



## Drive Wisely Devotion

*Let the wise **hear** and increase in **learning**,  
and the one who **understands** obtain **guidance** ... [emphases added] (Proverbs 1:5).*

Driver's Education involves four stages: classroom, written test, observation, and behind the wheel. In the classroom phase, a beginner hears about driving. But hearing alone does not guarantee a passing grade on the written test. One must learn the material. Then as the student watches others drive, learning shifts to understanding. Knowing how to use a turn signal 200 feet before an intersection differs from visually recognizing where 200 feet actually begin. Finally, when the pupil climbs behind the wheel, applied learning results in a successful trip.

While no analogy is perfect, we see in Proverbs 1:5 a similar process for attaining wisdom. We hear as our Lord speaks to us through Scripture, sermons, songs, and studies as He supplies to us divine wisdom. Through His gift to us of faith, given and nurtured through the Means of Grace, we learn His ways. Some of the tools He uses to accomplish this learning and growth in the faith in our life are conversation with fellow believers, meditation, and repetition. We understand by watching others model His words. He wants to guide our lives. God does not sit next to us like a driver's education instructor. Instead, His Holy Spirit dwells inside us, desiring to steer us in His direction.

When we drive as if going solo, we will crash. Although God can teach us in the ditch, He would rather gently steer us so we avoid road hazards. When we veer off His road, the cross and the empty tomb are the bypassed road. However, Jesus will never leave us alone. He paid for our repairs, prompts our repentance, and adjusts our route to His path over and over again as He calls us to confess our sins and hear His blessed words of forgiveness and restoration.

Jesus' death and resurrection gives us new life. Believing in His promises guides our every step. Through faith we are given the words, assurance, and grace to maneuver through any trials we may face; and when we fail, as we constantly do, what a blessing to know the One who is not only our most excellent teacher, but the very Way Himself, our crucified, risen and ascended Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Will we learn? Never perfectly. Will we let God drive our lives? Oftentimes we do not and that is when we have problems. Will we navigate life well with His help? That is the only way we are able to navigate life as He, through the power and working of the Holy Spirit in our lives, navigates us through this life to our final destination of heaven. What a gift our Father has given to us to daily be in conversation with Him as we navigate every bump in the road without fear, being confident in the knowledge of Him who holds us securely in His hands.

**Prayer:** Dear God, please enable me to hear, learn, understand, and apply Your guidance. Steer my life in Your direction. Amen.

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