

PATIENCE AND WISDOM

Ecclesiastes 8.1-9 // July 14, 2019

THE POSTURE OF WISDOM

Though we're all broken mirrors, some of us display our distorted imagery more than others. We wear our inner brokenness, turmoil, bitterness, cynicism, and jealousy on our faces. But people of real wisdom, though still flawed, shine brighter and clearer than others, but these people are rare.

- A Person Who Lacks Wisdom: hardened face, misery or negativity about them, stubbornness, coldness, a lack of joy, pride or arrogance, lack of patience and empathy, judgmentalism, worry, jealousy, a lack of thankfulness, bitterness, critical, cynical.
- A Person of Wisdom: gentleness, patience, compassionate longsuffering, kindness, empathy, thoughtfulness, and a joy and genuine care for others.

DIVERSE WISDOM

We love having 1-2-3 step directions when it comes to dealing with life, making decisions, and navigating conflict. Some of us are quick to speak and confront, while others are quick to retreat and avoid. And each of those types of people often champion their technique as the "wisest" approach. However, wisdom is diverse, and no two situations are completely alike.

Proverbs 26.4, 5

It is possible to say the right thing at the wrong time.
Or the right thing in the wrong way.

LIMITED WISDOM, LIMITLESS KING

A harsh reality about wisdom is that, because of our finiteness and brokenness, wisdom has its limitations when we are the ones harnessing it. At the end of the day, we don't know what's coming at the end of the day! We learn and grow in wisdom to navigate an unpredictable life, but yet we also still lean on God when we realize we've made mistakes.

The Good News is, we have Christ our King not only as the King who is *not* an evil-doer and is *not* fickle like earthly kings, but who also, despite being the King of kings, humbled Himself and is the example to us as One who was mistreated and could have walked out on us hastily.

Psalms 86.14, 15 // Proverbs 14.29, 16.32, 19.11



NOTES:

This Week's Scripture to Memorize:

Zephaniah 3:17

The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION!

We'd love for you to **fill out a Connection Card** so we can welcome you and answer any questions you may have. You can drop it in the offering basket during the service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside. Feel free to grab some coffee and snacks in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

Our childrens' ministry, which we call **Kids on Mission**, has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. We have a great team of volunteers who have all been screened with background checks for extra security. Each week your child will get to **worship** with their class, followed by an **age-appropriate lesson** that points them towards Jesus and helps root them in the Word of God.

Visit our website to read more about the vision of Kids on Mission and a walkthrough of our curriculum. If you have any questions, email **Amber Willis at amber@lifemission.tv**

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Our **6th - 8th graders** begin each Sunday by **worshipping with the adults** and then head to their classroom with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service. Visit our website to read more about our junior high ministry and a walkthrough of our curriculum.

Our **9th-12th graders stay in the service** with the adults because we believe that it is crucial for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate high school.

For more information about our Junior High & High School ministries, email **Tyler Willis at tyler@lifemission.tv**.

Contact Us

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COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before group starts, who can share the Memory Verse?

Read Ecclesiastes 8.1-9. What stands out in this passage, and what stuck out to you most from the sermon on Sunday?

Preaching the Gospel to Yourself

What aspects of the example of Christ and what He has done for us give us resolve, strength, and humility to endure relationships and injustices in places of authority in a humble and patient way?

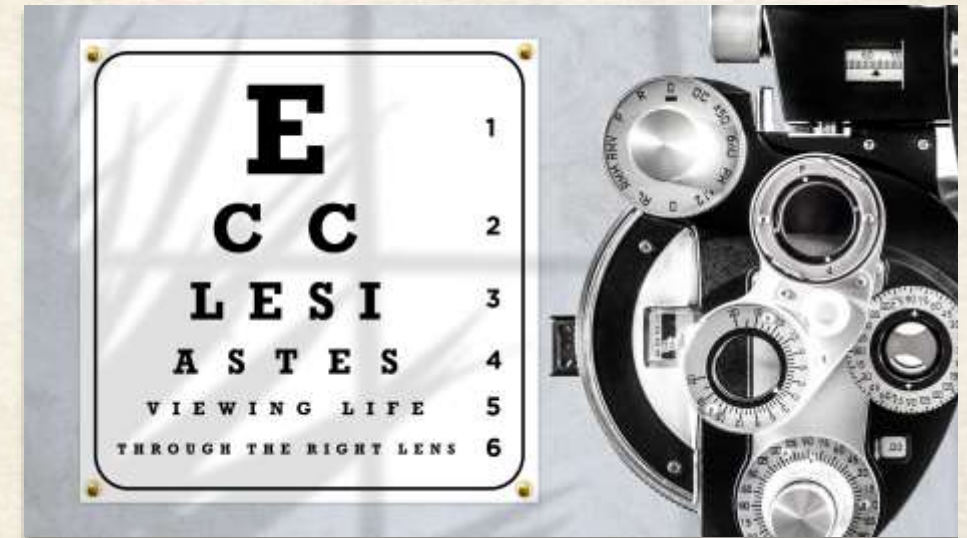
Repent and Ask for Provision

We have all been "armchair quarterbacks" in places of our lives. Be it parenting, politics, the workplace, kids' schools, or organizations, we have somehow turned "criticism" into what we think is a spiritual gift. In what ways do you recognize that you have lacked wisdom in your criticism or armchair quarterbacking in your life?

Your Life Mission

What opportunities or conversations or social settings with non-believers are on the horizon or in your calendar that you could use prayer for, that God has ordained you to cross paths with and reflect His glory? How can your group be praying for the people in your life that you love and care for?

End the evening in a time of prayer, praying through the theme of the night using the P.R.A.Y. model with your group. Pray for these people you have mentioned and for your heart and plan as you pursue them in love. Make sure to end your time of prayer Yielding with Thanksgiving for God's sovereignty and plan for your life.



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SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT US ONLINE

LIFEMISSIONCHURCH.COM

