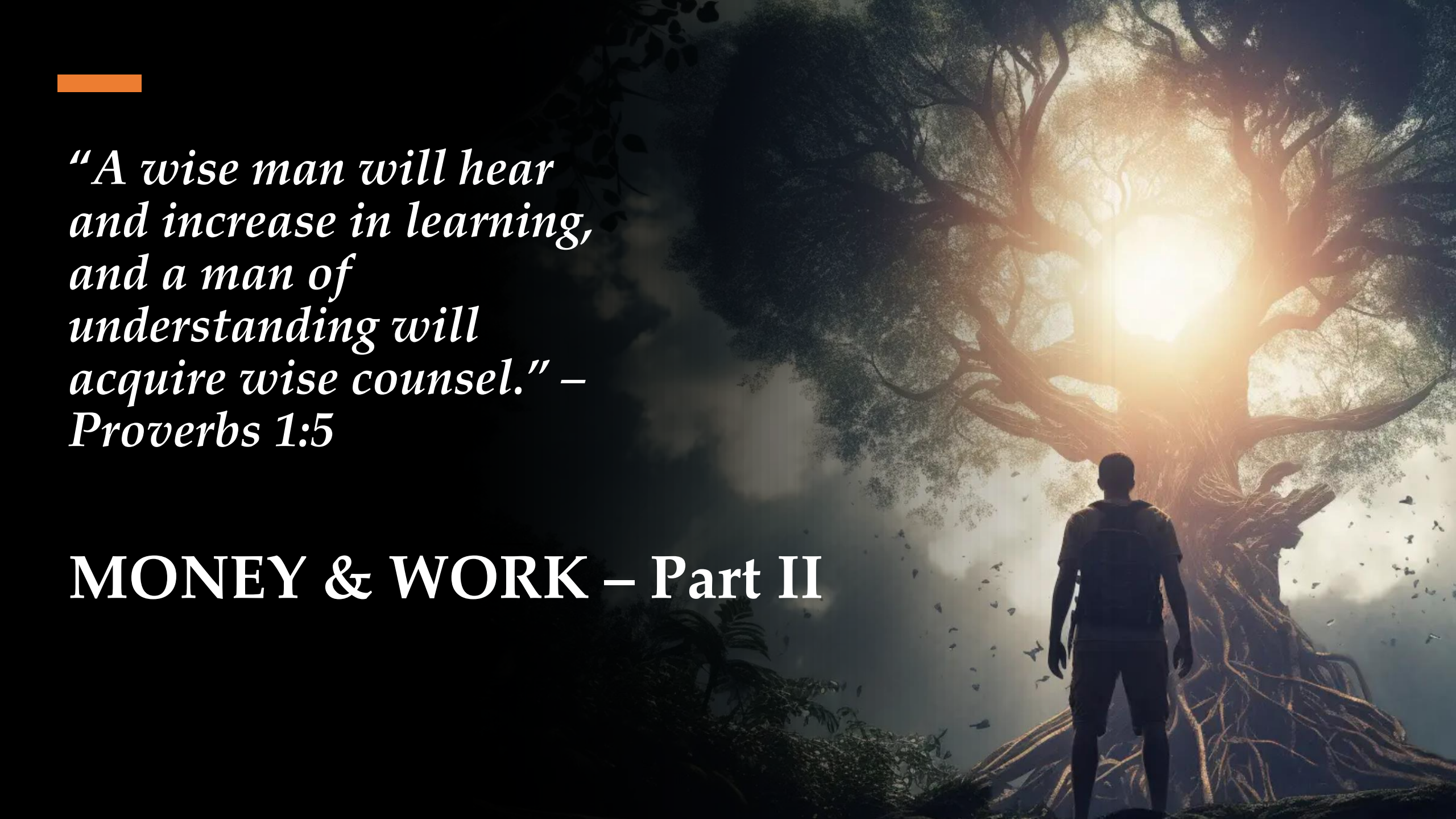


A person stands with their back to the camera, looking up at a massive, ancient tree. A brilliant, golden light emanates from the center of the tree's canopy, creating a strong backlight effect. The scene is set against a sky filled with soft, white clouds. Numerous small, dark leaves or petals are seen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

WISDOM

for the journey

A man in silhouette stands on a rocky outcrop, looking up at a massive, ancient tree. The tree's trunk is thick and gnarled, with roots spreading out. Behind the tree, a bright, glowing light source, possibly the sun or moon, creates a strong backlight effect, illuminating the scene and casting long shadows. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds, and many small birds are seen flying in the air. The overall mood is contemplative and majestic.

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

A GOOD FATHER

A person stands with their back to the camera, looking up at a massive, ancient tree. Sunlight streams through the dense canopy of leaves, creating a bright, ethereal glow. The scene is set in a lush, green environment with other foliage visible in the lower left corner. The overall mood is one of awe and contemplation.

WISDOM

for the journey

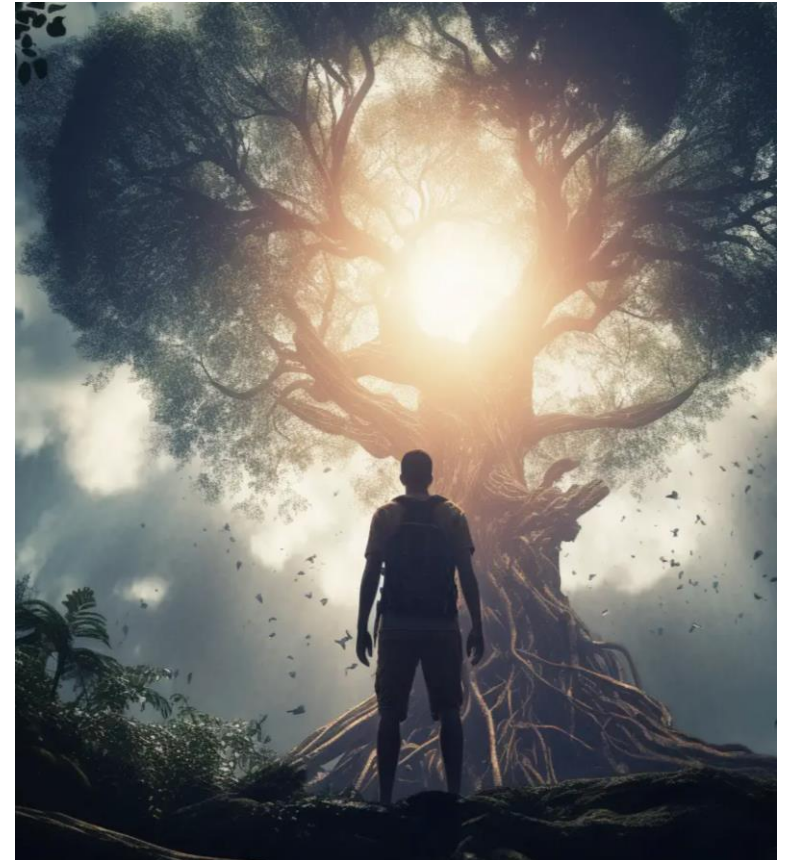
We need help to make decisions about work; all relationships – in speech and conduct; who to trust or avoid; along with being measured by the plumbline of true character. Wisdom from Proverbs offers insight into the concrete experiences of human life that help us take charge of our lives.

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!

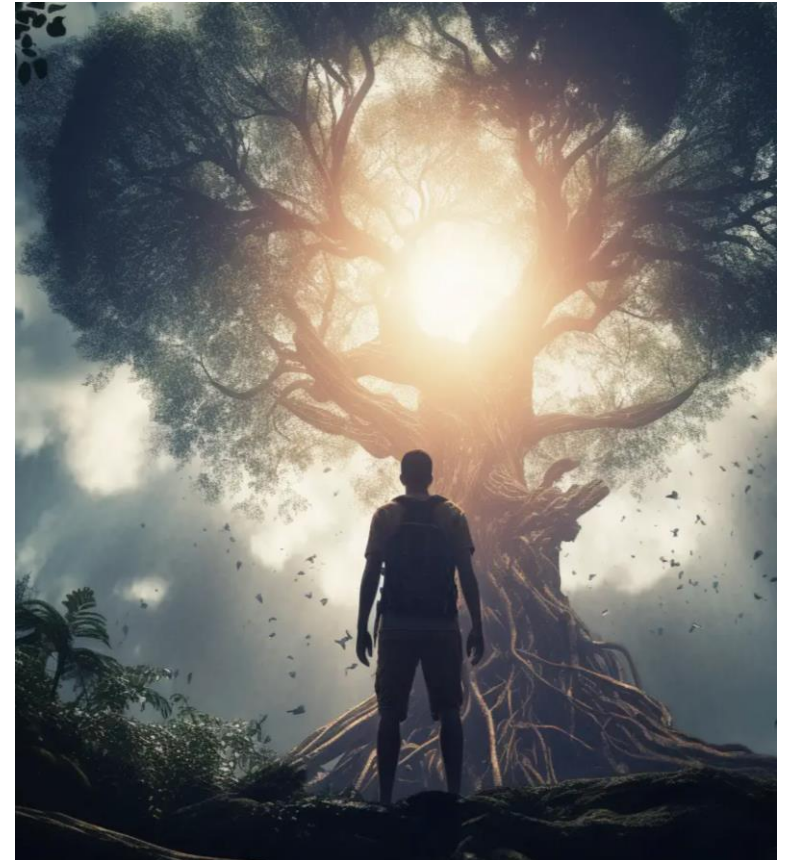
KNOWING THE SPHERES – A GOOD FATHER

1. **TEACH** - Proverbs 23:22-24; 3:11-12 → Proverbs teaches that the ultimate goal of fathering is neither control or affirmation but to teach children to become wise and righteous. Only through relationship is wisdom imparted in the context of mutual delight (Malachi 4:6).
2. **DISCIPLINE** – Proverbs 19:18; 29:15 → One of the main ways to discipline is to establish both boundaries and consistent consequences for crossing the design of God. Good fatherly discipline leads to good self-discipline.



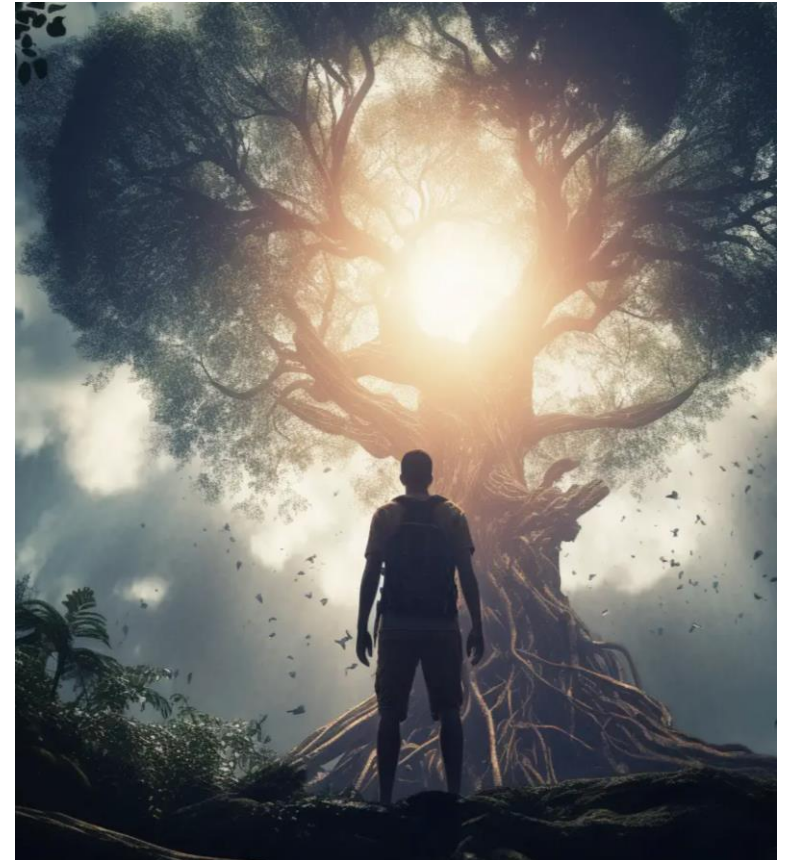
KNOWING THE SPHERES – A GOOD FATHER!

3. BE REAL – Proverbs 22:6, 15 → Children are naturally self-centered, they don't understand how other people feel, and they don't know how their behavior will affect others—all of these basic things must be taught. They are both image bearers and hereditary sinners. Good fathers lead with both love and firmness, with truth and tears. Three factors determine “the way they should go” =
1. Nature → the hearts they are born with.
 2. Nurture → the quality of the fathers/parents they receive.
 3. Choices → their own choices.



KNOWING THE SPHERES – A GOOD FATHER!

4. **HONOR** – Proverbs 15:20; 30:11, 17; 10:1 → Honor is to acknowledge both the good and the bad. Don't despise curse, or mock them, but bless them. Find ways to respect them. Give credit where credit is due. Let them change if they will. Forgive them for the things they did wrong.
5. **RECONCILIATION** – Proverbs 20:20; 27:8; 29:3 → The consequences of an unreconciled relationship with one's family are serious. To be alienated from family is a deep sadness. If parental care and approval are the main source of self-worth and security, then you will be overdependent on your parents if they are relatively good parents, and unbearably angry with them if they are not. If, however, through Jesus Christ, your true brother, you have come into the ultimate family and received the ultimate fatherly approval, you will have the freedom to not need your parents so much, and to forgive them. In Jesus you are always home.





ACTION: JOURNAL THIS!

1. What are your best memories of your father?
2. What “father wounds” do you carry?
3. How do you want to be remembered by your children?