

Walk in Wisdom

Ephesians 5:15-17 Message

Practice understanding God's will
so you can
watchfully walk in God's wisdom



Structure of Ephesians

Discover the vastness of
God's love in calling you
(1-3)

Walk in a manner worthy
of your calling
(4-6)

Structure of Ephesians 4-6

(1-3)

Walk in a manner worthy of your calling
(4-6)

Walk in
unity
(4:1-16)

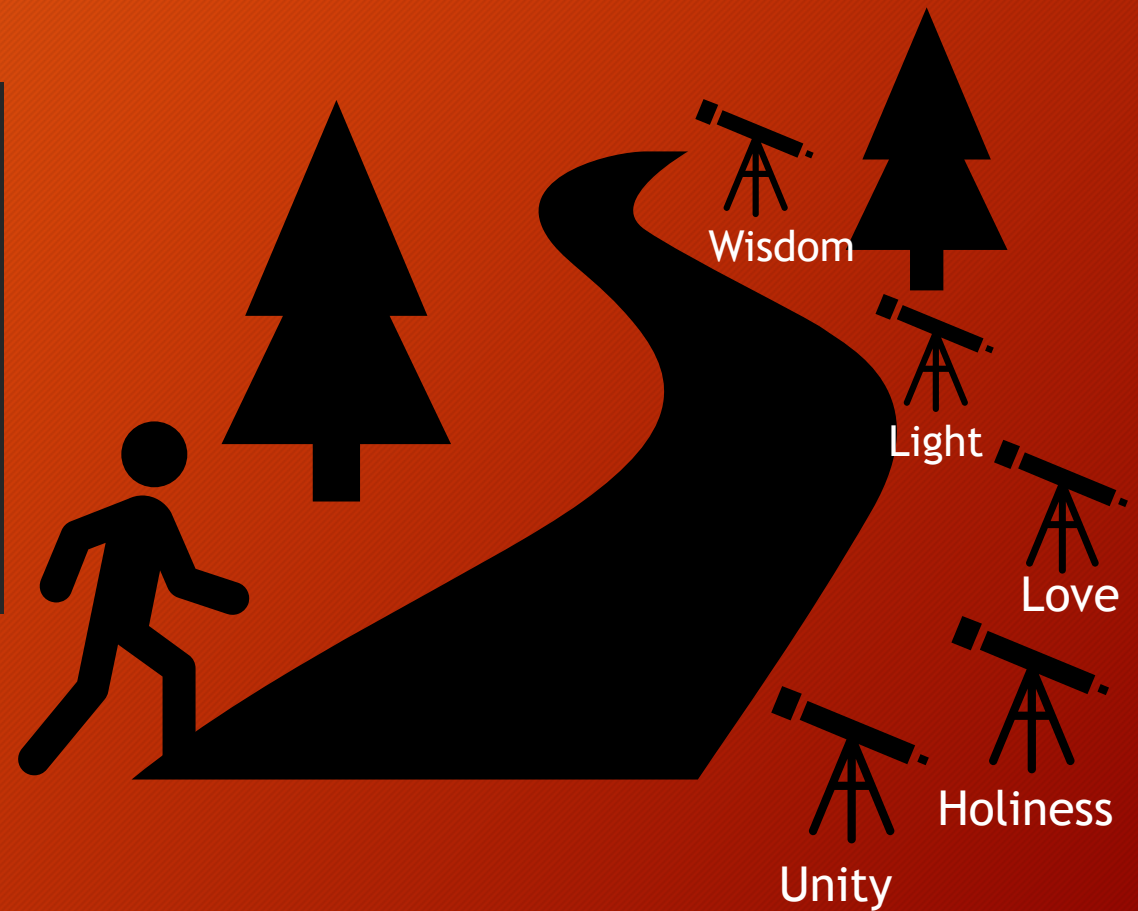
Walk in
holiness
(4:17-32)

Walk in
love
(5:1-6)

Walk in
light
(5:7-14)

Walk in
wisdom
(5:15-6:9)

Perspectives on our daily walk



Structure of Ephesians 5:15-6:9

Walk in wisdom

Church
relationships
(5:15-21)

Fear Christ

Family
relationships
(5:22-6:4)

Imitate Christ

Work
relationships
(6:5-9)

Serve Christ

Eph 5:15-17

- I. Pay careful attention how you walk (15a)

- II. Walk in wisdom (15b-16)
 - A. Walk as wise people rather than unwise (15b)

“Wisdom”

- “Masterful understanding”, “skill”, “expertise” (Bruce Waltke, *Proverbs, Vol 1*, pp. 76-77)
- Skill in moral and religious living (Prov 1:3; 8:20; 9:10)
- Draws upon knowledge, but...
- “A person could memorize the book of Proverbs and still lack wisdom if it did not affect his heart” (Waltke, p. 77)

“Wisdom” =

Theoretical knowledge

+

Skill to properly understand it

+

Skill to use it

- Wisdom is insight into the practical use of knowledge
- Wisdom is skill in living life well

Eph 5:15-17

I. Pay careful attention how you walk (15a)

II. Walk in wisdom (15b-16)

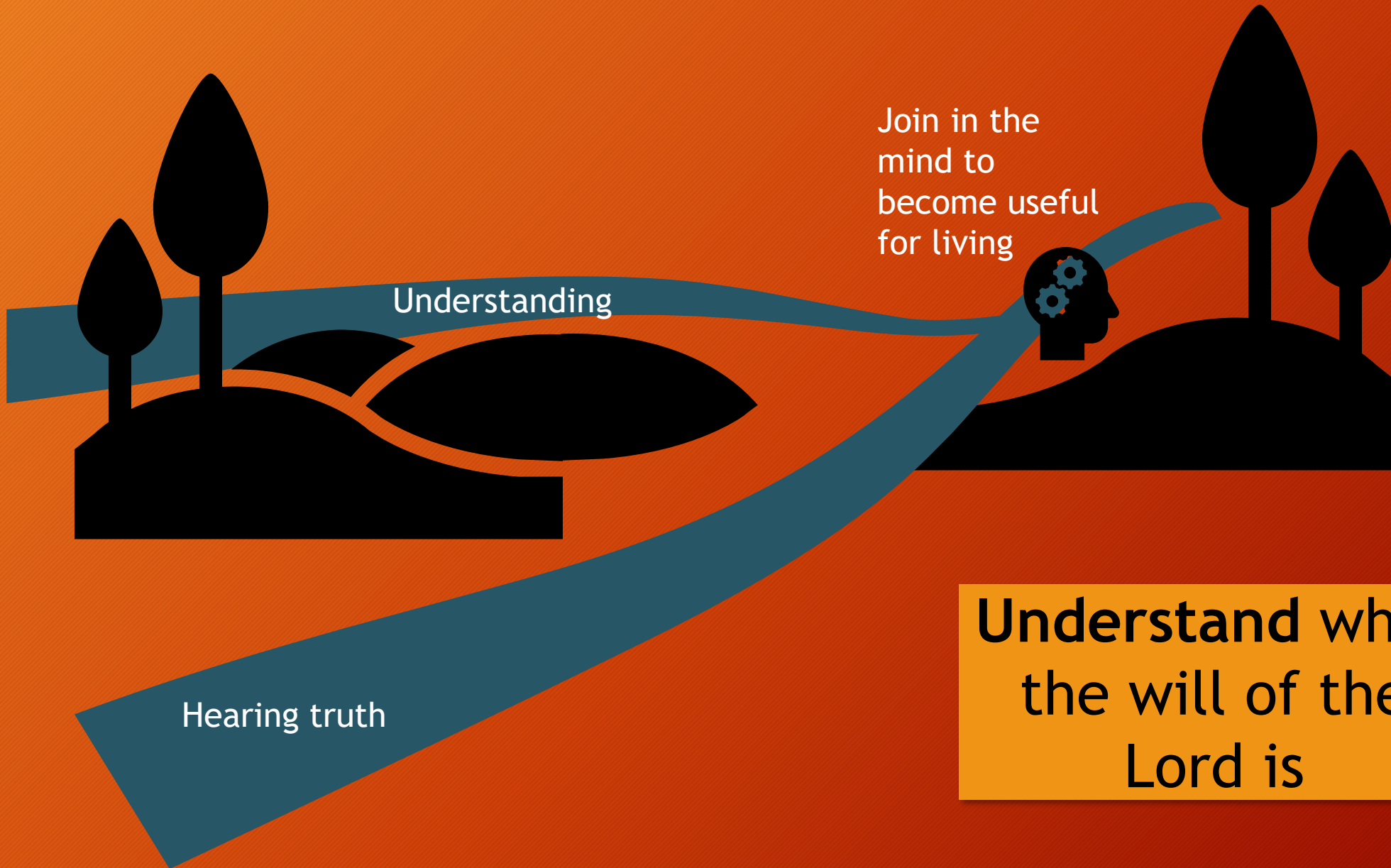
A. Walk as wise people rather than unwise (15b)

B. Walking in wisdom includes snatching up every opportunity (16)

- **“Make the most of”** - to buy or redeem (Gal 3:13; 4:5), thus “redeem the time”
- **Intensified** - “snatching up” (Hoehner) or “buying up” (Stott) every available opportunity

Eph 5:15-17

- I. Pay careful attention how you walk (15a)
- II. Walk in wisdom (15b-16)
 - A. Walk as wise people rather than unwise (15b)
 - B. Walking in wisdom includes snatching up every opportunity (16)
- III. Practice understanding God's will for how you should walk (17)



**Understand what
the will of the
Lord is**

God's Will in Scripture

Decretive will

- God's plan
- What God ordains will happen
- 1 Peter 4:19

Preceptive will

- Precepts to live by
- God reveals what will please Him
- 1 Peter 4:2
- Ephesians 5:17