

Discernment: Thinking Things through from God's Angle

Discernment: How Do I Get It?

Discernment: What Is It, and Why Is It Important?

1. *It Is Emphasized by Solomon's Request, & God's Granting Of It*
2. *The Absence of It Is Condemned In Proverbs*
3. *It Was Conveyed by Priests and Levites (Ezek 44:15-23)*
4. *It Is Promised by God When He Returns*
5. *It Is Expected By Jesus*
6. *It Was Prayed for by Paul*
7. *It Is Brought About by Scripture*
8. *Practiced by Mature Believers*

Discernment: How Do I Get It?

1. _____ For and _____ Discernment (CRY OUT!)

Proverbs 2:1-5 My son, if you receive my words, And treasure my commands within you, ² So that you incline your ear to wisdom, *And* apply your heart to understanding; ³ Yes, if you cry out for discernment, *And* lift up your voice for understanding, ⁴ If you seek her as silver, And search for her as *for* hidden treasures; ⁵ Then you will understand the fear of the LORD, And find the knowledge of God.

2. _____ Your Path (THINK THINGS THROUGH!)

Proverbs 4:20-27 My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. ²¹ Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart; ²² For they *are* life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh. ²³ Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it *spring* the issues of life. ²⁴ Put away from you a deceitful mouth, And put perverse lips far from you. ²⁵ Let your eyes look straight ahead, And your eyelids look right before you. ²⁶ ***Ponder the path of your feet, And let all your ways be established.*** ²⁷ Do not turn to the right or the left; Remove your foot from evil.

3. _____ the Results of Your Choices (LOOK FURTHER AHEAD!)

Hebrews 11:24-26 By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, ²⁵ choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, ²⁶ esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.

²⁴ Πίστει Μωϋσῆς μέγας γενόμενος ἤρνησατο λέγεσθαι υἱὸς θυγατρὸς Φαραώ, ²⁵ μάλλον ἐλόμενος συγκακουχεῖσθαι τῷ λαῷ τοῦ θεοῦ ἢ πρόσκαιρον ἔχειν ἁμαρτίας ἀπόλαυσιν, ²⁶ μείζονα πλοῦτον ἠγησάμενος τῶν Αἰγύπτου θησαυρῶν τὸν ὀνειδισμόν τοῦ Χριστοῦ· ἀπέβλεπεν γὰρ εἰς τὴν μισθαποδοσίαν.

Proverbs 5:1-5 My son, pay attention to my wisdom; Lend your ear to my understanding, ² That you may preserve discretion, And your lips may keep knowledge. ³ For the lips of an immoral woman drip honey, And her mouth *is* smoother than oil; ⁴ But in the end she is bitter as wormwood, Sharp as a two-edged sword. ⁵ Her feet go down to death, Her steps lay hold of hell.

4. _____ Your Mind with Truth (READ/MEDITATE/MEMORIZE!)

Romans 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. (; Heb 4:12)

Παρακαλῶ οὖν ὑμᾶς, ἀδελφοί, διὰ τῶν οἰκτιρμῶν τοῦ θεοῦ παραστῆσαι τὰ σώματα ὑμῶν θυσίαν ἁγίαν εὐάρεστον τῷ θεῷ, τὴν λογικὴν λατρείαν ὑμῶν. ² καὶ μὴ συσχηματίζεσθε τῷ αἰῶνι τούτῳ, ἀλλὰ μεταμορφοῦσθε τῇ ἀνακαινώσει τοῦ νοῦ εἰς τὸ δοκιμάζειν ὑμᾶς τί τὸ θέλημα τοῦ θεοῦ, τὸ ἀγαθὸν καὶ εὐάρεστον καὶ τέλειον.

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

5. _____ to Walk Acceptably to God (IF YOU DON'T AIM...)

Ephesians 5:8-10⁸ For you were once darkness, but now *you are* light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of the Spirit *is* in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), ¹⁰ finding out what is acceptable to the Lord.

⁸ ἦτε γὰρ ποτε σκότος, νῦν δὲ φῶς ἐν κυρίῳ· ὡς τέκνα φωτὸς περιπατεῖτε ⁹ ὁ γὰρ καρπὸς τοῦ φωτὸς ἐν πάσῃ ἀγαθῳσύνῃ καὶ δικαιοσύνῃ καὶ ἀληθείᾳ· ¹⁰ δοκιμάζοντες τί ἐστὶν εὐάρεστον τῷ κυρίῳ,

6. _____ Everything, and Hang On to the Good (TOSS THE TRASH!)

1 Thes 5:21 Test all things; hold fast what is good.

²¹ πάντα δὲ δοκιμάζετε, τὸ καλὸν κατέχετε,

7. _____ the Truth (IT MAKES "PERFECT"!)

Hebrews 5:14 But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, *that is*, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.