



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC	Leading with Wisdom	SPEAKER	Elder David Foo
THEME	Walk in Wisdom	DATE	20 & 21 June 2026

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Elder David Foo opens the pulpit by highlighting that as a church, we are all called to be priests and kings and therefore are leaders who can leave lasting influence on the people around us. Hence, today's message addresses the need for godly wisdom to lead well.

LEADING WITH WISDOM: GODLY WISDOM vs WORDLY WISDOM

Between Worldly wisdom and Godly wisdom, the former is described as earthly, unspiritual and demonic, that is full of envy, selfish ambition, disorder and every evil practice. Whereas the latter is known to be pure, peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere (James 3:15-17).

Taking King Asa from the bible as an example, the king's act of turning to God for help to overthrow the massive Kushite army was an application of Godly wisdom. Later, when faced with a similar threat, King Asa did not seek God for help and instead chose to rely on his earthly wisdom by bribing the enemy to neutralize the threat. This decision made by King Asa was proclaimed by God as unwise, through the seer Hanani, where God warned King Asa that there will be more wars in the future (2 Chronicles 16:7-9).

Through this example, we know that Godly wisdom always trumps over Worldly wisdom (1 Corinthians 1:25a). Even though we may not receive a similar form of revelation as King Asa got from the seer, we can practice the following four principles to lead with Godly wisdom.

LEADING WITH WISDOM: 4 PRINCIPLES

Principle 1: Wisdom comes when we seek God

Wisdom comes when we seek God because God is the source of all wisdom (Proverbs 9:10, Isaiah 28:29). It can only be found in our relationship with God (Proverbs 8:30, 1 Corinthians 1:30a). Firstly, it is impossible to have Godly wisdom without God (Ezekiel 14:2-3, Jeremiah 19:7a & 23:32). Furthermore, we would not be able to lead with wisdom when we choose not to walk closely with God and not inquire of Him. God cannot be mocked (Romans 1:21-22). Thus, it is important to have a

relationship with God as Wisdom and our faith in God are linked (James 1:5-7). Our closeness with God will affect our ability to live with wisdom.

The story of King Solomon in 1 Chronicles highlights how God is the only source of wisdom. When King Solomon was crowned king the second time, his priority was to seek God through his act of sacrificial burnt offerings. When he was asked of what he required to rule the kingdom, Solomon made it known to God that he seeks for wisdom to rule and judge God's people well. As a result, Solomon became known as the wisest king in history because he chose to seek Godly wisdom.

Principle 2: Wisdom comes when we seek God's direction

It is not enough that we seek God's wisdom. We also need to seek God's direction for our specific circumstances. The story of King David transporting the ark of God into his place in Jerusalem from the book of Samuel is one example to highlight, whereby David's failure to consult God beforehand for the proper protocol was not pleasing to God. A similar example would be King Josiah, whereby he also chose not to seek God for direction by getting involved in a battle that was not his to fight. As a result, he died an untimely and early death. Both King David and King Josiah were both a Godly man in the eyes of God. Yet, their failure to seek God for direction led to them making unwise decisions.

Thus, it is crucial that we also seek God's direction and consult (Proverbs 3:5-8), to lead with wisdom. We should not neglect asking God for direction in matters, even when it may seem too trivial to bother God with. This is seen as self-sabotage.

Principle 3: Wisdom comes when we obey God's direction

Not only do we have to listen for God's direction, but we must also obey him. The story of King Jehoshaphat in 2 Chronicles 17-18 tells of the King's continuous attempt to inquire for God's discernment yet he chose not to obey the direction revealed by God which warns him against attacking Ramoth-Gilead. It was only by God's mercy that King Jehoshaphat survived.

Thus, it is crucial that when we seek God for direction, we should obey as well. (Matthew 7:24, James 1:22). Yet, we should recognise that the wise choice is not always immediately obvious and apparent. Hence, we ought to continue being obedient and stay the course until God tells us so (Proverbs 4:26-27).

Principle 4: Our Wisdom does not determine our worth

Lastly, our worth to God should not be based on our righteous work, wise living, or anything we've done. The story of King David seeking and later receiving forgiveness from God for his sins of murder and adultery in the book of Samuel, reminds us that God's love for us remains unchanging and steadfast regardless. Thus, there is no need for us to impress God or earn his love and blessings to lead with wisdom.

CONCLUSION

As we seek a relationship with God, we can ask Him for discernment and wisdom to guide our obedience in life. At the same time, we must remember that our worth is not determined by how much godly wisdom we gain or how well we apply it. God loves us for who we are, not for who we think we should be.

QUESTIONS

1. Reflect about a time when you were troubled by a trivial matter. Had your choice been to seek God for wisdom and discernment, or had it been to deal it with in an earthly manner?

2. Elder David had given us four principles to follow when it comes to Godly wisdom. Among these four principles, choose one that applies the most to you. Share and elaborate.

3. Discuss an area in your life (e.g. work, study, relationships, parenting, marriage etc) that you would want to take practical steps in responding with Godly wisdom.