"Wisdom's Checklist, part 2"
Proverbs 3:7-12

C.I.T.—Solomon provides a checklist for wise living.
C.I.S.—We should follow this checklist for wise living.
Purpose—I want to provide a checklist for our people to follow in order to have a wise and successful life.
Introduction—The Importance of Checklists.

I. ***Repentance*** vs 7-8
   a. *Recognition*
      i. Wisdom refers to the ability to think clearly through a thing and then execute this plan to come out well in the end.
      ii. This wisdom is found in our own faculties.
      iii. From our perspective we are wise, which leads to pride and a hardened heart.
      iv. We must come under conviction that we have an issue and can't solve it.
   b. *Reverence*
      i. Fear the LORD
      ii. To fear does mean to be afraid, but also refers to reverence.
      iii. Asd f His authority.
   c. *Repentance*
      i. Turn from evil--this insinuates that we are in evil presently.
      ii. Once we come under conviction, we will have a decision to make: me or Jesus
      iii. If we fear the LORD, we must turn from evil.
   d. *Refreshment*
      i. He will bring healing and refreshment
      ii. Navel (umbilical cord) and bones both refer figuratively to the spiritual life.
      iii. Healing
         1. Healing literally to sow a hole or tear, figuratively it refers to healing something, bringing back to health.
         2. This serves as the means to healing, thus medicine.
      iv. Strengthening
         1. Literally to drink, fig. refreshing
         2. Thus restore an original condition to something that lacks moisture.
   e. **Psalm 32: 3-5**—When we sin, we have serious ramifications, including Hell.
   f. **1 John 1:9**—When we repent and turn to Jesus, we find forgiveness and cleansing.
   g. Illus.—Day of Atonement—initial repenting, followed by the ongoing sacrifices that maintained fellowship
   h. Application
      i. We must spend time in repentance and confession.
      ii. While we must repent initially in order to be saved, we must continually confess and repent to maintain our relationship.

II. ***Recognition*** vs 9-10
   a. *Giving recognizes value*.
      i. Honor—make heavy—ascribe value to something
      ii. When we give to the LORD, we reveal that He is important and valuable to us.
   b. *Giving recognizes trust*.
      i. From wealth/beginning/firstfruits
      ii. Not "with" your wealth

iii. OT principle of the tithe
iv. We are to give from our first fruits, the first that is harvested.
v. We presume by having faith in Him.

c. *Giving recognizes source*.
i. Storehouses for the remaining.
ii. Wine vat was what was crushed.
iii. Once the barns are full, it doesn't matter if anything else is left over.
iv. New wine was the wine produced without stomping—if you are all filled up with new wine, where will you put the wine produced from stomping.
v. The point is that

d. Matthew 6:21

e. Illus.—If you want to know what a person prioritizes, see where they spend their money.

f. Application
i. Not honoring Him with your tithe shows that you don't value him, trust him, or rely upon Him to provide for you.
ii. You don't recognize Him for who He is, and instead are valuing, trusting, and relying upon yourself.
iii. If you can't trust Jesus with your money, what can you trust Him with?
iv. We require our leaders to be tithers: ministers/pastors, deacons, and teachers.
1. If they aren't tithing, then their heart isn't with our church.
2. If their heart isn't with our church, then they don't need to be leaders.
v. You will not be where you need to be if you don't recognize Him as the Lord of your life.

III. ***Respect*** vs. 11-12

a. Discipline/reproof/training/instruction
i. Positive correction
ii. Painful correction

b. Don't refuse/abhor/reject this discipline/training

c. This discipline is an act of love.

d. Illus. Proverbs 13:24; Hebrews 12:5-6

e. Application
i. He is going to discipline us and train us to become more like Jesus.
ii. We can revolt against that discipline, or we can get in line with that discipline.
iii. Those with soft hearts who learn from discipline are wise and will grow.
iv. Those who don't will be broken.

Conclusion

- How are you doing on your checklist?
- The Lord might be disciplining you right now.
- What are you going to do about it?
- Maybe you should start with your checklist.