

Leaving Lukewarm

Proverbs 2

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Wimpy Jesus, sissy love (I once was lost and now am found, blind but now I see)

The Pursuit (types of looking for wisdom)

Sometimes we look for God the same way we wonder if there is anything good to eat in the fridge. Rummage through haphazardly, close the door, come back 5 minutes later only to shuffle a few things around and go back to the couch.

God is not interested in the lukewarm halfhearted pursuit... He may take care of you, but He will not empower and cannot lead you.

(Like living on rice cakes – you won't die but bland your life will be)

Rather than treating Him like leftovers, what if we looked for God like He is the Creator and Savior of the world, like He is THE King of kings and Lord of lords? (Creator and Savior, tongue confess... not leftovers!)

MY SON!!! – There is nothing in the world like the love a father has for his children (Everyone talks about a mother's love but let me tell you something, a father's love is immense.)

All of Proverbs 2 - Let's cut our steak up so we don't choke on it.

God's love is unconditional, His blessings are not. (kid with a temper tantrum, your way, God's blessings)

Descriptively Instructive 4 actions (He will LOVE YOU NO MATTER WHAT!)

Vs 1. Receive & Treasure

Receive: lay hold of, bring in (fishing), marry (No churchy leftovers, reel it in)

Treasure: not to hold dear but to cover or disguise.

Only the most valuable things go in safes. (Random goes random, special in special)

Gun safe vs. coffee table or under the bed/back of the closet. (No coffee table trash)

Vs 2. incline your ear, apply your heart

Incline Ear: to turn the ear like a dog

To wisdom: does your mind perk up at the sound of wisdom?

The Bible says, the Lord says, etc.

Apply Heart: (The heart and mind, leans in to hear more) (When you see some with a Bible)

Vs 3. cry out and lift up your voice The town crier

Cry Out: call out, recite, read, proclaim...

Dedicate your voice to truth, godliness, and grace.

"Silence is Golden" – Only in the movie theaters!!!

It's got to be in your heart and on your lips

Lift Up Voice: Bestow... devote... (For understanding)

Genesis 1 & 3, How God described creation and it's purposes but also how Eve presented corruption. (It's not if you are illuminating but what your illuminating)

Creation vs. Corruption

Who am I to tell people how to live their lives?

Vs 4. seek as silver and search for hidden treasure

Seek as Silver: **Work!!!** or hoping to win the lotto

Search for hidden treasure: If you told me there was buried treasure in my backyard, I wouldn't treat it like leftovers in the fridge... we would be digging deep and wide, tonight.

Jeremiah 29:12-13 Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. – poser (fake friend) loves you, never leave you, won't ghost you.

Imagine watching the lotto numbers roll out and someone is sitting there desperately hoping that they will win but you find out they never bought a ticket.

With the Lord... people are desperately waiting for God to move in their lives, but they are not seeking Him. The crazy thing, it is NOT the lottery. It is a 100% guarantee that if you seek the Lord you will find Him and what He has for you. Stop getting around Christian stuff and leave wondering why things aren't happening.

It's not lousy leftovers and coffee table trash. It's real and it's really good.

Review the 4 pursuits (Not perfectly but in pursuit of)

[IF] – Tiny little word with a huge implication! Read Proverbs 2:1-9
What's in it for me? Great questions...you decrease, and the Lord increases and then and only then will you obtain real wisdom, find lasting joy, and experience a steadfast peacefulness, and out of you will *flow* torrents of living water.

If you do NOT... You'll never know.

Vs 5. you will never understand the fear of the Lord

Vs 5. you will never find the knowledge of God

If you don't know Him you will never understand why people surrender their entire lives to Him. If you do know Him, you know that there is no one else you'd rather relinquish all rights to.

FOR GOD IS EVERYTHING!

God is the source

Provider – He is the source of understanding...

We know He feeds the birds, and even directs our steps but sometimes we forget God paves the way and makes the path.

Kid baseball player. Even if successful, it is with what God's given.

It's one thing to understand it's another to create.

- Gravity, the circuit of the solar system. How plants photosynthesize.

We have been discovering, not what God has always known, but what God had created and set into motion thousands of years ago. (write book vs. create)

Protector: (Not controlling but truly concerned)

David (spies and back doors) Paul, down in a basket, Spies in Jericho
You don't always have to fight... sometimes you need to wait on the Lord.

Shield to those who walk uprightly – stay behind the shield, follow my lead.

Guards the path of justice

Prior to Rome expanding their reign roadways were treacherous.
Outposts placed every day's journey and primarily used was for military transport

2 Samuel 22:31 As for God, His way is perfect; The word of the LORD is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him.

Preserver: Keep it in order, to watch over, crate boundaries, snowplow.

Life is going to get a little bit tricky sometimes... slow down, get behind, go my pace and I WILL GIVE YOU UNDERSTANDING.

Vs 9. THEN you will understand (you have to have a few miles under your feet)

Understand: gain clarity, the light will fade in or pop on.

Righteousness: Simply put, what is right

Justice: decision making (usually about what is right vs. what is wrong)

Equity: evenness, level the playing field.

(Fair or impartial)

(Not deceived or tricked, not easily swayed.)

Do not despise your youth... be an example... testify and prophesy.

You cannot understand the top three areas of life unless you know the one who gives and rules over all of life.

It will all become clear (closed doors, difficulty, ease and opportunity. you'll know)

Don't Fear The Fog... just walk through it. Compass works on

Read Proverbs 2:10-20

See/reference the notes in your Bible as you read

- **Deceptive** living & deceptive people
- **Watching** friends or family go astray – 1 John 2:19
- **Subtle** seduction of unrestrained passion and flattery

If you don't know Jesus... FREAK OUT! Difficult, confusing, and frustrating.

If you do know Jesus... relax!

The Worries of the day... not having a future, evil is advancing, between a rock and a hard spot. (I have been there)

Job/Career
Money/Inflation
House/Lifestyle
Marriage/Family
Vaccine Mandates
Not being liked/acceptance/peers
Cancel Cultured

When someone is not near the Father, fear is able to slip in.

Fear and worry are optional experiences.
Not everyone that knocks on my front door gets to come into my house.
You can either let them take root or give them the boot.

2 Corinthians 4:7-9

Proverbs 23:17-18 Do not let your heart envy sinners, But *be zealous* for the fear of the LORD all the day; For surely there is a hereafter, And your hope will not be cut off.

Psalms 37:1-2 Do not fret because of evildoers, Nor be envious of the workers of iniquity. For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, And wither as the green herb.

22. wicked people will not always advance (cut off) nor will unfaithful (self-seeking) have any endurance (uprooted)

2015 "Waymaker"
You are
Way maker, miracle worker, promise keeper
Light in the darkness, my God
That is who You are

Even when I don't see it, You're working
Even when I don't feel it, You're working
You never stop, You never stop working

Lean and go: getting off of a chair lift skiing

We have an eternal inheritance waiting for us... not everyone does.
Financial planner: Will you inherit anything? No

21. we have an inheritance AND it is a lasting inheritance (Not everyone does)

1 Peter 1:4 an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you

If He can save your soul, I am quite confident He can provide and guide your life.