

FOOLPROOF

THE WISDOM OF PROVERBS

OBSERVATIONS CONTINUED...

While at times we may feel over qualified in our skill set for a task, we may be highly under qualified in our character. The men picked were to be those who were among them of “good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom.” Stephen was known for doing miracles and wonders (Acts 6:8) and we see his character even more when we read of him being the first martyr of the faith (Acts 7). And, Philip was a powerful evangelist who was well versed in Scripture and sensitive and obedient to the Spirit of God (Acts 8:4-40).

These men did not limit themselves to a position because they were provoked by the call of Christ for the Church. To make disciples and make a difference.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Do you know what you are made for? Both as a heir with Christ and as an individual son or daughter of God? Are you spending time with Him regularly that you would know Who He is and who He has made you to be?

Are you pouring yourself into what God has called you to do or being distracted by other good things that may not be the ultimate thing God has purposed for you? Are there areas you are serving where you need to learn to delegate and trust both God and the Body of Christ to fulfill the need?

Are there areas of character development that need to take place in your life that have kept you in a state of being under-qualified? Bad Reputation, sin pattern, lacking the fullness of the Spirit (both life and power), lacking wisdom?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Share with each other three things you feel the Lord is calling you to focus on and what your next practical step to fulfill them are. Be open to suggestions from your group in how you could start walking in the purpose God has called you to.

PRAYER

Prayer as a group for unity in the Church and that we as a church would have the qualifications needed to serve our communities: Good reputation, filled with the Spirit and full of Wisdom.



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CONNECT

- Have you ever needed to confront someone who was about to make a foolish decision? What happened?
- Describe a time where you had to rely on someone else's experience or knowledge in making a decision

WORD

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil."

Proverbs 3:5 -7 (NIV)

THOUGHT

Trust in the Lord in every area of your life!

Proverbs 3:5-7 applies to all believers, but even more to those who are in the service to God. God never chooses anyone to work for Him because of their training and ability within themselves. God chooses people like Jeremiah, who was just a lad with no formal training. Jeremiah doubted his ability because of his youth, yet God put the words in Jeremiah's mouth (Jeremiah 1:9) to give to the people. When we depend upon our own ability, we fall short. For ministers of God to be effective, it must be God speaking and working through them. In John 15:5, Jesus reminds us, "Apart from Me you can do nothing."

Proverbs 3:6 "in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."