"Wisdom's Resume"
Proverbs 8:12-21

C.I.T.—Wisdom is worthy to be pursued.
C.I.S.—Based on her resume, we should pursue wisdom.
Purpose—I want our people to recognize that wisdom is something that we should pursue.
Introduction—Resume—look at my attributes, my accomplishments, and my addition

I. ***Wisdom's Attributes*** vs. 12-13
   a. Tell me about a man's attributes, what does he bring to the table?
   b. Practicality
      i. Shrewdness and knowledge/discretion—discerning knowledge—These terms refer to the discernment of how to accomplish something, practically navigating life, especially spiritual things.
      ii. Share a home/have—dwell with and discover/learn—By living with these, wisdom claims unity with them, and thus adopts their knowledge.
   c. Purity
      i. Fear of the Lord is to hate evil.
         1. Fearing the Lord refers to his worship and priority.
         2. This requires hatred of evil.
         3. If someone doesn't not hate evil, but tolerates it or engages it, then they cannot say that they are fearing the Lord.
         4. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and therefore, we should expect that wisdom dictates hatred of sin.
      ii. She does hate sin.
         1. Pride/haughtiness—elevating oneself—ignoring wisdom and thinking that he has all the answers without wisdom
         2. Evil ways—opposite of what wisdom teaches
         3. Perverse lips—again opposite of what wisdom teaches
   d. Illus.—Hiring a worship pastor—some didn't have a personal devotion time, some didn't align theologically, some just couldn't sing—we are looking for the whole package
   e. Application
      i. Wisdom cannot have better attributes, as she aligns with life practically and with the Lord in purity.
      ii. Based on her attributes alone, you should hire her.
      iii. But we aren't finished with her resume.

II. ***Wisdom's Accomplishments*** vs.14-16
   a. What has a man done, what has he accomplished?
   b. Good advice and sound wisdom
      i. These words are connected to strategic planning and decision making.
      ii. The adjectives "good" and "sound" reveal the truthfulness and success of these plans and advice.
      iii. She also possess understanding and strength.
   c. Rulers rule by her.

i. Some rulers rule by power, or by fame,or by wealth, or by political intrigue.
ii. But those who rule well do so with wisdom.

d. Wisdom possess good advice, sound wisdom, understanding and strength, and so do those who accept her.
e. Illus.—King David had spent his time shepherding killing bears and lions, God was developing him to kill giants
f. Application
i. She has proven herself over and over again.
ii. If anyone could testify about wisdom's accomplishments, it would be Solomon.
iii. If wisdom worked for Solomon, it can work for you.

III. ***Wisdom's Addition*** vs. 17-21
a. What should I expect from him if we add him to the organization?
b. Expect Reciprocity
i. If you love wisdom, she will love you back.
ii. Makes you eligible for receiving the inheritance.
iii. The Lord has already determined what you inheritance is, you must show yourself wise to receive it.
c. Expect Revelation—if you seek, you will find.
d. Expect Riches
i. Riches and honor—practical success
ii. Fruit—end result of loving and finding wisdom is practical success.
e. Expect Righteousness
i. Lasting riches and righteousness—spiritual success
ii. Righteousness means that you will be found right by God.
iii. She is found along the path of righteousness.
iv. To choose righteousness is to chose wisdom, and to choose wisdom is to choose righteousness.
f. Illus.—Solomon could have asked the Lord for anything, but he asked for wisdom, and ended up getting everything.
g. Application
i. Some may seek fame, and lie and manipulate to get it.
ii. Some may seek fortune, and cheat and steal to get it.
iii. Those who seek wisdom, will get it all, and will have the character to sustain it.

Conclusion

- If you are conducting a search for a guide to life, I challenge you to find an option with a better resume than wisdom.
- If someone has the best resume, but chooses a different candidate, then there must be an ulterior motive.
- If you have wisdom as the primary candidate, but you don't choose her, then you have an ulterior motive.
- That motive is called sin.

- We are blinded by that sin, and guided by that sin, and wisdom will challenge that sin.
- So in order to protect it, we choose a different candidate to hire.