

THE WAY OF WISDOM



summer sermon series

8/11 – Wisdom

8/18 – Pride

9/01 – Work

9/08 – Parenting

9/15 – Relationships

Necessary Conversations

09/29 – **Domestic Violence**

10/06 – **Racism**

10/13 – **Mental Health**

10/20 – **Substance Abuse**

10/27 – **Pornography**

Necessary Conversations

09/29 – **Domestic Violence** (follow up: Oct 2)

10/06 – **Racism** (follow up: Oct 9)

10/13 – **Mental Health** (follow up: Oct 16)

10/20 – **Substance Abuse** (follow up: Oct 23)

10/27 – **Pornography** (follow up: Oct 30)

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Relational Wisdom

Micro-wisdom

Macro-wisdom

Over-arching wisdom

Relational Wisdom

Micro-wisdom

*Better is open rebuke than hidden love.
Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but
an enemy multiples kisses (Pro 27:5-6).*

Relational Wisdom

Micro-wisdom

Pursue *maturity* over *harmony*

*Better is open rebuke than hidden love.
Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but
an enemy multiples kisses (Pro 27:5-6).*

Relational Wisdom

Micro-wisdom

Pursue *maturity* over *harmony*

Macro-wisdom

*Walk with the wise and become wise,
but a companion of fools suffers harm
(Pro 13:20).*

Relational Wisdom

Micro-wisdom

Pursue *maturity* over *harmony*

Macro-wisdom

You *become* who you spend *time* with

*Walk with the wise and become wise,
but a companion of fools suffers harm
(Pro 13:20).*

Donald Miller: A year or so ago I read an article that said in the next five years we will become a conglomerate of the people we hang out with.

The article went so far as to say relationships were a greater predictor of who we will become than exercise, diet, or media consumption.

And if you think about it, the idea makes sense.

As much as we are independent beings, contained in our own skin, the ideas and experiences we exchange with others grow into us like vines and reveal themselves in our mannerisms and language and outlook on life.

After I read that article I got pickier about who I spent time with. I wanted to be with people who were humble and hungry, had healthy relationships, and were working to create new and better realities in the world.

[As a result], I handpicked some guys I wanted to be friends with.

I already had some good friends, but knowing you become like the people you hang around, I decided I wanted to take more responsibility for who I was becoming.

I looked around and identified about four guys who didn't know each other very well, but each of whom I wanted to be like in some way.

They worked hard, they were faithful to their wives, they were intelligent.

I asked each of them if they would get together for breakfast on Tuesday mornings In Portland.

To my surprise, each of them said yes.
And so we met.

I told them that, essentially, I thought of them as great guys and wanted to figure out how we could spend more time together, helping each other's businesses and running our lives through the collective filter of our experiences.

Amazingly, each of these guys had been looking for the same thing.

It's something we all want, after all.

In a way, I now have brothers to share life with, to do life with.

And I am becoming like them too.

These aren't guys who complain about their bosses or disrespect their wives.

And so, naturally, when I encounter men who do that sort of thing, it strikes me as weak, and I pull away.

That's just not who I am. Or rather, that's just not who I want to become.

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Macro-wisdom

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Relational Wisdom

Micro-wisdom

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Macro-wisdom

You *become* who you spend *time* with

Over-arching wisdom

Relational Wisdom

Micro-wisdom

Pursue *maturity* over *harmony*

Macro-wisdom

You *become* who you spend *time* with

Over-arching wisdom

The enduring power of *bonded love*

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