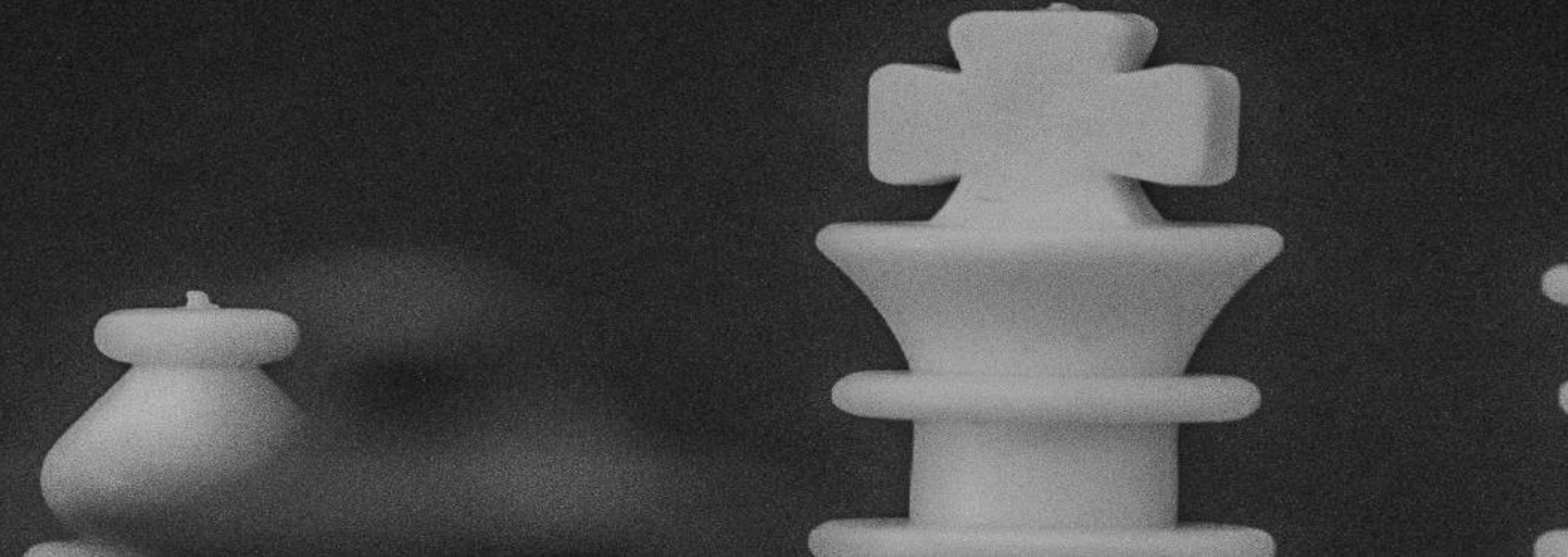


LEADING WITH WISDOM



LEADERSHIP IS INFLUENCE

1. **All** of us influence others in some way
2. **How** we influence others matters



Principles for Leading with **Wisdom**

Wisdom comes when we **obey** God's direction

Wisdom comes when we **seek** God's direction

Wisdom comes when we **seek** God

Our wisdom does not determine our **worth**



Principles for Leading with **Wisdom**

Godly
Wisdom

vs

Worldly
Wisdom



Principles for Leading with Wisdom

JAMES 3:15-17

¹⁵ Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

¹⁷ But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

Godly
Wisdom

vs

Worldly
Wisdom

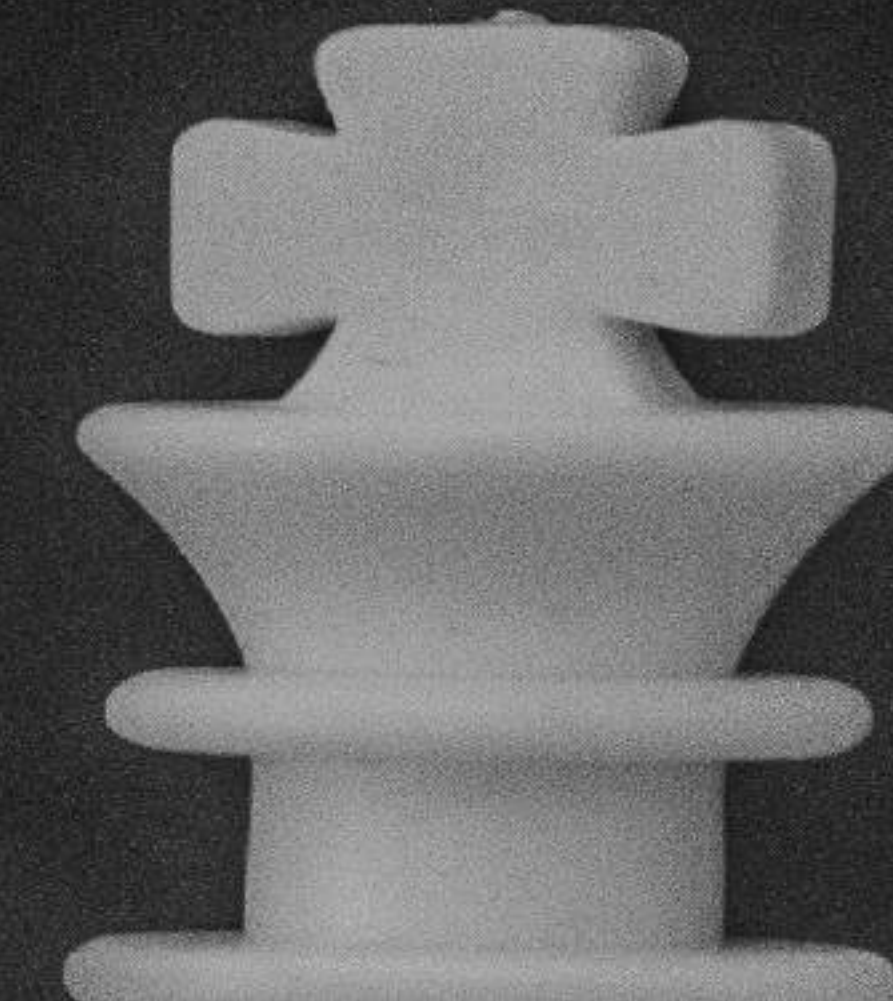


Godly
Wisdom

vs

Worldly
Wisdom

King Asa





King Asa was seemingly wise and had success
in both scenarios, but God reveals the truth.

2 CHRONICLES 16:7-9

⁷ Right about then, Hanani the seer came to King Asa of Judah and rebuked him. “Because you have put your trust in the king of Aram and have not relied on the Lord your God, **the army of the king of Aram has escaped from your control** ... because you have acted foolishly in this, **from now on you will have wars.**”





We may not always get to see *why* with such clarity,
but **godly wisdom** **always** trumps **worldly wisdom**.

1 CORINTHIANS 1:25a

For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom



Principle 1: **Wisdom** comes when we seek God

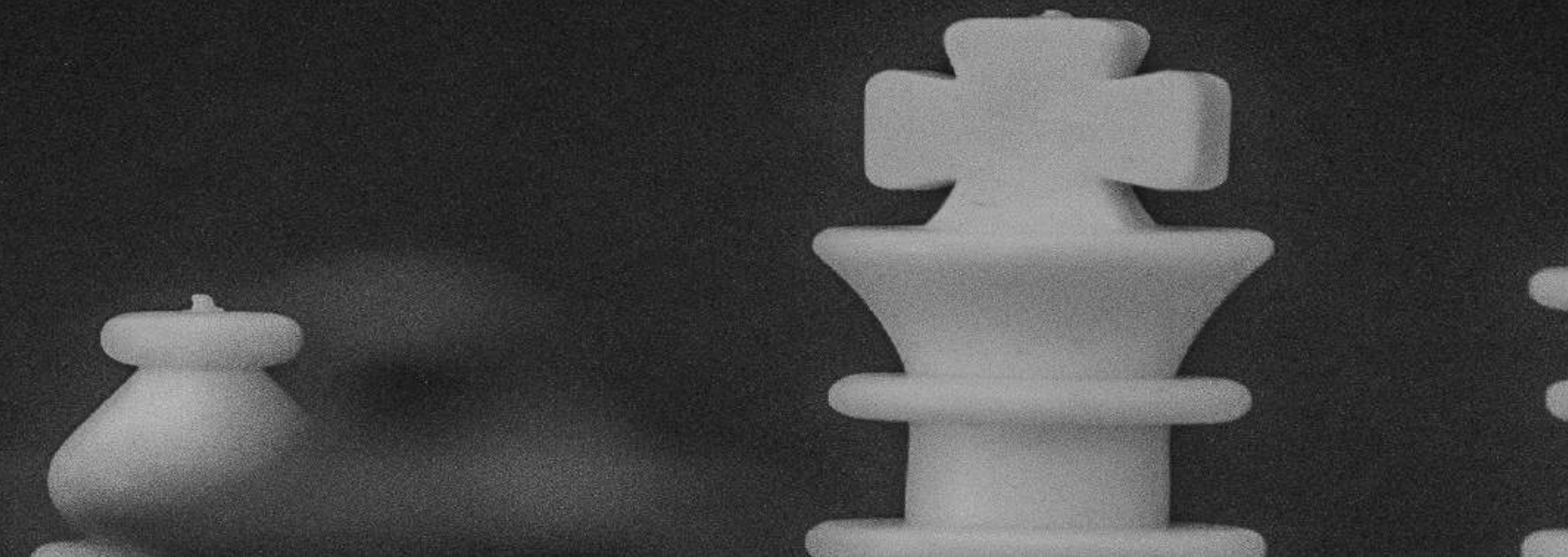
- God is the source of all wisdom.

PROVERBS 9:10

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,
And knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

ISAIAH 28:29

All this also comes from the Lord Almighty,
Whose plan is wonderful,
Whose wisdom is magnificent.



Principle 1: **Wisdom** comes when we seek God

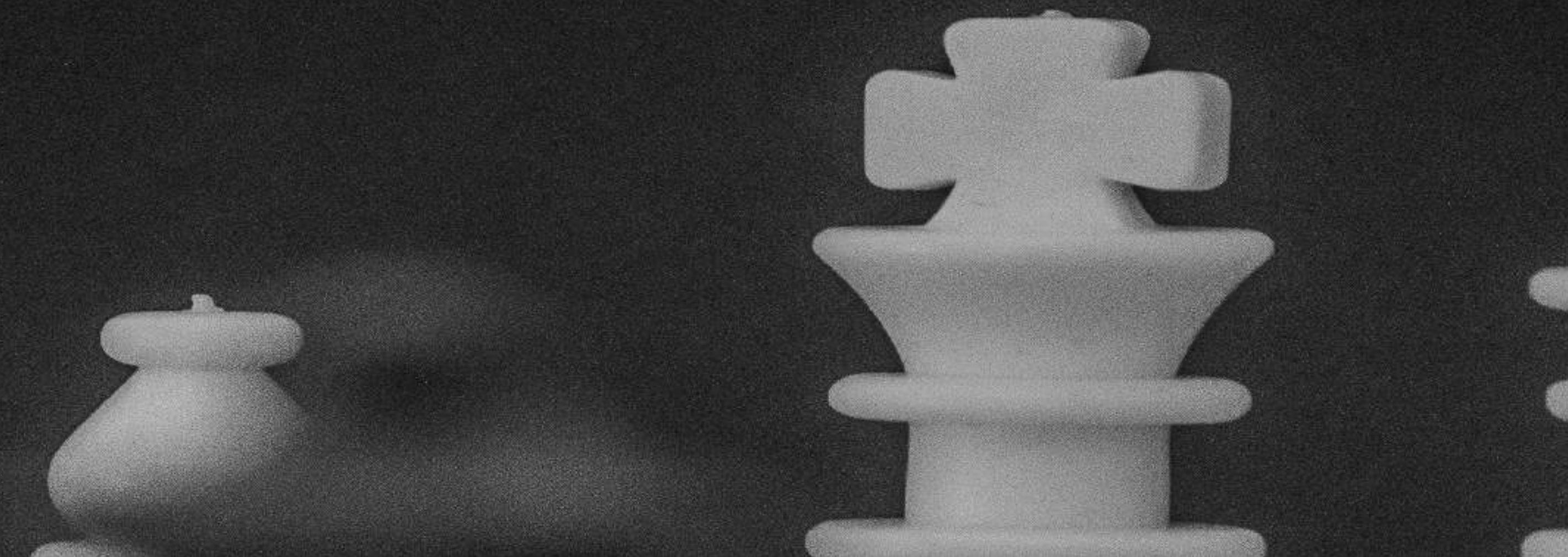
- Wisdom is found only in relationship with God.

PROVERBS 8:30

Then I was beside him, like a master worker;
and I was daily His delight,
rejoicing before Him always,

1 CORINTHIANS 1:30a

It is because of Him that you are in **Christ Jesus,**
who has become for us wisdom from God

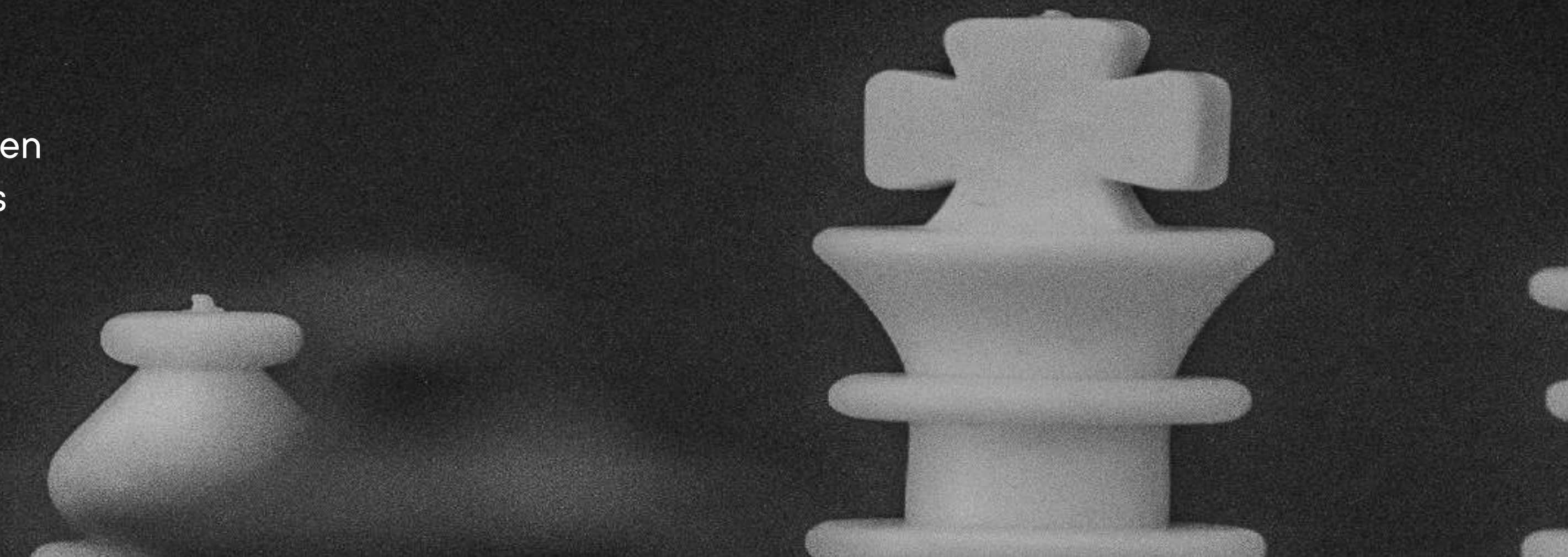


Principle 1: **Wisdom** comes when we seek God

- We cannot have godly wisdom without God.

EZEKIEL 14:2-3

² Then the word of the LORD came to me: ³ “Son of man, these men have set up idols in their hearts and put wicked stumbling blocks before their faces. **Should I let them inquire of me at all?**



Principle 1: **Wisdom** comes when we seek God

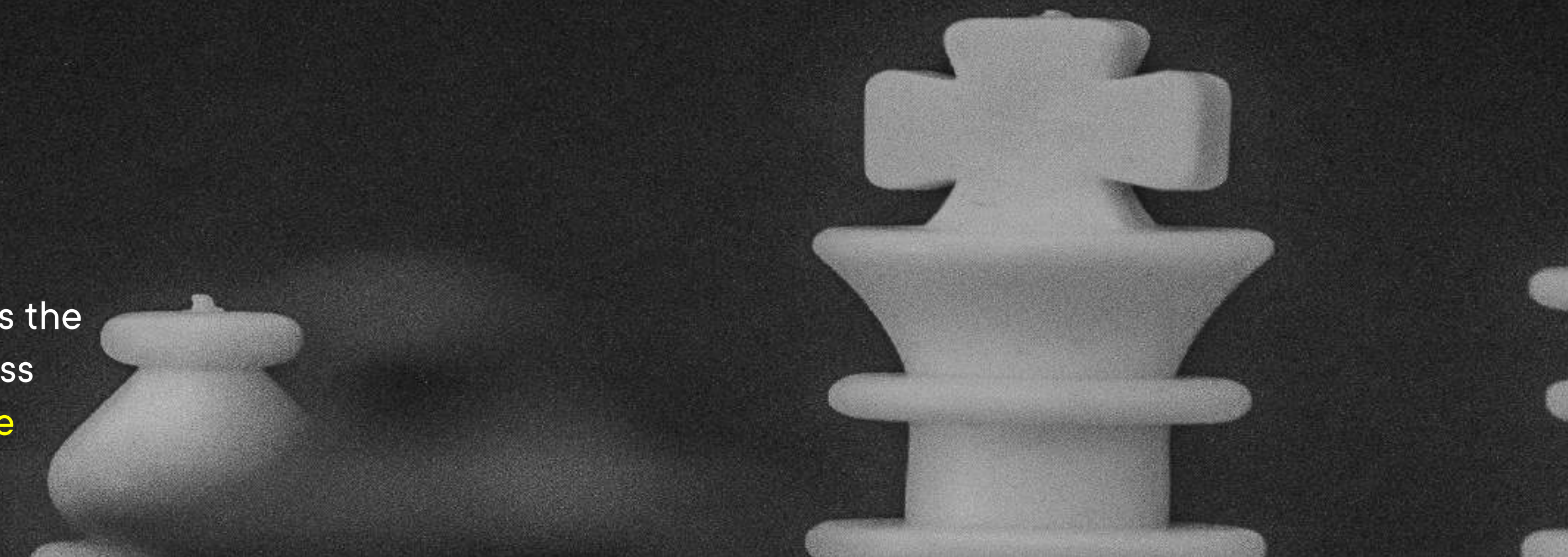
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JEREMIAH 19:7a (NKJV)

And I will **make void the counsel** of Judah and Jerusalem
in this place...

JEREMIAH 23:32

“Indeed, I am against those who prophesy false dreams,” declares the Lord. “They tell them and lead my people astray with their reckless lies, yet **I did not send or appoint them. They do not benefit these people in the least,**” declares the Lord.



Principle 1: **Wisdom** comes when we seek God

- We cannot simply claim to know God.
God cannot be mocked.

ROMANS 1:21-22

²¹ For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools



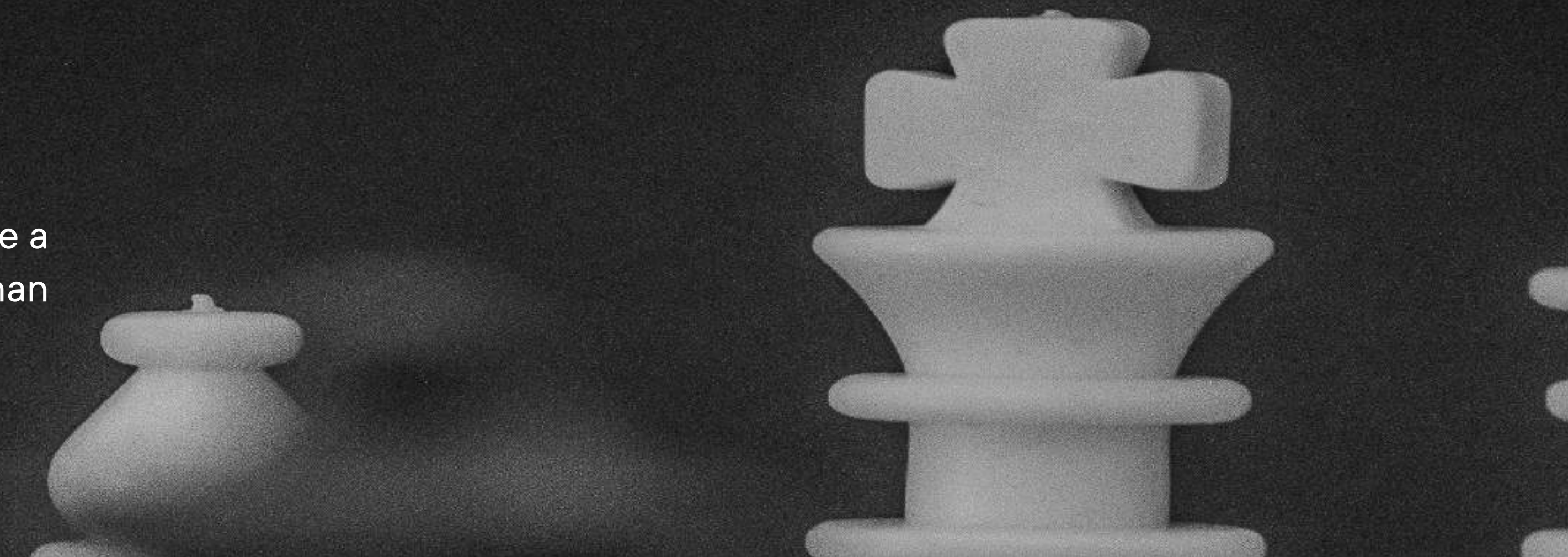
Principle 1: **Wisdom** comes when we seek God

- **Wisdom** and our **faith** in God are linked.

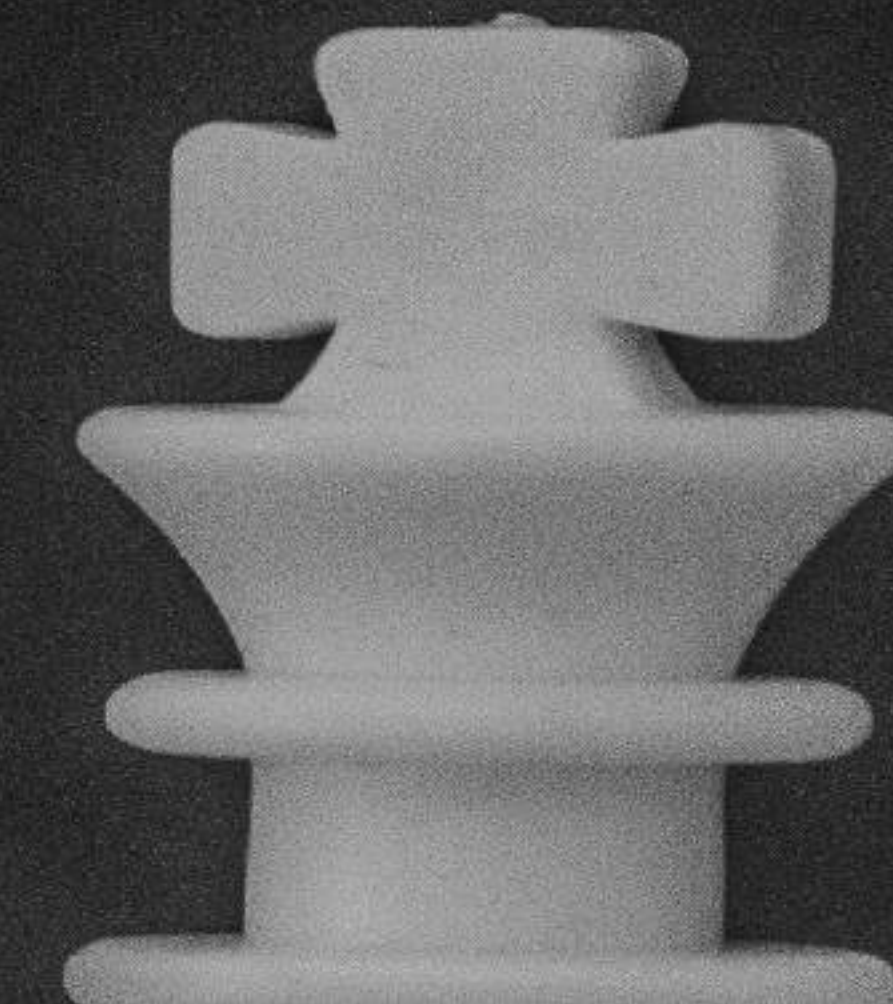
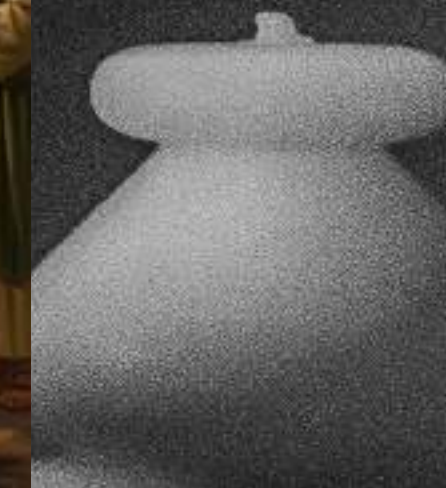
JAMES 1:5-7

If any of you lacks **wisdom**, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

But let him ask in **faith**, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord.



Principle 1: **Wisdom** comes when we seek God



Principle 1: **Wisdom** comes when we seek God



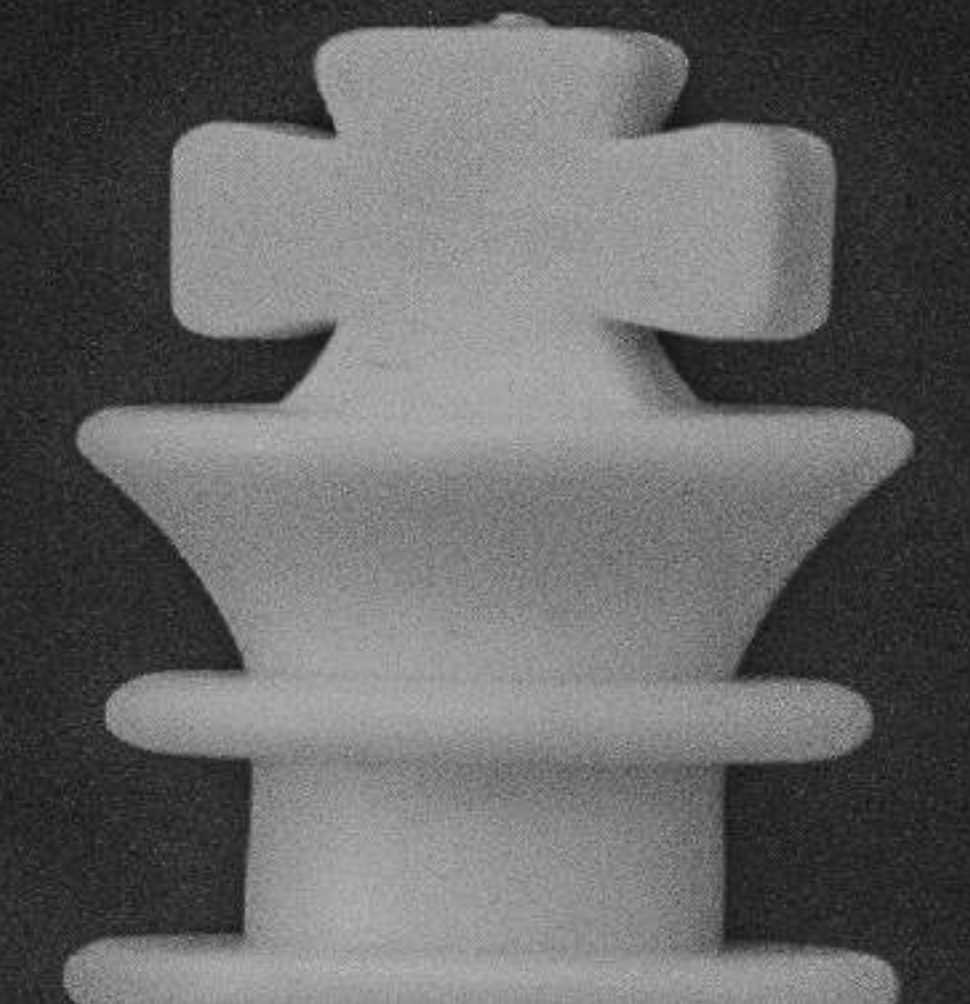
Principle 2: **Wisdom comes when we seek God's **direction****

- To lead with wisdom, it is not enough that we seek God. We also need to seek His direction for our specific circumstance.



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

- To lead with wisdom, it is not enough that we seek God. We also need to seek His direction for our specific circumstance.

1 CHRONICLES 15:13

... the Lord our God broke out against us,
because **we did not consult Him about the proper order.**

PROVERBS 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart
And lean not on your own understanding;
In all your ways submit to Him,
And He will make your paths straight.



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

- When we neglect to ask God for direction, it is akin to sabotaging ourselves or tearing our own house down.

PROVERBS 14:1

The wise woman builds her house,
But with her own hands the foolish one tears hers down.

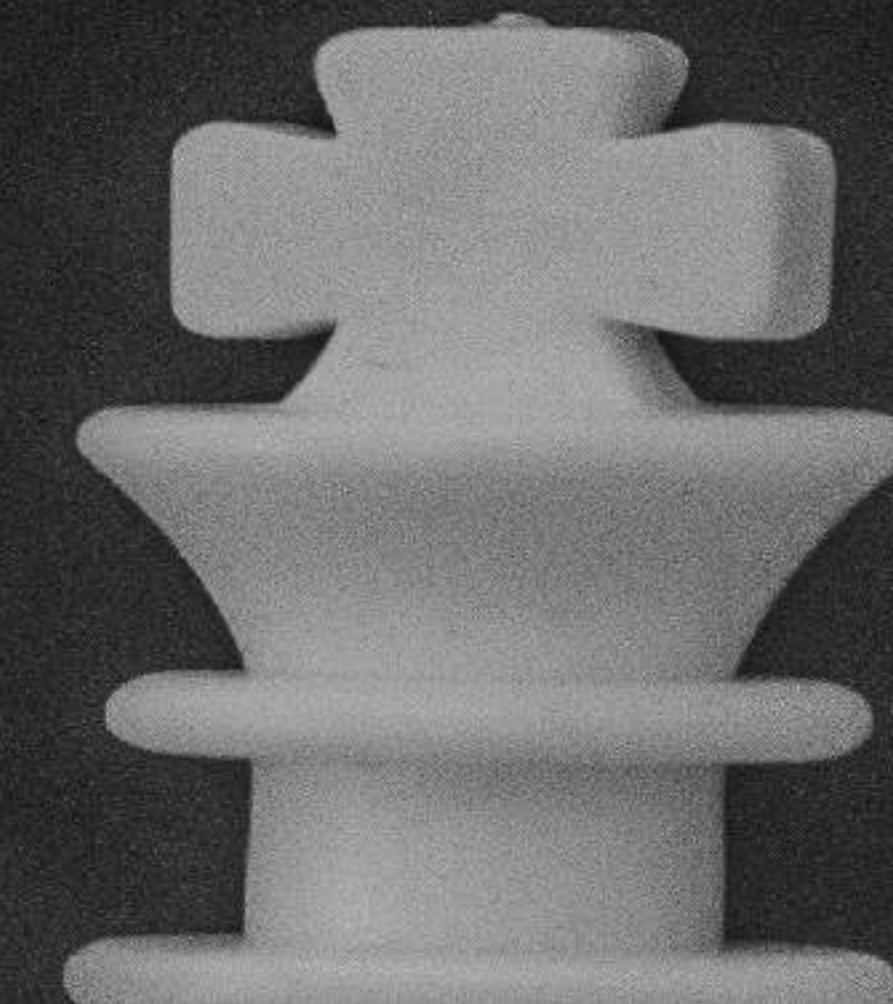


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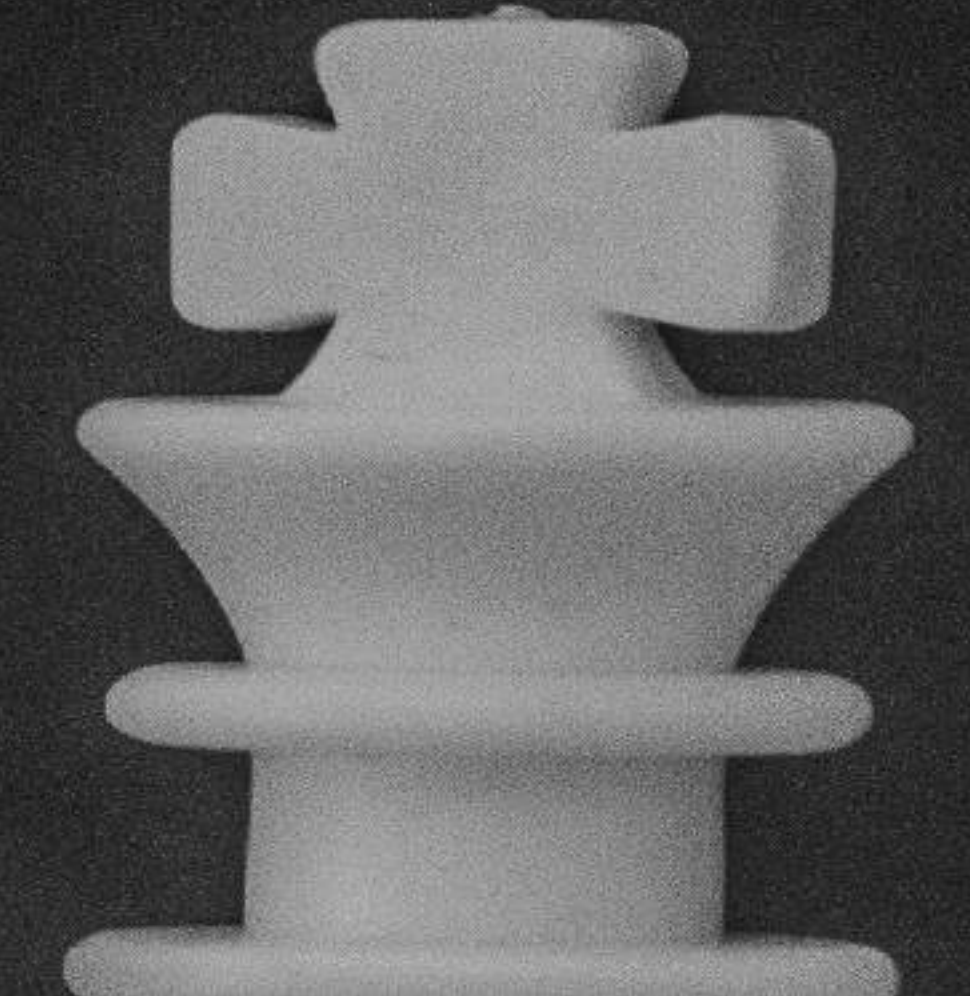
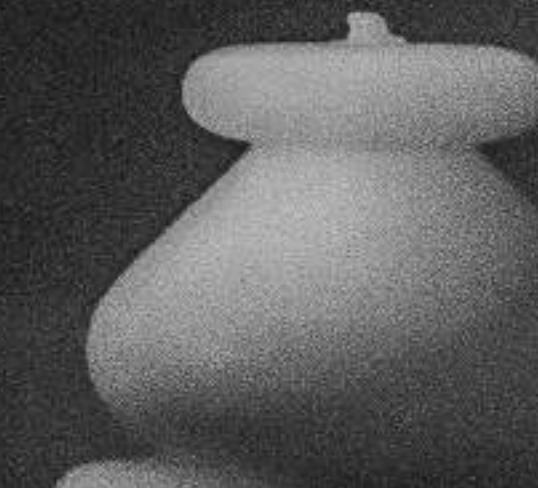
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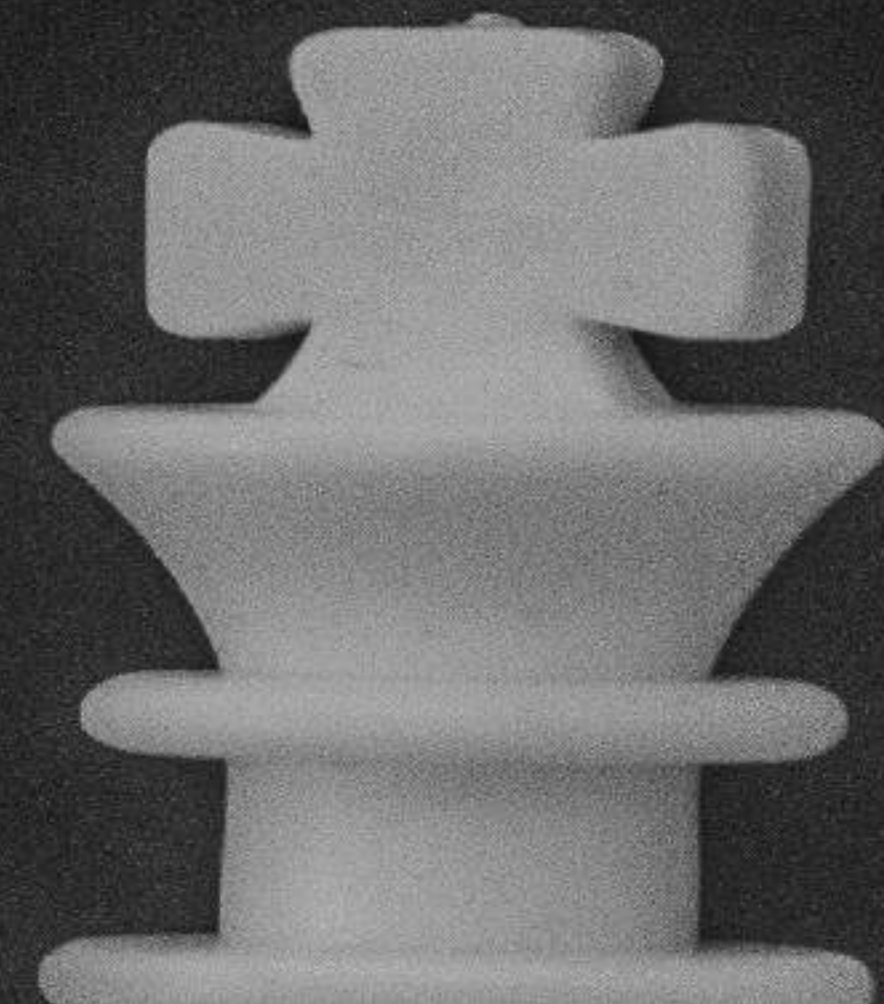


Principle 3: Wisdom comes when we obey God's direction

MATTHEW 7:24

“Therefore everyone who **hears** these words of mine and **puts them into practice** is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.



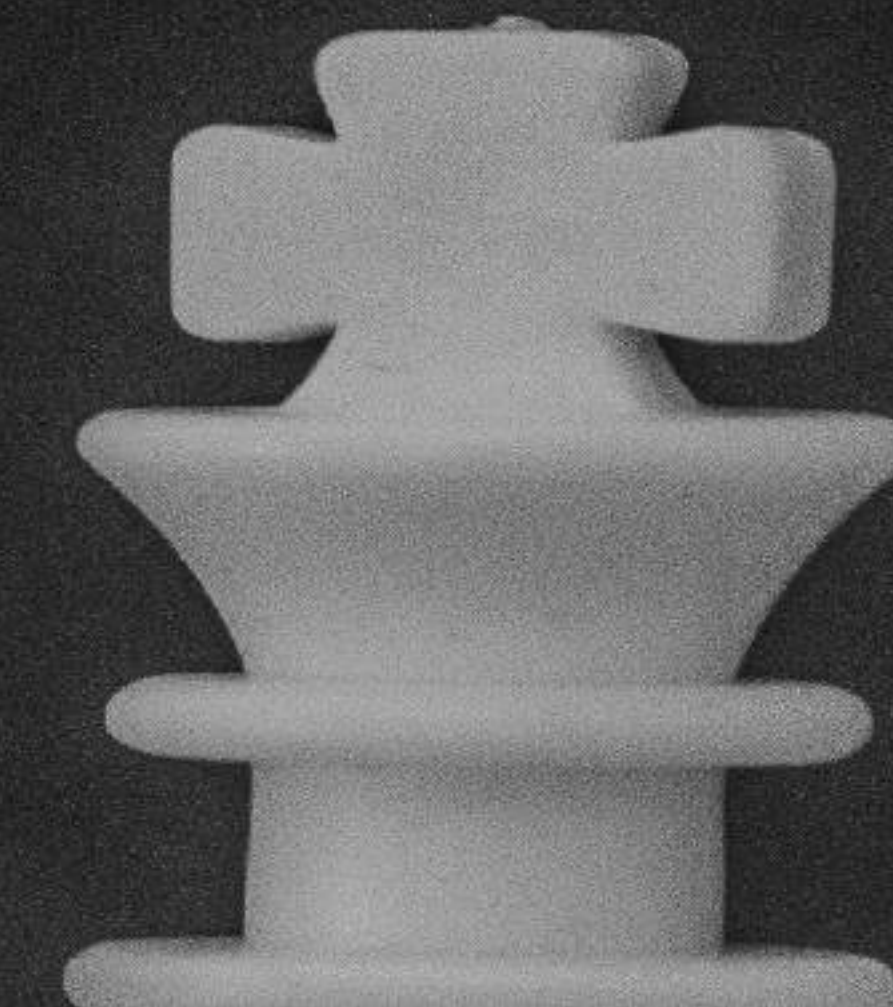


Principle 3: Wisdom comes when we obey God's direction

JAMES 1:22

But be **doers** of the word, and **not hearers** only, deceiving yourselves.





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

- The wise choice is not always immediately obvious or apparent – **we need to obey and stay the course.**

PROVERBS 4:26-27

Give careful thought to the paths for your feet

And be steadfast in all your ways.

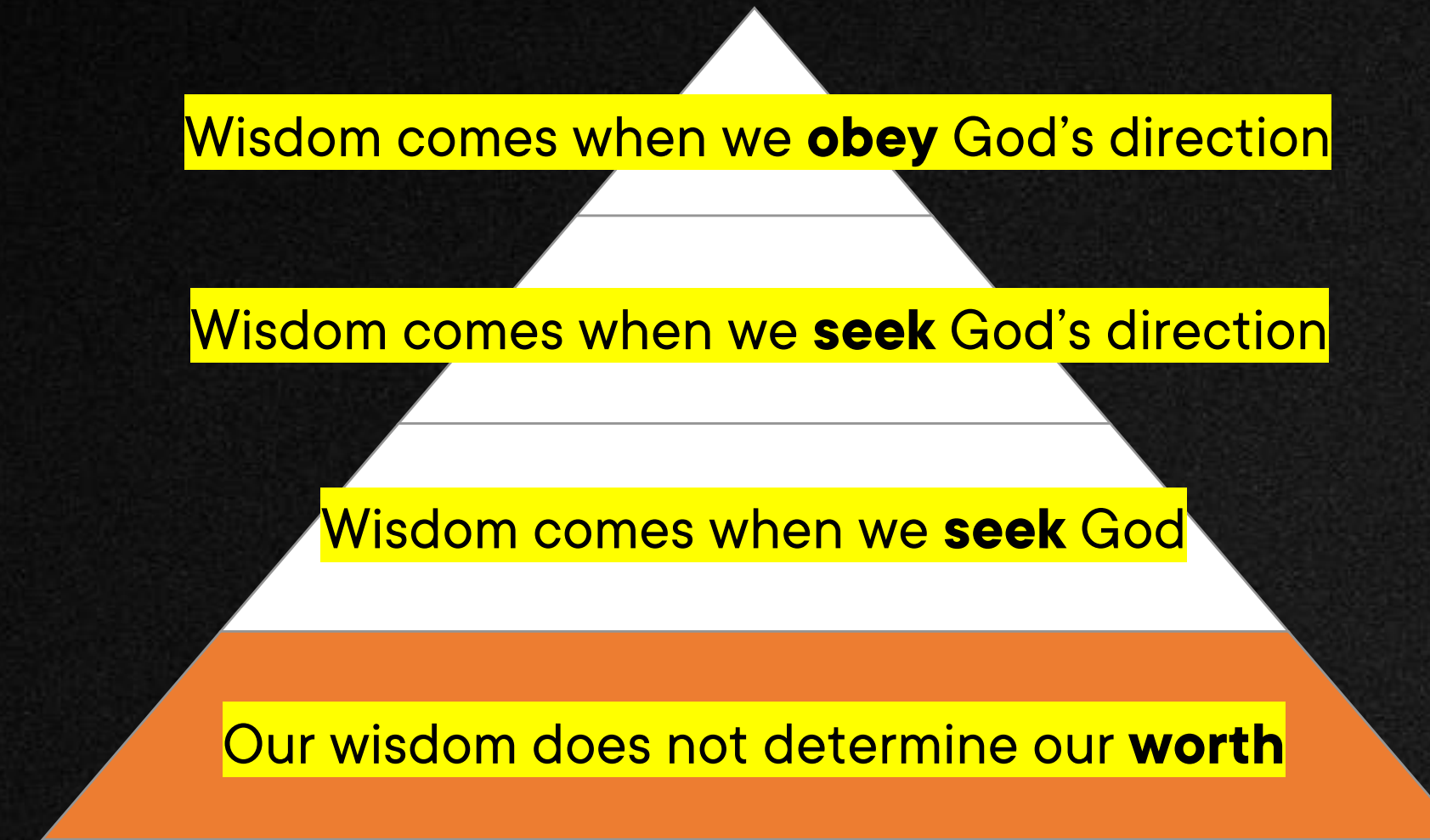
Do not turn to the right or the left...



Leading with Wisdom requires us to:

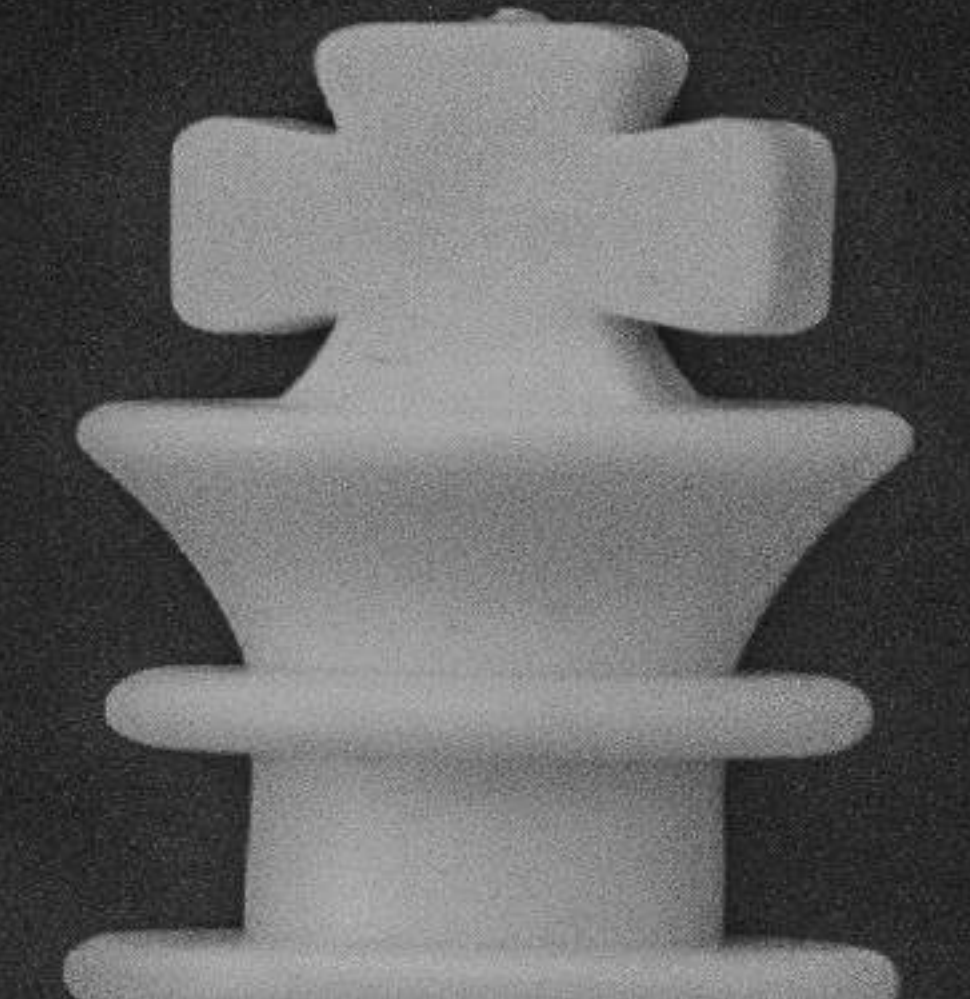
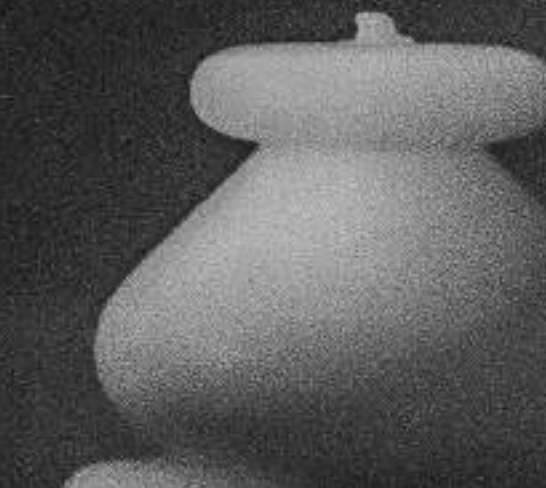
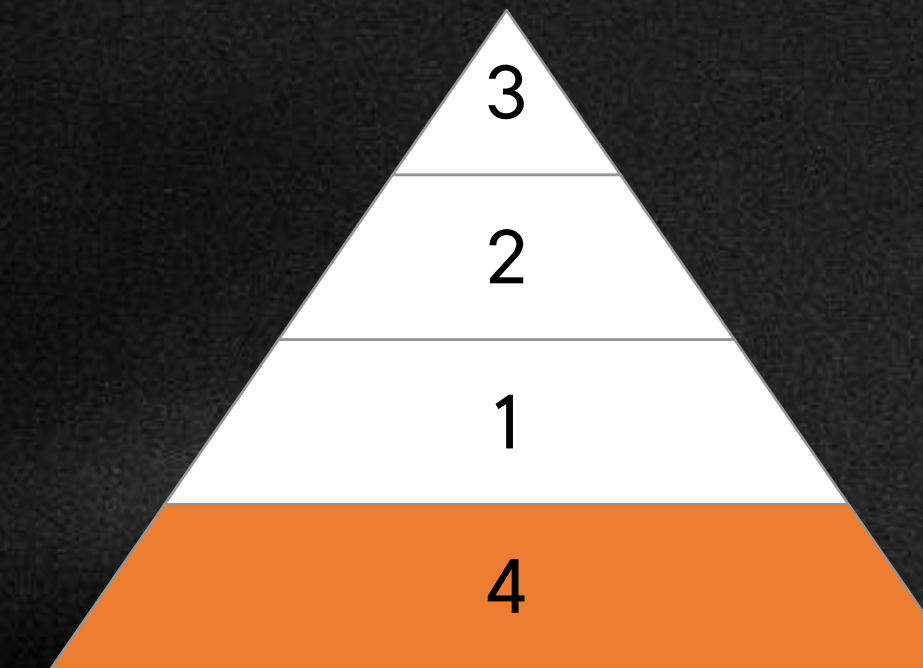
- Seek God
- Seek God's direction
- Obey God's direction and stay the course





Principle 4: **Our Wisdom does not determine our Worth**

- Our worth to God is not based on our righteous works, wise living, or anything we've done, good or bad.



*Faith is the courage to accept acceptance,
to accept that **God loves me as I am and not
as I should be**, because I'm never going to be
as I should be.*

– Paul Tillich



Many fathers and leaders are under unrelenting pressure to do more, know more, perform better ...

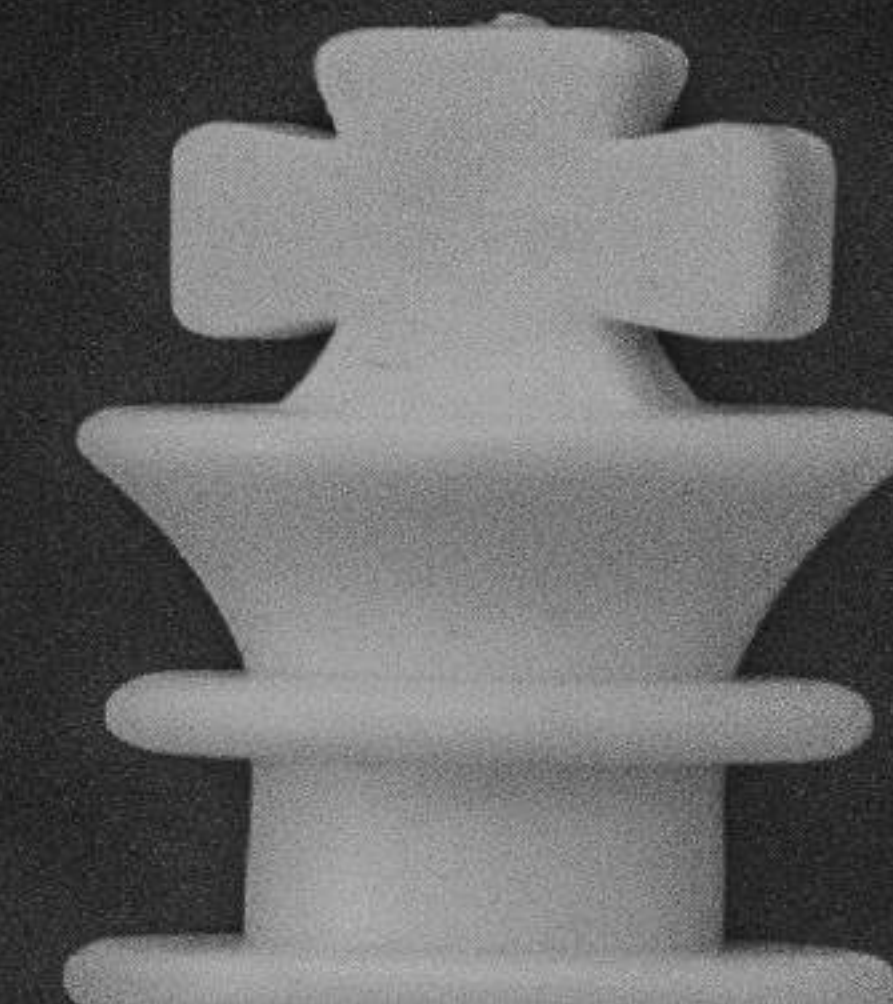
Without realising it, this pressure creeps into our identity, and we think our worth before God is based on our performance.





*This is my
beloved Son,
with whom I am
well pleased.*

MATTHEW 3:17

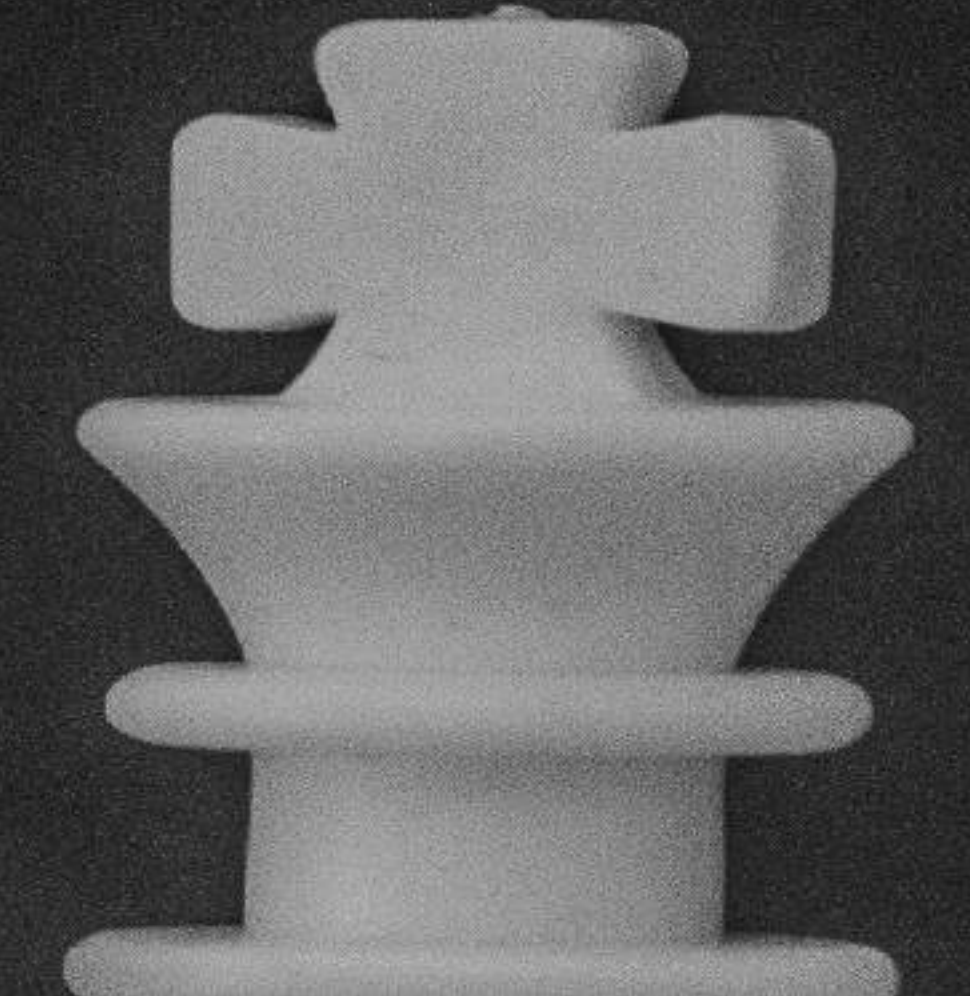


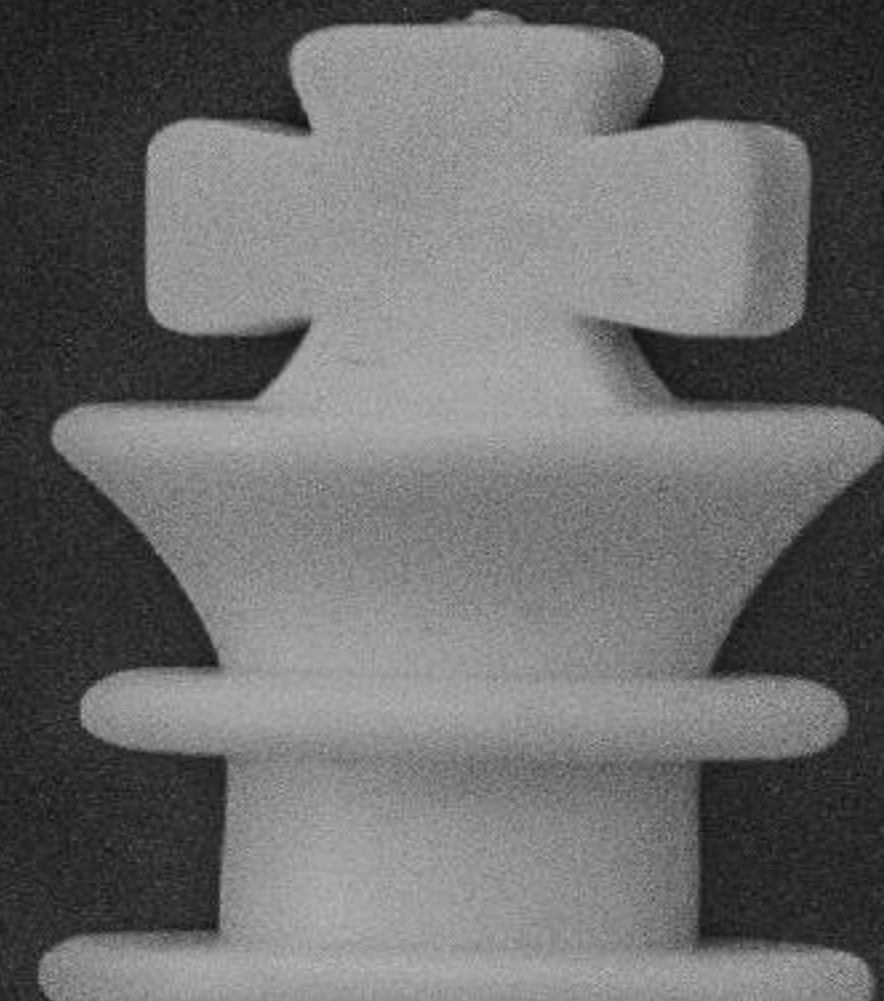
Principle 4: **Our Wisdom does not determine our Worth**

We lead with wisdom when we realise
that we do **NOT** have to:

- Impress God
- Earn God's love
- Earn God's blessings





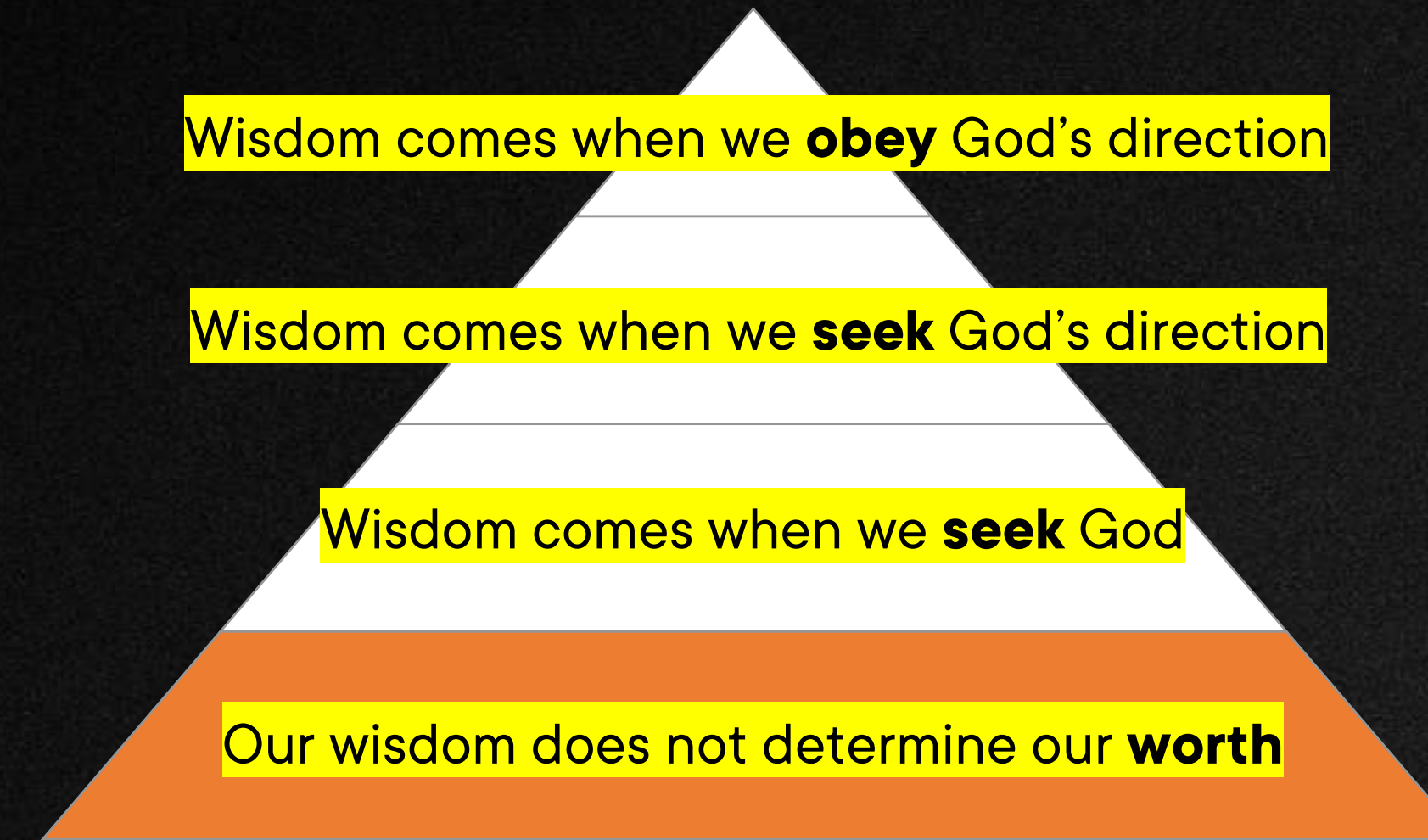


*I am now utterly convinced that on Judgment Day
the Lord Jesus is going to ask each of us one question,
and only one question,*

"Did you believe that I loved you?"

- Brennan Manning





Our wisdom does not determine our worth.

Our worth comes from being loved by God.

God really loves us for who we are.

