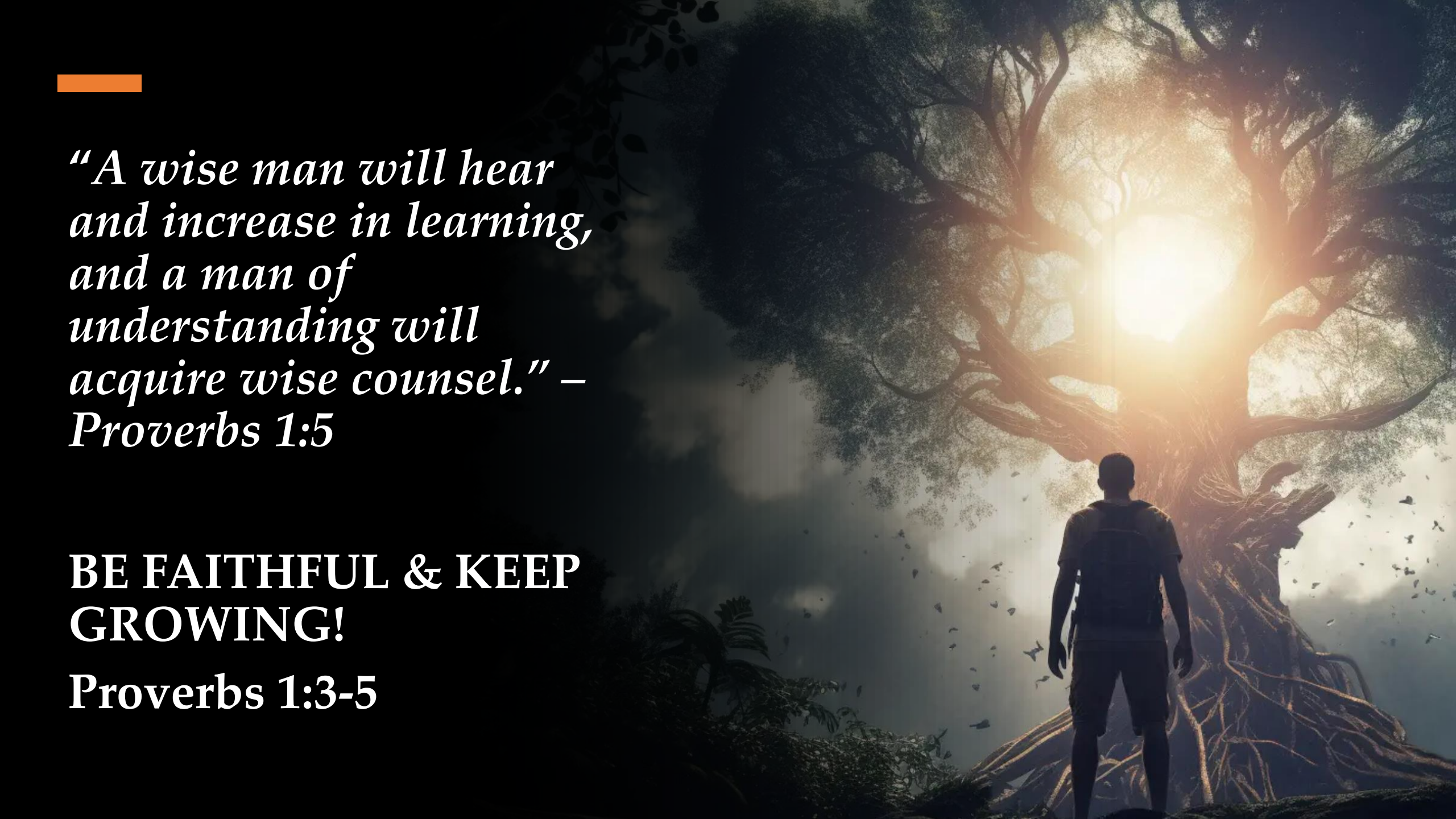


A person stands with their back to the camera, looking up at a massive, ancient tree. A brilliant, golden light emanates from the center of the tree's canopy, creating a strong backlight effect. The scene is set against a sky filled with soft, white clouds. Numerous small, dark leaves or petals are seen drifting through the air around the tree. The overall mood is one of awe, contemplation, and seeking enlightenment.

# WISDOM

for the journey



A person is standing in the foreground, looking up at a massive, ancient tree. The tree's trunk is thick and gnarled, with many roots exposed. The canopy is dense and filled with leaves. A bright, glowing light source, possibly the sun or moon, is positioned directly behind the tree's trunk, creating a strong backlight effect and illuminating the scene. The sky is dark with some clouds, and many small birds are flying around the tree. The overall mood is one of awe and contemplation.

*“A wise man will hear  
and increase in learning,  
and a man of  
understanding will  
acquire wise counsel.” –  
Proverbs 1:5*

**BE FAITHFUL & KEEP  
GROWING!**

**Proverbs 1:3-5**



A person stands with their back to the camera, looking up at a massive, ancient tree. Sunlight filters through the dense canopy, creating a warm, golden glow. The scene is set in a lush, tropical environment with other foliage visible in the lower left.

# WISDOM

for the journey

We need help to make decisions about work; all relationships – in speech and conduct; who to trust or avoid; along with being measured by the plumbline of true character. Wisdom from Proverbs offers insight into the concrete experiences of human life that help us take charge of our lives.

Proverbs is about **how to** live out your faith in God. There is no true wisdom apart from Jesus. Fools are those who rely on their own knowledge to navigate life.

In this study, we will look and listen to hear God's voice and see his Son shining through the book of Proverbs. We will be equipped in every way for our journey!



# KNOWING WISDOM – DISCRETION!

Proverbs 1:3, 4.

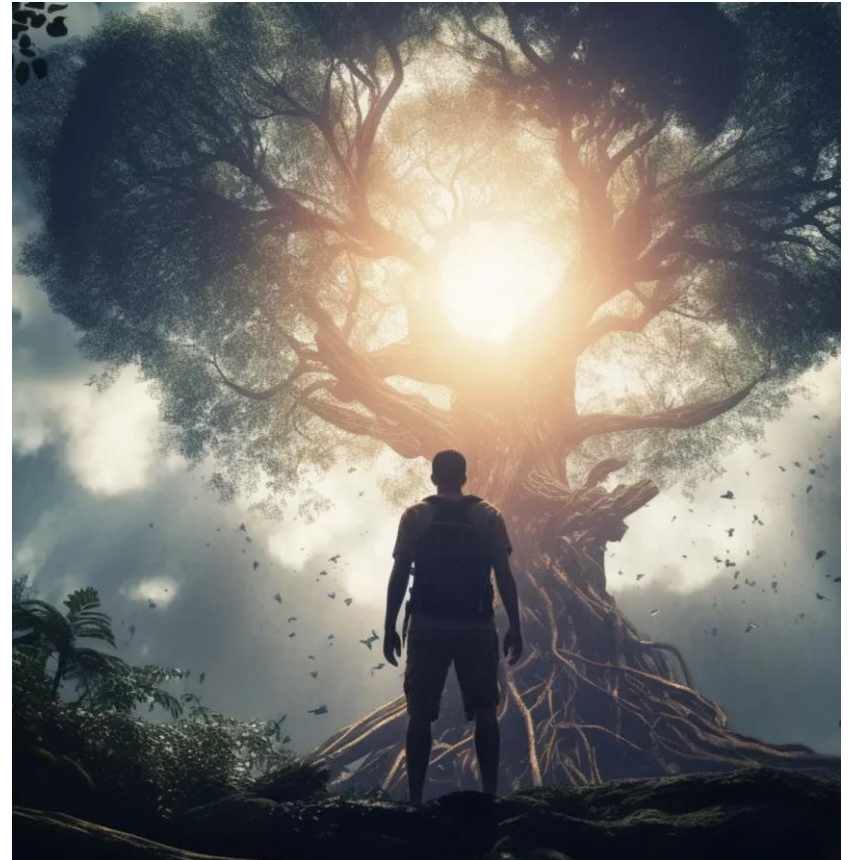
1. **PLAN & LIVE STRATEGICALLY** → You can be a moral person and still not be wise. There are visionaries who see where we should go but have little idea of the practical steps for bringing the goal into reality. To be wise is to anticipate problems without falling into either danger of overconfidence or the paralysis of overcaution. Discretion is a form of foresight, knowing what kinds of behavior will lead to what result (Proverbs 22:3).
2. **FREE FROM PRIDE & FEAR** → We learn from times when we did not have the discretion to know how to accomplish the goal. Being faithful is more important than being successful. Only then will we be freed from the pride and fear that prevent true success.

# KNOWING WISDOM – LEARNING!

## Proverbs 1:5

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1. **LIFE LONG LEARNER** → The Hebrew word for learning means extensive study. You have to be knowledgeable about a subject before you can apply it with the discipline, discernment, and discretion of wisdom.
2. **BECOME WISE** → To be wise we must understand human nature, how human relationships work, suffering and death, and the character of God himself. Wisdom is wedding thought and experience to become “competent with regard to the realities of life.” True wisdom requires deep knowledge of the Scriptures.



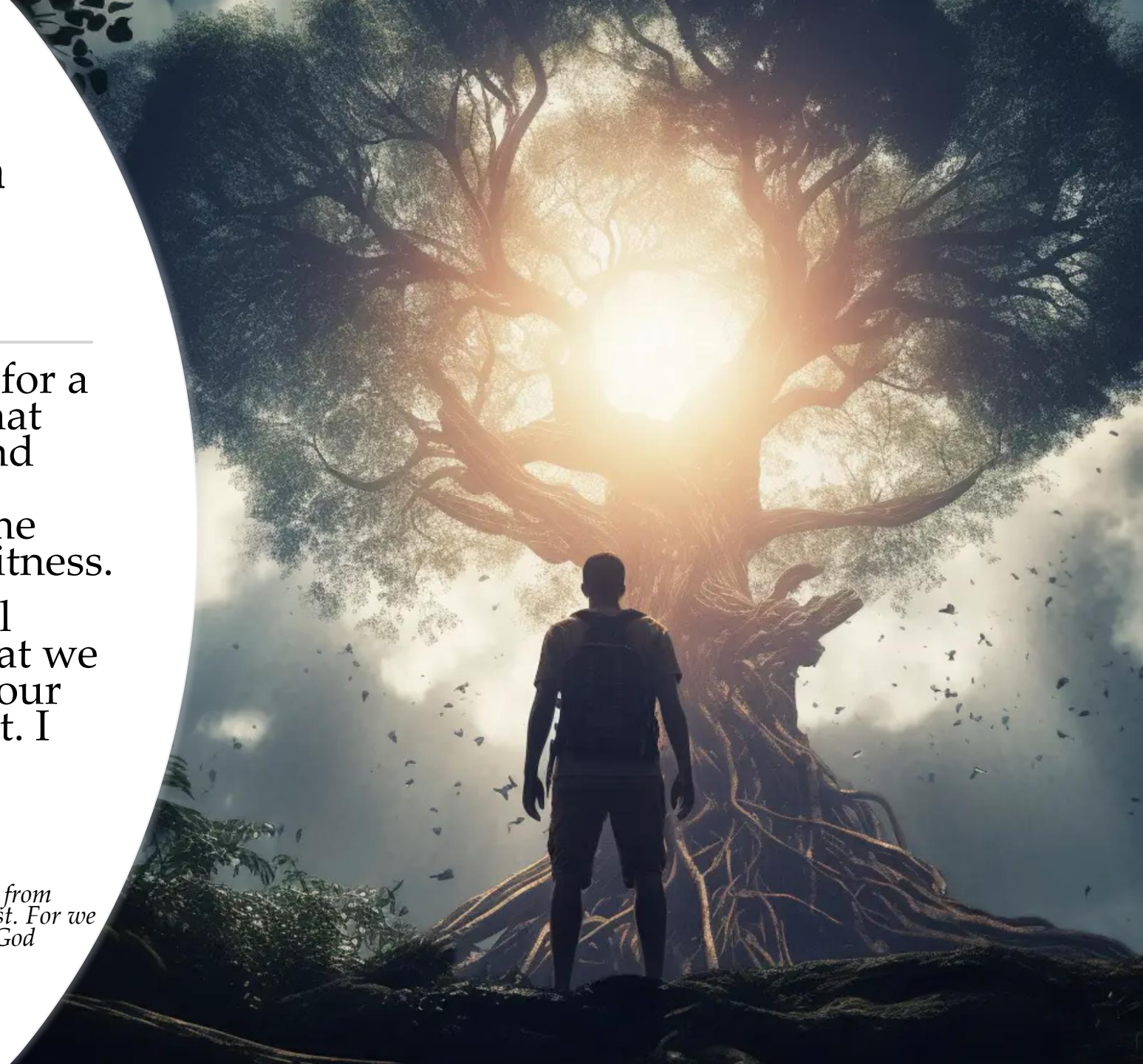


# KNOWING WISDOM – Be a Wise Man – SET GOALS!

## Proverbs 1:1-6

1. **TAKE CHARGE** → Setting goals for a new year are an important sign that we're intentional about growth and allowing God to refine us in our callings—work and business, home and church, private and public witness.
2. **WHAT DO YOU WANT?** → Goal setting is based on the premise that we must decide what is beneficial to our own life and set goals to achieve it. I trust God to guide me in these decisions and goals.

*"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." – Ephesians 2:8-10.*







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## ACTION: JOURNAL THIS!

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1. Can you remember a time when you knew what to do, but did not have the discretion to know how to accomplish it?
2. What challenge do you face that requires you to learn a better way to resolve the challenge?
3. How do you plan to increase your knowledge of the Bible this year?