Wisdom for Life

Choice is a spiritual principle

- We are freewill beings, made for a real, loving relationship with God
- Choice gives dignity to our humanity
- Our choices matter to God and to us
- All our ordinary, everyday choices

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The book of Proverbs is for the ordinary of days. Proverb after proverb, page after page, it invites us into an ancient and ongoing conversation about what is good and wise and true in life. How can we discern right from wrong in a world of fiercely competing claims? What values do we treasure and why? What makes for strong families and just communities? What characterizes a good neighbour, loving partner, or trusted friend? How do we understand money, the role of integrity, and the power of speech?

- For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. (Eph 5:8-10)
- Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. (Rom 12:2)

- the Child (Jesus) grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him. (Luke 2:40)
- And Jesus **increased in wisdom** and stature, and in favour with God and men. (Luke 2:52)

Spiritual?

Spiritual

- I (Wisdom) was constantly at his (God's) side. I was filled with delight day after day, rejoicing always in his presence, rejoicing in his whole world and delighting in mankind. (Prov 8:30)
- Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.... you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God (1 Cor 1:24,30)

Principle?

Principle

- Wisdom is not knowledge. Wisdom teaches us how to use knowledge.
- "Live life by predetermined principles rather than mood or convenience" (Lina Read c1990)
- Lead poisoning // 'Felt-led' poisoning

To sum up...

- God has created us as freewill beings, empowered to make choices, intended for a loving relationship with him
- He wants us to walk with him and look to him, to the Holy Spirit, for guidance in all of life
- He has also sewn Wisdom into the fabric of our lives to help us make good choices