

# PULPIT COMPANION

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WHEN YOU NEED HELP  
MOVING FORWARD, ADD  
THE HOOK, DIVINE  
WISDOM

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DANIEL 2:1

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In this powerful message, we're reminded that true wisdom comes from God, not just our own talents or abilities.

The story of Daniel interpreting King Nebuchadnezzar's dream in Daniel 2 illustrates how seeking divine wisdom can elevate us beyond our natural gifts. We're encouraged to 'add the hook' of wisdom to our spiritual arsenal, alongside prayer, obedience, and fasting. This wisdom isn't just for personal gain, but to become answers to the world's problems.

The message challenges us to stop looking in the wrong places for solutions and instead turn to God, even when life shakes us up. It's a call to surround ourselves with faith-filled friends and to pray not just for wishes, but for the wisdom to navigate life's challenges. This teaching is especially relevant in times of uncertainty, reminding us that our 'shake-up' can be a divine setup for breakthrough if we seek God's wisdom.

## SCRIPTURES FROM PULPIT AI

- Ephesians 6:10-17
- Proverbs 3:5-6
- Daniel 2:1
- Daniel 2:10-11
- Daniel 2:17-18
- Daniel 2:46-47
- Daniel 2:48
- Proverbs 4:7-8
- 2 Corinthians 9:6-8





## DEVOTIONAL

### Day 1: Seeking Divine Wisdom

#### Reading: Proverbs 2:1-11

**Devotional:** In today's fast-paced world, we often rely on our own understanding or seek advice from worldly sources. However, true wisdom comes from God. Just as Daniel sought divine wisdom to interpret Nebuchadnezzar's dream, we too must turn to God for guidance in our daily lives. When we diligently seek God's wisdom, He promises to grant it generously.

Take time today to reflect on areas in your life where you need God's wisdom. Are you facing a difficult decision? Are you struggling to understand a situation? Commit to seeking God's wisdom through prayer and studying His Word. Remember, 'The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom' (Proverbs 9:10). As you cultivate a deeper relationship with God, you'll find that His wisdom becomes more apparent in your life, guiding your steps and illuminating your path.

### Day 2: Standing Firm in Faith

#### Reading: Ephesians 6:10-18

**Devotional:** The world can be a challenging place for believers. We face spiritual battles daily, often feeling overwhelmed by the negativity and chaos around us. However, as Christians, we are called to "be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power" (Ephesians 6:10). The armor of God equips us to stand firm against the strategies of the enemy.

Today, consider each piece of the armor mentioned in this passage. How can you practically apply these spiritual defenses in your life? Are there areas where you feel vulnerable? Ask God to strengthen your faith and help you put on His full armor. Remember, our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against spiritual forces of evil. By standing firm in faith and relying on God's strength, we can overcome any obstacle and remain steadfast in our walk with Christ.





## Day 3: The Power of Prayer

### Reading: James 5:13-18

**Devotional:** Prayer is a powerful tool that connects us directly to God. In the sermon, we saw how Daniel and his friends prayed fervently for God's mercy and wisdom. Their prayers were answered, leading to the interpretation of the king's dream and the elevation of Daniel. James reminds us that "the prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective" (James 5:16).

Reflect on your prayer life today. Are you bringing everything to God in prayer? Are you praying with faith, expecting God to answer? Consider starting a prayer journal to record your requests and God's answers. Remember, prayer is not just about asking for things, but about building a relationship with our Heavenly Father. Take time to praise God, confess your sins, and listen for His voice. As you cultivate a consistent prayer life, you'll find yourself growing closer to God and experiencing His peace that surpasses all understanding.

## Day 4: Walking in God-given Authority

### Reading: Matthew 28:16-20

**Devotional:** As believers, we have been given authority through Christ. Just as Daniel was elevated to a position of authority after seeking God's wisdom, we too are called to walk in the authority given to us by Jesus. This authority is not for our own glory, but to fulfill the Great Commission and bring others to Christ.

Reflect on how you are using the authority and gifts God has given you. Are you boldly sharing your faith? Are you using your talents and abilities to serve God and others? Remember, with great authority comes great responsibility. Ask God to show you how He wants you to exercise your spiritual authority today. Whether it's through acts of kindness, sharing the Gospel, or standing firm against evil, walk confidently in the authority Christ has given you.





## Day 5: Finding Strength in God's Presence

### Reading: Isaiah 41:10-13

**Devotional:** Life can often feel overwhelming, leaving us feeling weak and powerless. However, as children of God, we have access to a strength that surpasses human understanding. Isaiah reminds us that God is always with us, strengthening and upholding us with His righteous right hand. Like the figures mentioned in the sermon - Deborah, Esther, and Joseph - we too can find strength and wisdom in God's presence.

Today, meditate on God's promises in this passage. How does knowing that God is with you change your perspective on your current challenges? Take time to rest in God's presence, allowing His strength to fill you. Remember, when we are weak, He is strong (2 Corinthians 12:10). Whatever you're facing today, know that God is with you, ready to provide the strength and wisdom you need. Trust in His presence and allow His power to work through you.





## SMALL GROUP GUIDE: Add the Hook: Seeking Divine Wisdom

### Opening Prayer:

Begin the session with a prayer, asking God for wisdom and guidance as you discuss the sermon.

### Key Takeaways:

1. When facing challenges, look to God for wisdom rather than relying solely on human understanding.
2. Divine wisdom, combined with our God-given gifts, leads to true elevation and purpose.
3. Prayer and seeking God's wisdom should be our first response, not our last resort.
4. Surrounding ourselves with faith-filled friends who pray is crucial for spiritual growth.

### Discussion Questions:

1. The pastor mentioned that "disruptions are not meant to destroy you, they're designed to direct you." Can you share an experience where a disruption in your life ultimately led you closer to God?
2. How do you typically respond when facing a problem you can't solve? Do you tend to worry, seek human advice, or turn to God first?
3. The sermon emphasized the importance of adding "the hook" of divine wisdom to our gifts and talents. How might seeking God's wisdom enhance the way you use your gifts in your daily life or ministry?
4. Reflect on the examples of Daniel, Esther, and Joseph. How did their application of wisdom elevate their positions and influence? What can we learn from their stories?
5. The pastor stated, "Your gift will open the door, but wisdom will help you to walk through the door." How does this statement challenge or encourage you in your current situation?
6. Discuss the difference between having knowledge and having wisdom. How can we cultivate godly wisdom in our lives?





## Practical Applications:

1. Commit to starting each day this week with a prayer specifically asking God for wisdom in your decisions and actions.
2. Identify an area in your life where you need divine wisdom. Share it with the group and pray for each other's specific needs.
3. Choose a verse about wisdom (e.g., Proverbs 2:6, James 1:5) to memorize and meditate on throughout the week.
4. Practice the "hook" in your prayer life by intentionally asking for God's wisdom before making important decisions.
5. Reach out to a faith-filled friend this week to pray together about a challenge you're facing.

## Closing Prayer:

End the session by praying for wisdom, discernment, and the courage to apply God's wisdom in daily life.

**Scripture for Reflection:** "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you." -James 1:5

