it is going to deceive the unwary The thing about deception is it doesn't look like a lie. It sounds like the truth.

It's palatable It's it's persuasive. It is even desirable. How did Eve eat the fruit when she saw the fruit? That it was good to look upon and desirable to make one wise I Like how it looks it appeals to me at an aesthetic level and hey it'll improve me Things will get better if I eat this fruit Well Then that goes on to say speaking lies in hypocrisy You may not be able to detect That how the lie departs from the truth.

What can you detect? It's just like what we saw in chapter in 2nd Thessalonians if it is an Unrighteous deception you can detect the unrighteousness if it is a hypocritical lie You can discern and you can detect the hypocrisy Hypocrisy is a sure sign. This is why pastors are prohibited from pastoring teachers are prohibited from teaching elders are prohibited from eldering in both Timothy and Titus if Their life doesn't reflect the truth You need to be a one-woman man your children and I look this up I had some concern But the word there your children need to be of faith What if you have a child that's not of faith? Are you disqualified? Are you out? Well, this is techna These are children under the roof and in the home and so long as they are in the home and under the roof and the parents have influence that's they should be comporting and should be Practicing those things that partake of faith once they get out on their own. They're on their own but Speaking lies in hypocrisy Not just speaking lies, but they're hypocritical lies and the hypocrisy is detectable Even if you have difficulty nobody wants to be a window peeper trying to find out if a accusation is true or false But you don't need to peep in windows to detect hypocrisy that usually outs itself pretty quickly Having their own conscience seared with a hot iron Their magnetic compass is stuck and Doesn't even swivel anymore They don't realize they're being hypocritical because their their compass won't even tell them The difference between what they say and what they do There they have become insensible.

They are stupid They are simple and partaking of simplicity Then in verse 3 forbidding to marry and to abstain from foods which God created to be received with Thanksgiving these are two examples of the hypocrisy and the untruth This word forbidding to marry the word forbidding means to discourage to suppress When Jesus said suffer the little children to come unto me and do not hinder them forbid them not The children were getting to Jesus. Anyway, that's why the disciples started trying to act. They didn't completely Stop them, but they were discouraging them.

They were hindering them. They were kind of shooing them away what happens when the modern church shoes away marriage and doesn't frown on Shacking up and doesn't frown on Fornication doesn't even frown on adultery. Well, you needed to leave him He was a bad guy anyway, and now you've got someone who loves you and appreciates you and cares for you Well, what about that marriage has that first one been? Dissolved are these people living in open sin? Nobody wants to talk about that anymore the church discourages Talking about the formalities of marriage what you can and cannot do When you are or are not married the church has run away from that Fleeing like the sky is falling because you lose people from the congregation People don't want to give people

don't want to come people don't want to sing they don't want to get the joy and get the ghost if you're frowning on them because they are living in open sin and Paul tells Timothy you need to not just follow these things yourself But as a pastor and as a teacher you need to proclaim them you need to refute These things when they occur Speaking lies in hypocrisy their own conscience is seared.

They're discouraging marriage. They're not supporting it. They're not Encouraging it they are not Requiring it for faith and function in their group.

They're overlooking it even hindering it and To abstain from foods, which God created to be received with Thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth This notion of it is sinful to eat an animal is Satan's own lie God created animals to be eaten and if you Create a standard of righteousness of your own that says it is sinful to eat an animal pigs have personalities I don't care what the justification is your view Now is more important to you than God's stated truth If killing an animal is bad Why do you have the Levitical system without which you cannot foreshadow the work of Christ without which you cannot? impress on the human heart the severity of what sin is and what its Consequences are and what the penalty for it is. This is God's chosen Illustration to Take the life of an animal not heartlessly not indifferently not callously But with full understanding of what you are doing when you deprive an Old Testament animal of its life And it's your fault This is designed to teach a lesson. And if you say well, I don't want to participate in that I don't want to be a part of that.

What are you doing? I'm I'm dismissing myself from the class where God is teaching me about my personal sin and my personal responsibility for it and the work of Jesus Christ and the magnitude of it when he emptied himself and took on the form of a Servant and came in the likeness of men and being found in appearance as a man He humbled himself and became obedient to death even the death of the cross. I just checked myself of that class out of that class. I just won't eat animals and I'm not guilty.

I Am I'm Excusing myself from that whole picture which God designed God sent the vision to Peter that said arise Peter reap and eat arise Peter grind the corn and eat What does the vision say? Arise Peter kill and eat for what God has sanctified Let no man call common. Let no man call sinful Let no man and I Promise you if there's any person believer or otherwise that is Now you can be you can eat vegetables or be vegan for any one of a number of reasons But if you're doing it because you believe that killing an animal is wrong. You are directly contradicting the Word of God and there is no hope for you to even achieve the first block of the foundation of change of mind away from dead works By not killing something you have entered into dead works and you have obviated yourself from faith in God You have set up your own standard of righteousness, which you then meet and so you can now declare yourself righteous I'm a good person.

Look at what I do and look at what I don't do. I am righteous in my own eyes Self-

righteousness is the bane of human existence. Jesus calls it out over and over and over There's hardly a chapter in the Gospels where Jesus is not calling out Self-righteousness Whited sepulchers white on the outside inside full of dead men's bones but this is what happens when we do not turn at the rebuke of wisdom when when we do not humble ourselves and Acknowledge that I cannot trust my inner moral compass.

The thing is broken. It's corrupt in some cases. It is stuck I cannot trust that thing.

I need Salvation. I need deliverance from the grip of sin and death Only God can do it Only the Lord Jesus Christ's work can wash us from the stain can cleanse us from the Unrighteousness that pervades us and we don't even detect it. Our unrighteousness detector is totally broken Do you ever drive a car that's got a Non-functioning gas gauge.

You don't know where you stand on gasoline. The thing sits on empty the whole time I had one that was stuck on full the whole time You want to talk about something to throw you off if you forget what car you're driving and you glance down there Oh got a full tank and then you suddenly are gasping on fumes and you're stranded in the middle of the turnpike Because the gauge doesn't work The needle is Right where you would like it to be. It's just not telling the truth That is our conscience.

You know, this is your brain the egg. This is your brain on drugs and it's frying That's your conscience That's everybody's conscience apart from the spirit and the word that wisdom is crying out for us to accept People will be deceived by the Antichrist. They're going to take the mark They're going to suffer the outrageous that are all described in Revelation because they did not like to receive a love of the truth Instead they love simplicity.

I cannot Emphasize too strongly the contrast and it is our choice We either have a love of simplicity or we have a love of the truth and we have the ability to choose we have the ability to allow God to Supernaturally rehabilitate our moral compass our moral sense and This is why the Holy Spirit has as one of his primary functions Conviction about sin and about righteousness. He knows what we don't know he sees what we don't see he understands what we cannot fathom and That's what faith is. I'm not real sure what the truth is But here's what the Word of God in the Spirit of God says I'm going with that The judgment is not going to be a theology test It's going to be an evaluation of faith and faithfulness Okay, if your theology was off Did you trust God in the light of what you thought you understood from his word and act accordingly? People that worship on Saturday if they're doing that because they honestly believe that's what God's Word teaches They're not going to get dinged at the judgment Well, didn't you know that we worship on Sunday because Jesus was raised on the first day of the week? if Whatever is not a faith is sin every man's conscience is On trial and if you want to observe certain days God says fine through the Apostle Paul Some people observe days others treat every day alike.

Let each one be fully convinced in his own mind That this is the Word of God if it's something that needs changing. I trust God to change my mind. I just smack me upside of the head I I Pray in all honesty that if you show me the truth, that's what I want to follow What I need to know please reveal to me God will absolutely open to those who knock He will give to those who ask He will Enable us to find when we seek you will search for me You will seek me in search you will seek me and find me when you search for me with all your heart We're coming up on Proverbs chapter 2 right after this section You know what that says my son if thou wilt receive and it goes on from there If you will if you choose to receive it's what it's all about Humility is the stepping stone.

God gives grace to the humble We have to examine ourselves and see if we're in the faith. We have to examine ourselves and and don't trust the compass trust God and Pray the prayer That David prays in Psalm 51 show me my secret faults my hidden shortcomings If you pray that prayer if we pray that prayer I can tell you from personal experience and you I'm sure have had this experience As well, if you ask God to show you where things are coming apart, and it's my fault. He will totally do so Ask and it shall be given ask for the exposure of secret faults They will be exposed and that's the path to productive fruitful God-glorifying Christian life.

Let's close here in a word of prayer. We'll pick up in Proverbs chapter 1 next time Father, thank you for the truth of your word. Thank you for the gift of your spirit Thank you for the call of your truth that Both before and after our salvation gives us the opportunity to respond to be Carried by your grace to be transformed by your power in the renewing of our minds so that we can understand your will the good and acceptable and perfect will that you have for us and For the future we pray that as we reflect on these things that your Holy Spirit will impress them on our hearts give us insight To look at ourselves individually and see that as the ground of reformation of renewal of transformation The change that is needed has to begin with us and we know that your power can be at work in us to accomplish it We thank you and we pray for wisdom in Jesus name.

Amen