

“Life Integrated Wisdom”

This week, the technology side of my personality was awakened as the new iPhone 12 was revealed in all its shiny glory. As I marveled at its sleek sparkling design, its new speedy 5G connectivity, and the advanced laser camera system, I thought back to 2007 when the iPhone was first announced. I can remember anticipating and watching the product reveal video almost like a blockbuster movie. I remember being fascinated and intrigued about a device that would bring **the world of information right into the palm of your hand.**

The key idea of a smartphone is not that it provides new information or something that you can't get on a laptop or desktop. But rather, the key benefit is accessibility and integration. By bringing the information into a device that you can always take with you, always be on, and easily be used with just a swipe, it **integrates information into our lives like never before.** Now, 13 years later, we can take this ability for granted as smartphones have become a staple in nearly everyone's lives.

As exciting as having the ability to fact check your friends or knowing the score to the game anytime and anywhere can be, there is a **much greater and more valuable life integration** available. Proverbs 7:1-4 talks about **the importance of integrating a father's wise words and commandments into one's life** saying: *My son, keep my words and treasure up my commandments with you; keep my commandments and live; keep my teaching as the apple of your eye; **bind them on your fingers; write them on the tablet of your heart.** Say to wisdom, "You are my sister," and call insight **your intimate friend.***

This passage is fascinating as the father encourages his son to know wisdom and his commands to the point that they are second nature to his life. It is not enough just to casually know them. He says to “bind them on your fingers” referring to them being **integrated into the things you do.** He says to “write them on the tablet of your heart” referring to them being **integrated with your desires.** This wisdom and these commands can be so easily taken for granted and forgotten in the

moments of life. The challenge is to integrate them so intimately that they are like **a constant companion actively participating in your life.**

My encouragement for all of us is to focus on integrating our heavenly Fathers' wisdom and commands into our lives by meditating on the word and Christ's perfect human example.

1. Study and learn Gods words to the point that it simply saturates your mind.

2. Be careful not to leave scripture as merely intellectual knowledge, but to **meditate on the word thinking, how does this guide the specific choices I will make today?** How does this impact how I will spend my time? How does this impact what I will watch today? How does this impact what activities I will do today? How does this impact my attitude today?

3. **Specifically recall God's wisdom in real time when you make decisions.** I am about to say this; is this consistent with Gods word? I am about to eat this; is this consistent with Gods word? I'm about to buy this; is this consistent with God's word? I am about to respond this way; is this consistent with God's word?

4. Look to Christ as a human example of perfectly integrated wisdom to imitate. Christ lived a human life in a perfectly wise fashion. Consider his practical example to guide your daily life.

5. **Be secure in Christ knowing that his perfect life is credited to you** no matter many times you end up failing and living in an unwise fashion.

Now let me go look for verses to justify buying a new iPhone... just kidding :)

Jacob