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`andrew_flemming@sil.org`

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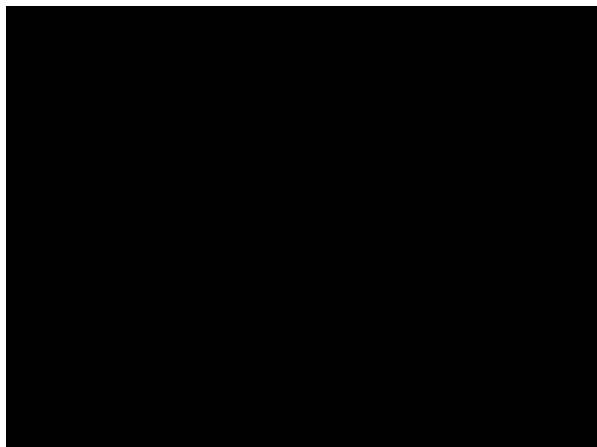
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# Building with Wisdom

## Part 2.5

Wisdom Directs Your Path

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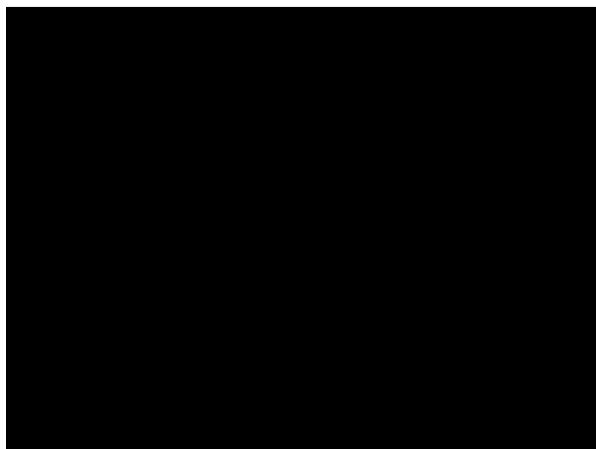
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For it is by grace you have been saved,  
through faith—and this not from  
yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by  
works, so that no one can boast. For we  
are God's workmanship, created in Christ  
Jesus to do good works, which God  
prepared in advance for us to do.  
(Ephesians 2:8-10)

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I think every one who has some vague belief in God, until he becomes a Christian, has the idea of an exam, or of a bargain in his mind... One of the very things Christianity was designed to do was to blow this idea to bits. God has been waiting for the moment at which you discover that there is no question of earning a pass mark in this exam, or putting Him in your debt.

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Then comes another discovery. Every faculty you have, your power of thinking or of moving your limbs from moment to moment, is given you by God. If you devoted every moment of your whole life exclusively to His service you could not give Him anything that was not in a sense His own already. So that when we talk of a man doing anything for God or giving anything to God, I will tell you what it is really like.

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It is like a small child going to its father and saying, "Daddy, give me sixpence {25 cents} to buy you a birthday present." Of course, the father does, and he is pleased with the child's present. It is all very nice and proper, but only an idiot would think that the father is sixpence to the good on the transaction. When a man has made these two discoveries God can really get to work. It is after this that real life begins. The man is awake now.

C.S. Lewis, "Mere Christianity"

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Wake Up

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Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in  
view of God's mercy,  
(Romans 12:1 NIV)

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...to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.

(Romans 12:1 NIV)

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Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

(Romans 12:2 NIV)

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Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

(Romans 12:2 NIV)

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# Step Out

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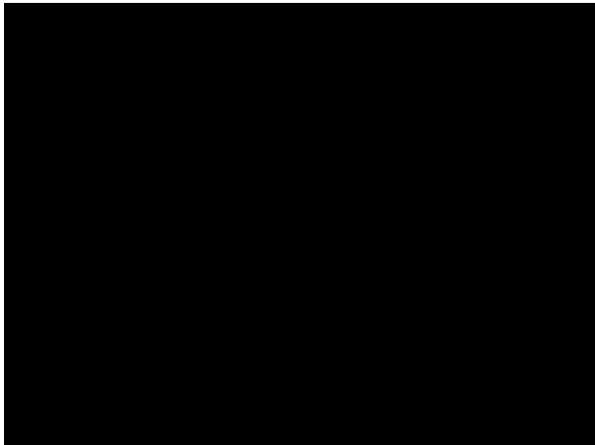
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Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.  
(Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV)

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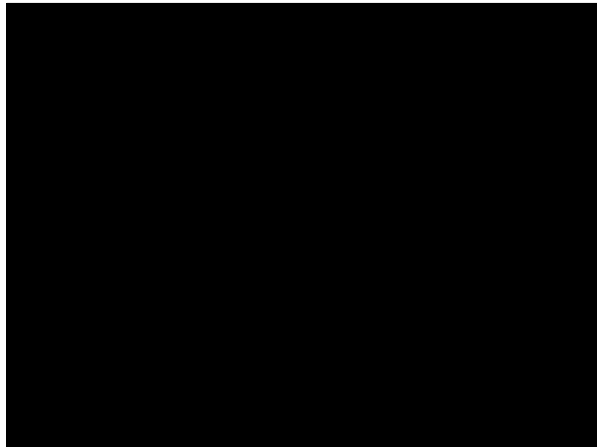
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