

No. 73 **Acquiring “a Heart of Wisdom”**

PLEASE NOTE: Maintain a positive tone when discussing problems. Help new ones to have a realistic view of the congregation so that they avoid being stumbled if difficulties arise. If you wish, you may use the provided artwork to illustrate the point indicated

WHY DO WE NEED A HEART OF WISDOM? (4 min.)

Life today is short and often brings unexpected troubles (Ps 90:10; Ec 9:11)

How can we make good decisions that will benefit us and please God?

Our imperfect heart cannot be trusted to guide us (Jer 17:9)

We need to “acquire a heart of wisdom” [Read Psalm 90:12] (w05 5/1 32)

HOW WE CAN ACQUIRE A HEART OF WISDOM (10 min.)

In the Bible, the word “heart” almost always refers to the inner person (w01 10/15 17-18 ¶3-5)

Our figurative heart includes the thoughts, motives, and emotions that guide our actions

We “acquire a heart of wisdom” by allowing Jehovah God’s thinking to shape the person we are inside and to guide our actions (Pr 4:7)

Jehovah is the Source of true wisdom (Pr 2:6; 9:10; c/ 219-220 ¶3-5)

Wisdom combines knowledge, discernment, and understanding and puts them to work (c/ 171 ¶8)

Acquiring wisdom requires time and effort (Pr 2:1-5; 23:23; it-2 1194 ¶2-3)

We must ‘come to know’ God and Jesus (“their coming to know you” study note on Joh 17:3, nwtsty)

We need to learn their qualities and imitate their thinking (1Co 2:16; 1Pe 2:21; w18.02 22 ¶15-16)

We can continue gaining knowledge by studying the Bible; reading Bible-based publications; attending meetings, assemblies, and conventions; and watching *JW Broadcasting* (Eph 5:15, 16)

By applying what we learn, we can ‘walk in wisdom’ (Pr 3:5, 6; 28:26; w05 11/1 22 ¶7)

HOW TO ACT WISELY WHEN DEALING WITH DISAPPOINTMENT (12 min.)

Wisdom can safeguard us when we face disappointment

Our imperfect tendency may be to react rashly [Read Proverbs 19:2, 3]

This can lead to poor decisions that may damage our relationship with Jehovah

Let us consider how a heart of wisdom can help us cope with two challenges

When disappointed by fellow believers

It is unrealistic to expect perfection among God’s people (Ec 7:20-22; Jas 3:2)

The apostle Paul was disappointed by Demas (2Ti 4:10; it-1 612)

Euodia and Syntyche had a conflict between themselves (Php 4:2, 3) [Image 1]

Do not allow imperfect humans to cause you to draw away from Jehovah (Heb 3:12)

Avoid the tendency to focus on the faults of others (w19.08 9-10 ¶7-8)

Imitate Jesus’ loyalty and patience (1Pe 2:22, 23; cf 62-64 ¶19-21)

When disappointed by unfulfilled expectations

Jehovah’s Witnesses are not inspired or infallible

At times, we have had wrong expectations (w13 1/1 8, box)

Understanding of Bible truth continues to get clearer (Pr 4:18; w00 5/15 22 ¶5-23 ¶1)

If you find a teaching hard to accept, act wisely by humbly asking Jehovah to help you to understand it (Joh 6:68; w06 2/15 30 ¶21-22)

“KEEP ASKING GOD” FOR WISDOM (4 min.)

“Keep asking God” to help you acquire a heart of wisdom [Read James 1:5] (w21.02 28-29 ¶9-10)

Allow the trials you face to produce fine qualities in you (Jas 1:2-4)

Be determined to use each day of your life in a way that pleases God

[Adhere closely to the outlined material, and observe the indicated timing of each section.

Not all cited texts need to be read or commented on. See *Reminders for Those Assigned Public Talks* (S-141)]

TO BE COVERED IN 30 MINUTES

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