

“Wisdom shouts in the streets. She cries out in the public square. She calls to the crowds along the main street, to those gathered in front of the city gate:” Proverbs 1:20-21

lectio // Proverbs 1:20-33

Wisdom calls, cries and shouts in the street! Wisdom implores and all out beg-fest for stupid people. You might think that as harsh, but fools pay a much bigger price (according to Proverbs) for not listening to her pleading. At one point, the point where people ignore, mock and belittle sound advice or wisdom for living - wisdom says, okay live your way, find the futility of your own desires and selfish ways. However, there is a stern warning. Once chaos and calamity starts raining down on your head, don't ask for help at that point, it's useless. You just have to plow through it, suffering the consequences and pray that there will be another opportunity to listen in the future. Oftentimes the pain, shame and humility is so great that there will never be another time that you ASK for wisdom to guide you. How many times does this happen? Plenty. I've seen fools (purposely or not, their fault or not) live this recycled life of problems and it feels like a rusty hamster wheel that squeals and barely moves, yet they are STUCK on it for life - for LIFE PEOPLE! Yes, it's painful to watch. It's even MORE painful to be sucked into their vortex of foolish misery while trying to rescue them. Then, often, the helper (you) get blamed for making it worse. It is a vicious cycle. I've seen in in real life with people I love. I am joining with wisdom and asking you - PLEASE listen, please obey.

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pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,

Please help me to never stray far from wisdom. Keep me in humility and grace. Protect me from me. Protect my family and friends when I am stupid and stubborn enough to ignore wisdom's plea.

contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root