

Proverbs 2:1-5

1 My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee;
2 So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding;
3 Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding;
4 If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures;
5 Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God.

In this day of knowledge and technology, we can learn how to do anything that we want. We could attend enrichment classes, community college or research the internet, but there is one thing that we cannot do: understand the fear of the Lord. When it comes to spiritual things, we are dependant on God to supply and do all that we need.

In Proverbs 2:1-5, the Lord spells out the process that we need to apply to our lives. The only part that man really plays in spiritual development is his will. Verse one states the condition, "If thou wilt receive my words". Receive does not indicate a taking, but the same idea as if we receive visitors into our homes. We could either reject them or allow them to enter. I have dealt with many people who on countless occasions heard the word of God taught or preached, but did not submit their will to it and receive it.

As you yield to the word of God and receive it, you are told to hide the word of God in your heart. Hiding the word in your heart is like planting seeds in a soil: it will produce something. The first thing that the hidden word will produce is a drawing to wisdom (Prov. 2:2). Incline means to lean toward. We will lean our ears toward wisdom and our hearts toward understanding.

Exposure to wisdom reveals our true state, which causes us to want more knowledge and understanding. Crying and seeking reveals new strong motives of the heart, which first began with a yielding to or receiving God's word. At that point, God says that we will understand the fear of the Lord and find knowledge. It is at this point that we have the beginning of wisdom and knowledge (Prov. 9:10; Prov. 1:7). To grow in wisdom is to continue following these same simple steps: receive the word of God, hide it in your heart, the Lord will produce the desire of crying and seeking and give us more wisdom.

What has your attitude toward the word of God been? How much of his word have you been hiding in your heart? These answers reveal your spiritual status. If you need to make a change, yield to the Holy Spirit's prompting and get into his word.