

# Take 5!

5 Verses, 5 Questions, 5 Minutes!

Wise Guy!



By Mary Kane

(This study is a continuation from the previous Take 5! study on wisdom, *Got Word?*)

Please take a moment to go before your Holy Father in prayer and ask Him to cleanse your heart from any sin and to fill you afresh with His Holy Spirit.

Now please read Proverbs 4:6-10.

According to the original Hebrew word used in verse 7, *wisdom* means to proficiently and prudently use previously learned skills and concepts as they apply to ethical, religious, administrative affairs. In a nutshell, it is the ability to act according to God's Word in any situation. Please consider what Matthew Henry says about wisdom, "It is that which recommends us to God, which beautifies the soul, which enables us to answer the end of our creation, to live to some good purpose in the world, and to get to heaven at last; and therefore it is the principal thing."<sup>1</sup>

**According to verse 6, if we don't forsake wisdom, what will it do for us?**

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<sup>1</sup> Henry, Matthew. "Commentary on Proverbs 4." . Blue Letter Bible. 1 Mar 1996. 2010. 1 Jul 2010.  
< [http:// www.blueletterbible.org/commentaries/comm\\_view.cfm?AuthorID=4&contentID=1278&commInfo=5&topic=Proverbs&ar=Pro\\_4\\_9](http://www.blueletterbible.org/commentaries/comm_view.cfm?AuthorID=4&contentID=1278&commInfo=5&topic=Proverbs&ar=Pro_4_9) >

The Hebrew word for *preserve* used in this verse is *shamar* which means to protect, to guard, to save life, to refrain, to guard as a flock of sheep. In the original language *forsake* means to loose, refuse, abandon, to cast away. So if I do not willfully cast away wisdom, it will protect and guard me—perhaps even save my life!

**What are we to acquire after we have pursued wisdom (verse 7)?**

*Understanding* is the ability to see a situation for what it truly is, and therefore, be able to offer wise counsel on how to proceed.

**What will we gain after we acquire and value wisdom and understanding (verses 8 and 9)?**

We will receive an ornament of grace; a crown of glory! In our society, people often wear hats that declare their allegiance to a certain sports team, club or place of business. How wonderful to wear a crown that declares our allegiance to the King of Kings!

**What is one final benefit to acquiring wisdom and understanding (verse 10)?**

Verse 10 states that we must *receive* the teacher's advice. The word *receive*, in the original language means "to take in hand, to carry away, to fetch, to seize, lay hold of, to marry." Due to these definitions, it sounds as if we can expect to exert a little effort in order to gain wisdom and understanding. Perhaps you will have to get up a little earlier, or give up a television program in order to spend more time in God's Word. God will greatly bless you for any sacrifice you make to spend more time with Him!

As inferred in verse 10, wisdom is a choice. Whether we receive it or reject it, it will greatly affect the quality of our lives.

**Where is the only place can we find true wisdom?**

In God's Holy Word! Let's be *wise guys* and start reading!

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