

*becoming*



*Sermon Notes*

Becoming: Sermon Notes

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# KNOWLEDGE: SOLOMON

*<sup>3</sup>His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, <sup>4</sup>by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. <sup>5</sup>For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, <sup>6</sup>and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, <sup>7</sup>and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. <sup>8</sup>For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. <sup>10</sup>Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. <sup>11</sup>For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

2 Peter 1:3–11

## RECAP

- Week 1: Who are you becoming?
- Rest of series: Virtues listed in 2 Peter 1:5–7
- Last 2 Weeks: Faith & Virtue

We become who God wants us to become when we live out the knowledge God has given us.

## WHAT IS KNOWLEDGE?

*<sup>5</sup>For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge,*

2 Peter 1:5

### What is knowledge?

- In the ancient world, the Greeks desired speculative knowledge.
- In the Bible, knowledge is always practical—wisdom and discernment.

*<sup>1</sup>The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel:*

*<sup>2</sup>To know wisdom and instruction,  
to understand words of insight,  
<sup>3</sup>to receive instruction in wise dealing,  
in righteousness, justice, and equity;  
<sup>4</sup>to give prudence to the simple,  
knowledge and discretion to the youth—  
<sup>5</sup>Let the wise hear and increase in learning,  
and the one who understands obtain guidance,  
<sup>6</sup>to understand a proverb and a saying,  
the words of the wise and their riddles.*

*<sup>7</sup>The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge;  
fools despise wisdom and instruction.*

Proverbs 1:1–7

- Biblical wisdom is God-given and God-centered discernment regarding the practical issues in life.

## THE EXAMPLE OF SOLOMON'S KNOWLEDGE

1 Kings 3

### Solomon's Story

*<sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said,  
“Ask what I shall give you.”*

1 Kings 3:5

*<sup>7</sup>And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of  
David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out  
or come in. <sup>8</sup>And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have  
chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. <sup>9</sup>Give  
your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I  
may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great  
people?”*

1 Kings 3:7–9

*<sup>10</sup>It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup>And God said to him,  
“Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches  
or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern  
what is right, <sup>12</sup>behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a  
wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none  
like you shall arise after you. <sup>13</sup>I give you also what you have not asked, both  
riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days.  
<sup>14</sup>And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments,*

*as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.”*

1 Kings 3:10–14

*<sup>28</sup>And all Israel heard of the judgment that the king had rendered, and they stood in awe of the king, because they perceived that the wisdom of God was in him to do justice.*

1 Kings 3:28

## Solomon's Practical Knowledge

- Solomon recognized his lack of knowledge
- Solomon acknowledged the source of knowledge

*<sup>5</sup>If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.*

James 1:5

- Solomon understood the practicality of knowledge
  - True knowledge leads to a change of heart and ultimately to a change in action.
- Solomon exercised his gift of knowledge
  - Some of us want to know the right things but fail to do the right things.

## THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS' KNOWLEDGE

*<sup>53</sup>And when Jesus had finished these parables, he went away from there, <sup>54</sup>and coming to his hometown he taught them in their synagogue, so that they were astonished, and said, “Where did this man get this wisdom and these mighty works?” <sup>55</sup>Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? And are not his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas? <sup>56</sup>And are not all his sisters with us? Where then did this man get all these things?” <sup>57</sup>And they took offense at him. But Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and in his own household.” <sup>58</sup>And he did not do many mighty works there, because of their unbelief.*

Matthew 13:53–58

- Jesus not only modeled knowledge; he enables knowledge.

*<sup>3</sup>in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.*

Colossians 2:3

<sup>16</sup>*“For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.*

1 Corinthians 2:16

- Because of Jesus, we not only know what true knowledge looks like; we know where true knowledge is found.

## QUESTIONS FOR PRAYERFUL REFLECTION THIS WEEK

- Do you consider yourself a wise person? Why?
- What is your source for knowledge and wisdom?
- Think about some recent life events. How have you lived out the wisdom of God?
- Enabled with the mind of Christ, what do you need to do right now to grow in God’s wisdom?

Who are you becoming? Are you becoming wise?