

How to stay out of trouble!

Prov. 2:1-10; 3:5-8

How do you stay out of trouble? What do you do that keeps you from doing things you shouldn't? How can you ensure that you will do what is right? How do you avoid the pitfalls of life? Can you stay out of trouble?

Solomon knew how hard this would be, so he wrote about it many times in Proverbs. Look at Proverbs 2:1-9.

1. **Receive my Sayings** - The first thing in doing what is right is to choose to accept the truth from those who are wise around you. Deliberately choose to believe that which is truth and righteous. Who's sayings? God's sayings. We must agree with God that sin is sin, and wrong is wrong.
2. **Treasure my Commandments** - In **John 14:15**, Jesus said, "*If you love me, keep my commandments.*" In **Psalms 119:11**, David said, "*Thy word have I hidden in my heart that I might not sin against Thee.*" Read and learn God's Word.
3. **Make your ear attentive** - LISTEN! Listen to God. *Be still and know that I am God.* Listen to godly people. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Listen to the Word of God. If you want to be wise, listen to the wisdom of God.

4. **Incline your Heart** - Listening with your ear, that is your conscience mind, listening with your will and emotion is vital to understanding and wisdom. When the heart changes, the thinking changes. God says, "*My ways are not your ways.*"
5. **Cry for Discernment** - PRAY! PRAY! PRAY! If you want wisdom ask for it. **James 1:5** promises it to us.
6. **Lift your voice** - This is probably the most ignored action for us today. We must tell others of our desire to do what is right, and our desire to make wise decisions. We all too often let our actions speak louder than our words when others try to tempt us. We must be bold and speak in truth and strength and power.
7. **Seek her (*wisdom*) as Silver and seek for her as hidden treasure** - Do we put forth as much effort in learning and obtaining wisdom and discernment as we do the treasures and pleasures of the world?

Then you will discern righteousness and justice and equity and every good course. For wisdom will enter your heart . . . We can do all this by obeying Ps. 37:1-8

1 John 1:7 “. . . but if we **Walk** in the **Light**, as **He** is in the **Light**, we have **Fellowship** one **with another**, and the **Blood** of Jesus Christ His Son, **Cleanses** us from **all Sin**.”