

#4 SEEK WISE COUNSEL

Since my diagnosis of pancreatic cancer, I've been flooded with advice—treatment ideas based on others' experiences and everything the internet pushes once you start searching. It's overwhelming, often confusing, and at times dangerous. Not everything being offered can be trusted.

God's Word calls us to seek a multitude of wise counselors—people grounded in faith, marked by wisdom, discernment, and the ability to seek truth while trusting God to open and close the right doors. This requires humility and a complete reliance on Him as the ultimate healer—the One who created the nutrients, foods, and resources that sustain and restore our bodies.

At the same time, God has given us brilliant medical minds who have developed treatments, procedures, and breakthroughs that have helped countless people. I don't limit my counsel to believers alone. I seek out those who are truly called to heal—people with passion, innovation, and a relentless commitment to improving outcomes, whether through medicine, nutrition, or new approaches to care.

WHEN WE HAVE A DIFFICULT DECISION AHEAD?

Proverbs 20:18 "Plans are established by counsel; by wise counsel wage war."

Proverbs 24:6 "For by wise guidance you can wage your war, and in abundance of counselors there is victory."

Not just about "literal war". It applies to any high-stakes decision—business, health, family, finances.

- Don't act alone when the stakes are high.
- Lone decisions feel strong, but they're often blind.
- Seek multiple perspectives, not just agreement.
- Abundance of counselors" doesn't mean people who echo you. It means people who see what you don't.
- Strategy beats impulse.
- We will face battles. The difference is whether you walk in prepared or reactive

WHERE WE GO WRONG!

We think "getting counsel" means:

- Asking one person we trust
 - Or worse, asking someone who already agrees with us
- That's not counsel—that's confirmation bias.

The Power of Wise Counsel

Proverbs 11:14 *“Where there is no counsel, the people fall; but in the multitude of counselors there is safety.”*

Meaning & Purpose:

God makes it clear that isolation leads to vulnerability. When we rely only on our own understanding, we limit perspective and increase risk. A multitude of counselors brings protection because each person contributes a piece of insight, experience, or discernment. In seasons like illness or major decisions, this collective wisdom forms a clearer path forward. No single person has the full picture—but together, truth becomes more visible.

Proverbs 15:22 *“Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established.”*

Meaning & Purpose:

Plans formed in isolation are often incomplete or flawed. Wise counsel strengthens and refines direction. This is not just about gathering opinions—it’s about testing ideas, exposing blind spots, and confirming what aligns with truth. Success is not accidental; it is built through humility and a willingness to be guided and corrected.

Proverbs 12:15 *“The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but he who heeds counsel is wise.”*

Meaning & Purpose:

Pride convinces us that our way is always right. Wisdom requires the opposite—listening. When we refuse input, we close ourselves off from growth and correction. A wise person understands that truth is not threatened by counsel; it is strengthened by it. Especially in critical decisions, listening can be the difference between progress and costly mistakes.

Proverbs 13:20 *“He who walks with wise men will be wise, but the companion of fools will be destroyed.”*

Meaning & Purpose:

Who you surround yourself with directly shapes your outcomes. Wisdom is not only taught—it is transferred through proximity. Being around people with greater knowledge, discipline, and experience elevates your thinking and decisions. The opposite is equally true—poor influences lead to poor outcomes. Growth requires intentional alignment with those who sharpen and challenge you.

Proverbs 19:20 *“Listen to counsel and receive instruction, that you may be wise in your latter days.”*

Meaning & Purpose:

Wisdom is a process, not a moment. It requires teachability and the willingness to accept correction. Just as in education, growth often comes through mistakes, feedback, and refinement. Receiving instruction—even when it’s difficult—builds long-term strength, clarity, and maturity. The goal is not immediate comfort, but lasting wisdom.

Proverbs 27:17 *“As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.”*

Meaning & Purpose:

True relationships are not passive—they are refining. God calls believers to challenge, strengthen, and sharpen one another. This process requires honesty, accountability, and mutual respect. Just as iron must make contact to sharpen, growth often comes through friction—through conversations that push us to think deeper, act better, and grow stronger in faith and understanding.

Proverbs is clear

Wisdom is not found in isolation. It is built through humility, strengthened through counsel, and refined through relationships. When facing complex challenges, God provides guidance not only through His Word, but through the people He places around us—each contributing insight to help reveal the path forward.

1. Humility — The Foundation of Wisdom

Proverbs 11:2 *“When pride comes, then comes shame; but with the humble is wisdom.”*

James 4:6 *“God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.”*

Clarity:

Humility positions us to receive truth. Wisdom is not about status, popularity, or appearance—it’s about being teachable. We cannot grow if we believe we already know everything. True leadership is not proven by always speaking, but by knowing when to listen. A wise person will receive insight from anyone who has truth to offer, regardless of their position.

2. Discernment — Test Everything

1 Thessalonians 5:21

“Test all things; hold fast what is good.”

1 John 4:1 *“Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God...”*

Clarity:

Not all counsel is equal. As we grow in knowledge and faith, we develop discernment—the ability to separate truth from error. Every idea, recommendation, or opportunity must be examined carefully. We are called to receive what is good and reject what does not align with truth. Discernment protects us from confusion and misdirection.

3. Alignment — Measured by God's Word

Isaiah 8:20 *“To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.”*

Joshua 1:8 *“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night... then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.”*

Clarity:

All counsel must be weighed against God's Word. If it does not align with Scripture, God's character, and His will, it should not be pursued. This includes decisions related to health, treatment, relationships, and direction. God's Word is the standard—it brings clarity, order, and confirmation.

4. Integrity — God's Economy Over Everything**Proverbs 10:9**

“He who walks with integrity walks securely...”

Colossians 3:17

“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus...”

Clarity:

Every decision must align with God's principles of integrity and righteousness. The right outcome is never worth compromising character. Whether evaluating advice, treatment paths, or opportunities, the question is not just “Does it work?” but “Is it right before God?” His way ensures both peace and protection.

5. Action — Applying Wisdom**James 1:22**

“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”

Proverbs 16:3

“Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established.”

Clarity:

Wisdom requires action. It is not enough to hear good counsel—we must apply it. A plan becomes powerful when it is executed with intention, prayer, and faith. Taking

action demonstrates trust in God's guidance and allows Him to direct and establish our steps.

Know where Wisdom comes from

James 3: 17 *But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.*

Ask for it!

James 1: 5 *If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.*

Summary Insight:

Seeking counsel is not passive—it is an active, disciplined process. It requires humility to receive, discernment to evaluate, alignment with God's Word, integrity in decision-making, and action to move forward. When these principles are followed, counsel becomes a powerful tool that leads to clarity, protection, and wise outcomes.

Real counsel:

- challenges us
- exposes risk
- slows us down just enough to think clearly

How to apply it (practically)

Before any major move, ask:

#1 Who has done this successfully before?

#2 Who has nothing to gain from my decision (unbiased)?

#3 Who will tell me the truth, not what I want to hear?

Then listen carefully—even when it's uncomfortable.

Victory is rarely about effort alone—it's about guided effort.

Get the right voices around you first.

TIP: Read the proverb that corresponds with the day of the month. On (ex. the 5th of every month read proverbs chapter). There are 30 or 31 days in every month except for February and there are 31 chapters in the book of proverbs. You will be shocked on how this will speak into your life every day.