

appnotes



DAY 1

READ ROMANS 14:1-13

Living at peace with others isn't always easy; in fact it's downright hard—especially in light of our differing preferences. In Romans 14, Paul acknowledges that no two people are the same but gives us some good insight on how we can live peacefully with one another, despite our differences. His primary piece of advice comes from verse 13 when He tells us “Stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in the way of a brother or sister.” Paul reminds us that we are all accountable to God and that our time is better spent working to love and care for each other rather than disagreeing on our preferences. Today, are you working hard to live at peace with others or are you looking to point the finger?

DAY 2

READ PROVERBS 4:1-27

Solomon, arguably one of the wisest figures in history, lets us know what the main pursuit of our life should be. Is it money? Maybe possessions? Perhaps it's significant relationships? How about a successful career? No. Instead, he urges us to a pursuit of wisdom. Wisdom helps us to live the best life possible, guarding us from unnecessary pain and heartache. When we pursue wisdom we not only improve our lives but the lives of those around us. Are you looking to God for wisdom and following

the example of other Christ-followers who are experiencing the joy that comes from living within God's boundaries? Are you known as someone who is wise and worth following or have you been heading down the wrong path? It's never too late to change course.

DAY 3

READ JAMES 3:13-17

I love how straight-forward James is. He doesn't like to beat around the bush, he just gets right to the point. Many people think they are wise but their lives don't reflect wisdom. He calls us out saying, “don't just say you're wise but prove it by the way you live.” Wise living is exhibited through purity, love, gentleness, mercy, and selflessness. Don't just say you are wise, show it. Remember, God is happy to give us all the wisdom we need. All we have to do is ask for it! (James 1:5)

DAY 4

READ GALATIANS 5:13-26

As Paul addresses this group of believers in Galatia, he is talking to a group of people who don't really understand the grace that God has given to them. In Christ we experience ultimate freedom and forgiveness of sin. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit we can experience a new way of life, as we are no longer slaves to sin. However some people were taking advantage of God's forgiveness by living the way they wanted. Paul calls that foolishness, not freedom. He then goes on to give us a litmus test to see if we are making the wise choice of following God's lead or if we are simply doing what we want. As you read that list, where do you find yourself today?

DAY 5

READ PROVERBS 7:1-27

Each and every day we have an untold number of thoughts. Those thoughts determine our actions. Our actions turn into habits and our habits develop our character. Our character in turn shapes our lifestyle. Solomon knows this truth better than most and illustrates the point as he urges his son to start with wisdom. As we immerse ourselves in wisdom we are shaping a lifestyle that is worth imitating. Today, be intentional with what you say, what you think, and what you do. Make the wise choice and begin to reshape your lifestyle. The sooner the better!