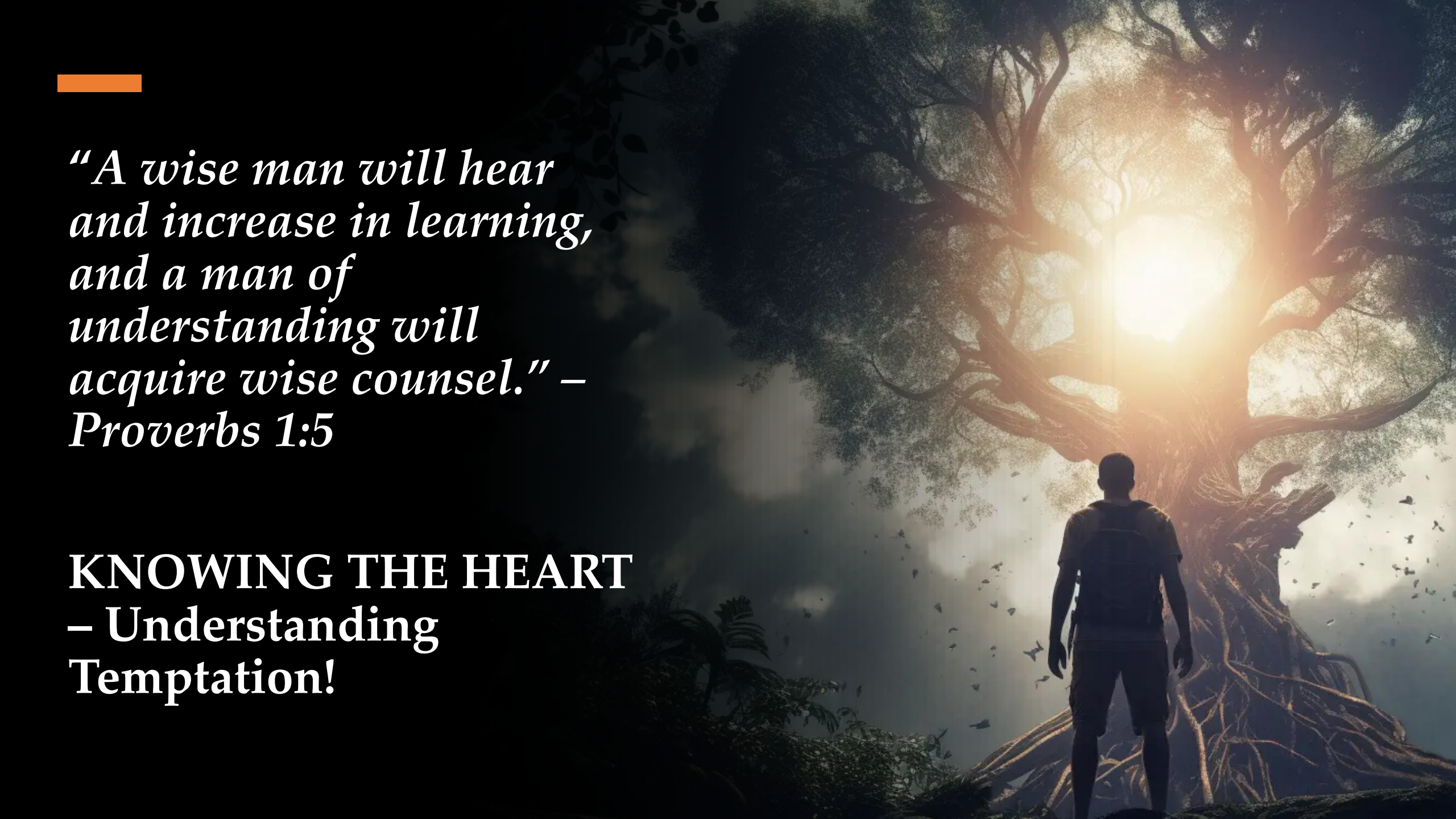


A person stands in silhouette, facing a massive, ancient tree with thick, gnarled roots and a dense canopy. The scene is set against a bright, hazy sky with scattered clouds and falling leaves. The word "WISDOM" is written in large, bold, yellow capital letters across the upper portion of the image, centered over the tree's canopy.

WISDOM

for the journey

A person is silhouetted against a large, ancient tree with a bright light emanating from its center. The scene is set in a dark, misty environment with many small birds flying around. The overall mood is contemplative and spiritual.

*“A wise man will hear
and increase in learning,
and a man of
understanding will
acquire wise counsel.” –
Proverbs 1:5*

**KNOWING THE HEART
– Understanding
Temptation!**

A person stands with their back to the camera, looking up at a massive, ancient tree. Sunlight filters through the dense canopy of green leaves, creating a warm, golden glow. The scene is set in a lush, tropical environment with other foliage visible in the lower left corner. The overall mood is one of awe and contemplation.

WISDOM

for the journey

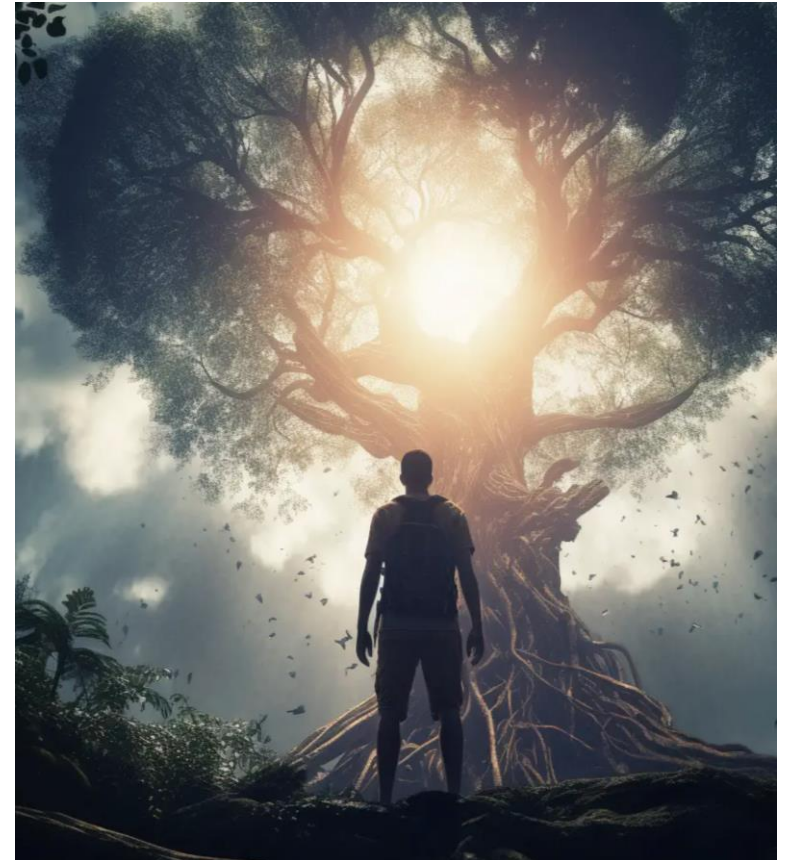
We need help to make decisions about work; all relationships – in speech and conduct; who to trust or avoid; along with being measured by the plumbline of true character. Wisdom from Proverbs offers insight into the concrete experiences of human life that help us take charge of our lives.

Proverbs is about **how to** live out your faith in God. There is no true wisdom apart from Jesus. Fools are those who rely on their own knowledge to navigate life.

In this study, we will look and listen to hear God's voice and see his Son shining through the book of Proverbs. We will be equipped in every way for our journey!

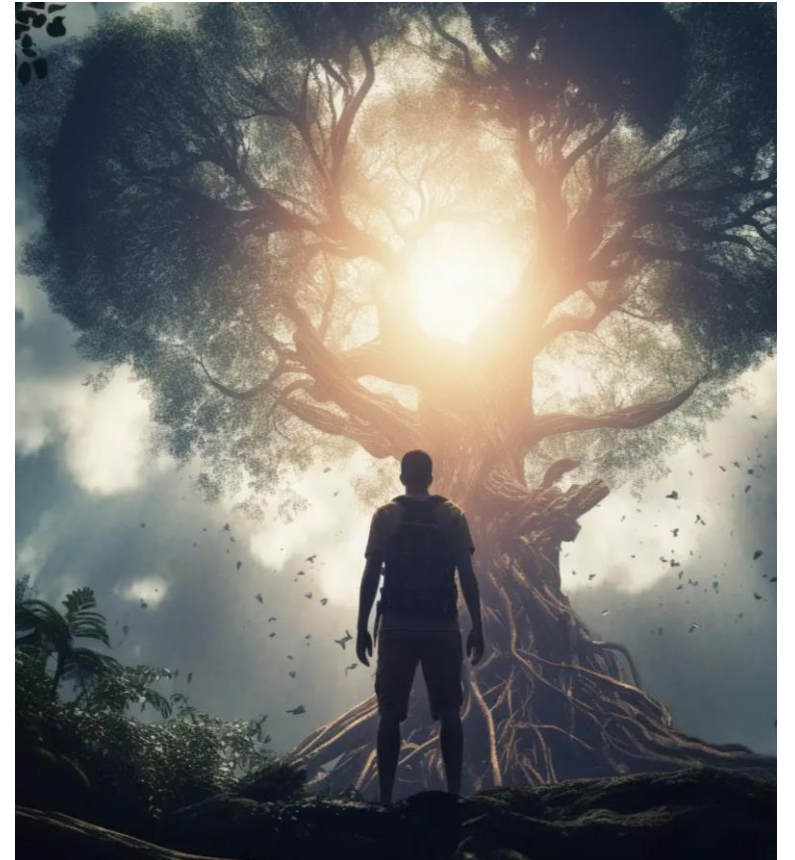
UNDERSTANDING TEMPTATION - Proverbs 7:13-27.

1. **INCONGRUENT – Proverbs 7:13-15** → There is a disconnect between the woman's public profession of faith and the conduct of her private life, which is all too common (Romans 12:1, 2). **BE HONEST ABOUT PARTS OF YOUR LIFE THAT ARE DISCONNECTED FROM YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD!**
2. **SELF-AWARENESS – Proverbs 7:15-18** → Temptation has 3 stages: 1) Rationalization = "After all I've sacrificed, I deserve this." 2) Overpromise = "You are the one I've been looking for all my life." 3) Appeal to the Senses = The aromas, the sights, the physical arousal. By then, applying the brakes and saying NO is nearly impossible.



UNDERSTANDING TEMPTATION - Proverbs 7:13-27.

3. **LIE OF NO CONSEQUENCES – Proverbs 7:19-23** → Temptation is extremely powerful if you believe “no one will ever know!” But in reality there will always be a heavy cost. God knows!
4. **DEFENSE – Proverbs 7:24-27** → How do we defend ourselves? 1) Watch your heart! Temptation always starts in the inward thoughts. 2) Stay away from places, situations, and persons that make it easy for our minds to go down the wrong trail. 3) See ahead—look down the road of tragedy and wrongfulness of how your sin will grieve God and hurt others. These 3 strategies will help you exercise self-control and defense against temptation.





ACTION: JOURNAL THIS!

1. What behavior or habit are you now engaged that is a disconnect between your faith and your private life? What secrets do you keep?
2. What lies have you believed would never be found out, that resulted in failure, shame, and discovery — being found out?
3. What helps you in your self-control?