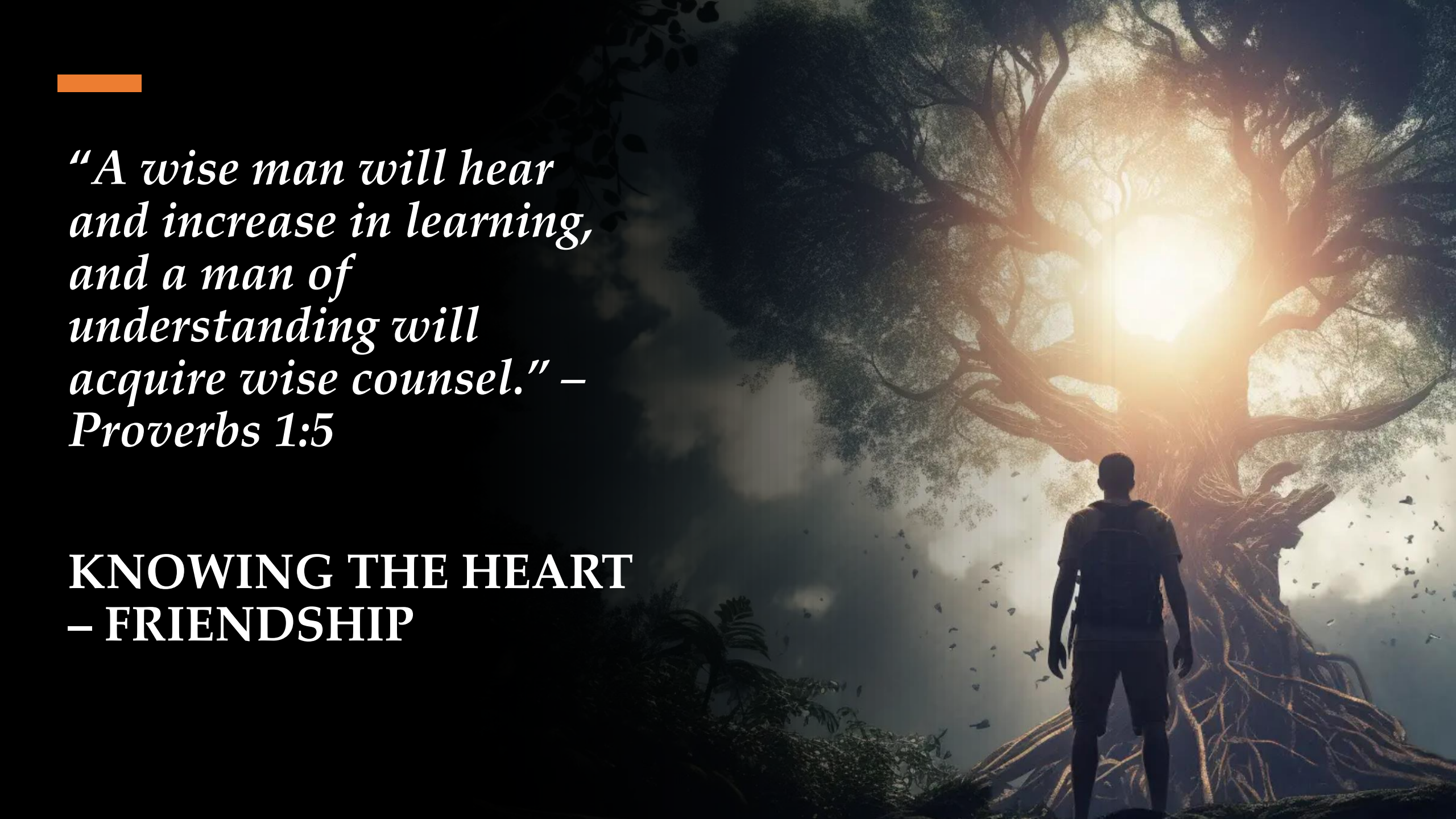


A person stands with their back to the camera, looking up at a massive, ancient tree. A brilliant, golden light emanates from behind the tree's trunk, creating a strong backlight effect. The scene is set against a sky filled with soft, white clouds. Numerous small, dark leaves or petals are seen floating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

# WISDOM

for the journey



A person stands in silhouette 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 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*

**KNOWING JESUS: THE  
TRUE WISDOM OF GOD**



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 warm, golden 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.

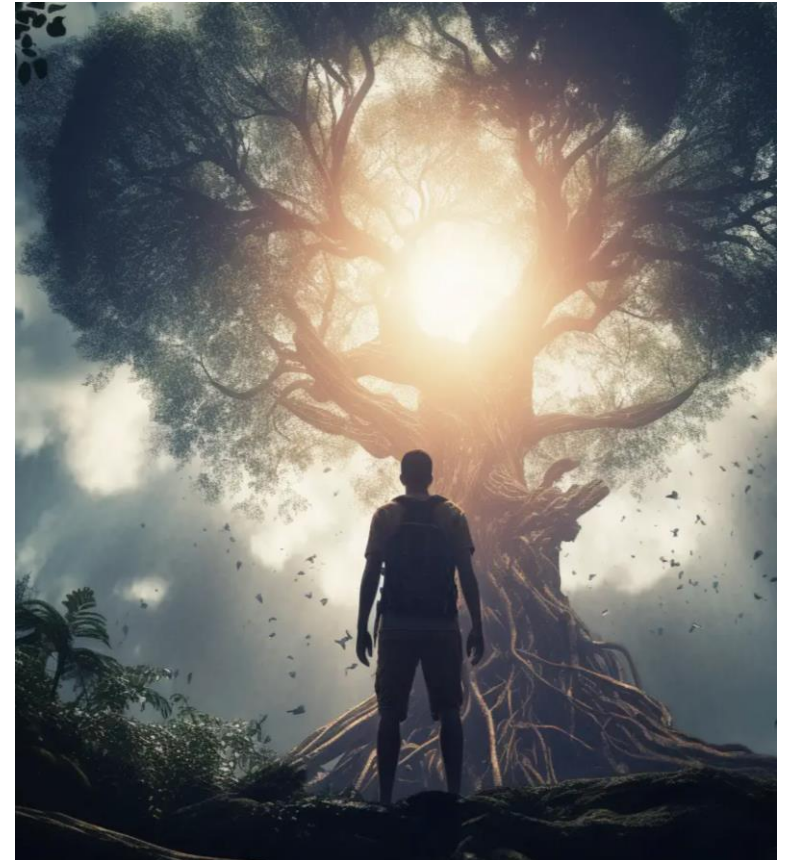
Proverbs is about **how to** live out your faith in God. There is no true wisdom apart from Jesus. Fools are those who rely on their own knowledge to navigate life.

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 JESUS – WHO IS JESUS?

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1. **THE ULTIMATE TEACHER** – Mark 6:1, 2 → Jesus was the ultimate teacher of wisdom. Jesus presents “two paths” (Proverbs 2:1-5 and Matthew 7:13-14), but he shows that the path to life is the gospel. He explains how we can be both sinners deserving punishment and God’s children under his care. In Christ we are simultaneously spiritually lost sinners yet fully justified in God’s sight and loved.
2. **THE BETTER SOLOMON** – Luke 11:31, 32 → Proverbs was assembled by Solomon. Solomon said to wait for God to punish the wrongdoer (24:12), but Jesus took their punishment himself. Solomon said that God is a defender of the oppressed (23:10-11), but Jesus came to become a victim of injustice and stand in the very place of the oppressed. Solomon calls us to write his teaching on our hearts (3:3), but Jesus sends his Spirit to write God’s word on our hearts (II Corinthians 3:3).

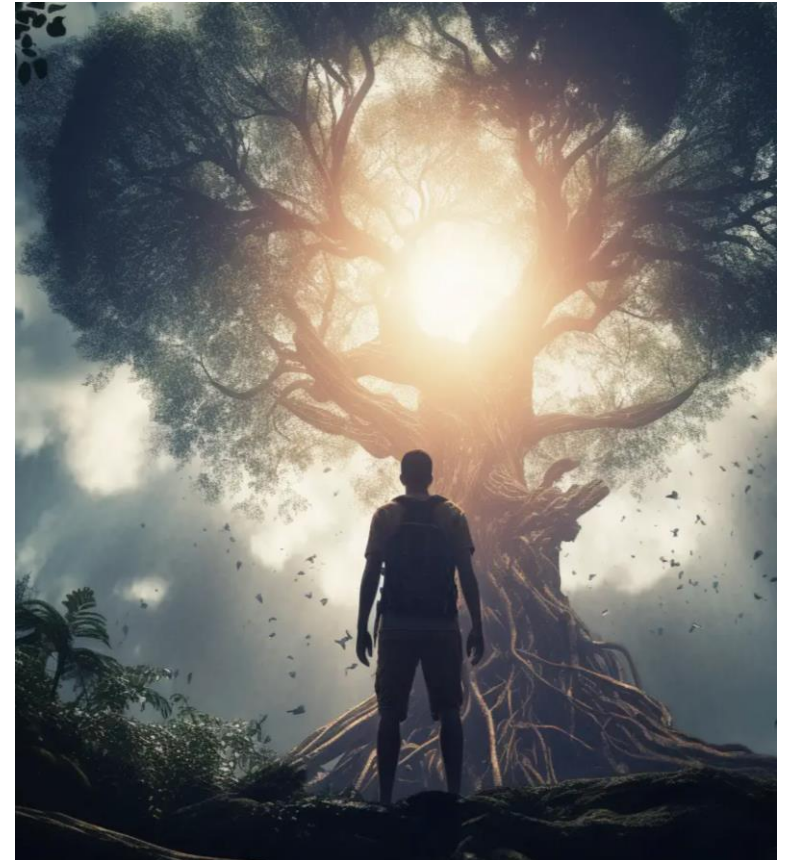




# KNOWING JESUS – WHO IS JESUS?

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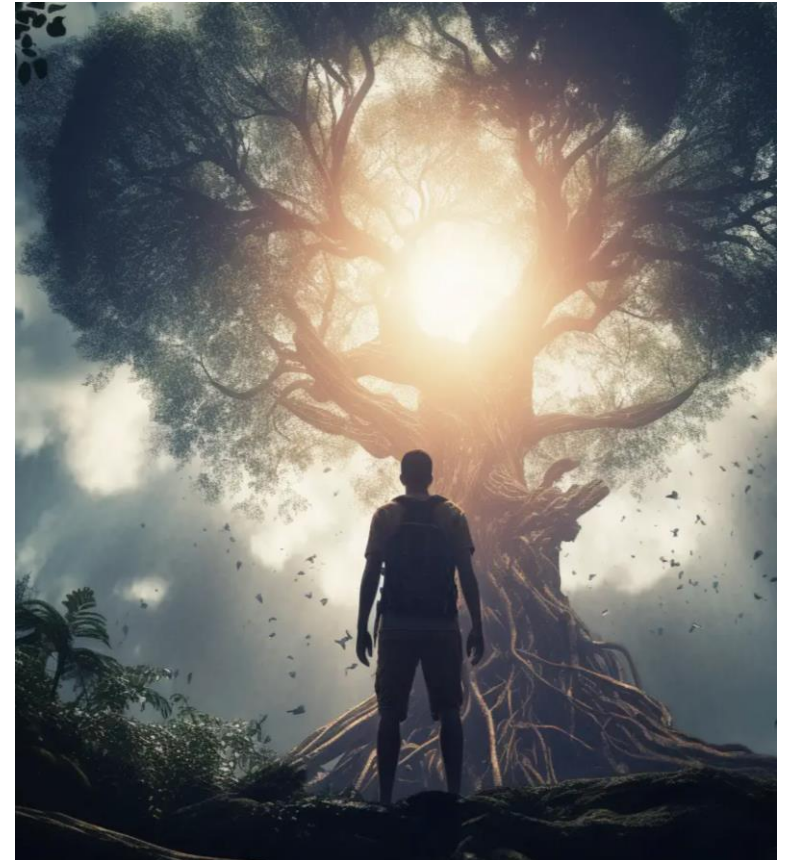
3. **WISDOM IN PERSON** – Matthew 11:18-19 → Proverbs 8 depicts wisdom as an actual person with whom God created the world. Proverbs 1-9 personifies God's wisdom as a woman whom we must know personally if we are to live a wise life. Colossians 1:15-17 and John 1:1-6 tell us that it was Jesus himself who was present with the Father at creation. In short, as Proverbs calls all people to become wise by entering into a relationship with the wisdom that created the world, so the gospel and the indwelling Spirit of God, through a relationship with Jesus Christ. Christianity's deepest secret of wisdom comes not through massive learning and education but through an intimate relationship with a humble man who was as willing to identify with a wise woman as with Solomon and the kings of old.
4. **WISDOM & REST** – Matthew 11:28-30 → In Jewish writings God's wisdom is depicted as calling people to take on wisdom's yoke and to get the rest of soul that comes to the wise. Fools are wise in their own eyes—and so they are always chafing because they feel they are not getting respect, or not getting their due. They also want instant gratification. In all these ways a lack of wisdom means a lack of restfulness and contentment. When Jesus calls us to take on his yoke and come to him for rest, he is saying, "I am the true wisdom."



# KNOWING JESUS – WHO IS JESUS?

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5. **THE TRUE KING** – Colossians 1:15-17 → We all know that leadership heals what is broken by uniting what is fragmented. In Jesus, the true wisdom through whom the world was created, things *hold together*. Outside of Jesus is chaos and disorder. To choose that instead of choosing to be under the lordship of the one who created you and all things is folly. To the degree you are under Jesus's lordship, you will grow in wisdom and see your life being healed. Inside each of our sinful hearts is a desire for no rules, no master. In Jesus, we have found what we were looking for!
6. **TREASURE CHEST** – Colossians 2:1-3 → Infinite treasures of wisdom and knowledge are *in* him. The wisdom of Christ comes as much through communing with him in our hearts as through studying him with our minds. Proverbs constantly insists that wisdom takes time to develop, and this makes sense if wisdom is a person and we have to learn how he thinks, what his attitudes are, and what actions would please him. We need to make the time to know Jesus in his Word and become wise.







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## ACTION: JOURNAL THIS!

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1. Where are you in your spiritual journey?
2. Is Jesus real to you through an intimate relationship or is he "a glorious abstraction?"
3. When did you bow the knee to Jesus as the true King that your soul desires?