

Another Year Wiser

Time. Where does it go? It's hard to believe another year is coming to a close so quickly. When we pause and get quiet, we might notice questions swirling in our minds. *What did I accomplish this past year? Did I do enough? Am I any better off than I was this time last year? Should I be setting goals or choosing my word for the year?* Perhaps the most important question is, *What does God have in store for me in the year ahead?*

It's natural to reflect on the past and wonder about the future. As we do, it's essential that we seek guidance from God's Word. The wisest man who ever lived, Solomon, gave us an entire book filled with practical, Biblical wisdom. Proverbs contains countless truths that we can apply to everyday life. Aren't you grateful? Let's look at a few of these truths.

[Read Proverbs 1:1-6 in the New Living Translation \(NLT\).](#)

Solomon outlines several purposes behind his writing of these proverbs. All are important. ***Which purpose(s) do you most need in your own life right now? Which purpose(s) seem to be lacking in our culture today?***

Proverbs is intended to make us wise. To be wise is to be disciplined, just, insightful, knowledgeable, and discerning. This wisdom grows as we apply spiritual understanding to the daily decisions and situations we face. How is that possible? Let's keep reading.

[Read Proverbs 1:7 \(NLT\).](#)

True knowledge and wisdom have a starting point – *the fear of the Lord*. ***What does that mean to you?***

Most Biblical scholars explain that “the fear of the Lord” isn't about being afraid of God. Rather, it means recognizing who He is—His holiness, power, and authority—and responding with deep respect, awe, and honor. This posture opens the door to wisdom and builds our relationship with Him. As we grow in knowledge and wisdom, the questions about the past and the future may still swirl in our minds, but the anxiety behind them can be quieted.

[Read Proverbs 3:5-6.](#)

This is one of the most memorized and quoted passages of the Bible. Ponder these questions.

1. Where do I turn *first* when I need help?
2. Is pleasing God in *all* things my goal?
3. Is God directing my path, or am I navigating on my own?
4. Do I implicitly trust Him?

This last year passed by so quickly, and so will 2026. There likely will be questions to ponder. Commit this coming year to rooting yourself in God's Word and to investing in your relationship with Him. May 2026 be a year in which “the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ gives you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God” ([Ephesians 1:17](#)). Happy New Year!

Father, as we stand on the threshold of a new year, we thank You for Your faithfulness in every season behind us and Your promise to guide us in the days ahead. Teach us to walk in true wisdom, the kind that begins with a right reverence for who You are. Quiet our anxious thoughts and shape our hearts to trust You fully. Help us to seek Your will in all things, lean on Your understanding instead of our own, and follow the path You set before us. May this coming year be marked by deeper relationship, clearer discernment, and unwavering confidence in Your presence. Lead us, Lord, and make our steps steady and sure. In Jesus' name, Amen.

