



new life fellowship

Sermon Title: Discernment: Prudence and Discernment

Speaker: Richard Villodas, Lead Pastor

Scripture: Proverbs 14:8

The wisdom of the prudent is to give thought to their ways,
but the folly of fools is deception. (NIV)

Sermon Outline:

To actually think things through is hard work. It is very easy for us not to use our heads when we make decisions.

The Prudent – thinks ahead, patiently giving careful thought to the long-term implications of their decisions.

How do we live a prudent life? Questions to ask when discerning God's will:

1. Am I rushing?
2. Am I avoiding the hard work of thinking?
3. Do I understand the options before me?
4. Have I considered my limits and the limits of those around me?
5. Have I honestly assessed my strengths and weaknesses?
6. Am I freely making this decision, or am I being pressured to do so?
7. Have I worked hard to understand the implications of this decision?

The good news is that God loves fools and he is committed to you and doesn't give up on you.

Jesus is prudent and gives thoughtful thinking to his decisions. Jesus Christ going to the cross was thoughtful and he was prudent in his love for us.

The Holy Spirit invites us to use our head and be prudent.

Sermon Summary:

This Sunday, Richard Villodas, Lead Pastor, continues our new series titled *Discernment, How to Discover God's Will*. Today Pastor Rich explores what it means to "use our heads" as we seek to discern God's will.

Sermon Questions:

1. Do you feel an invitation from Christ in today's scripture passage? Do any of the words resonate with you? If so, why?
2. Can you think of a time in the past when you made a decision without being prudent? What resulted from you're not being prudent around this decision? Take time to ask for God's forgiveness around this decision while also asking for God's wisdom and direction moving forward.
3. Can you begin to use the seven questions listed above as a guide moving forward to help you make more prudent decisions? Ask Holy Spirit to fill you with his strength and guidance to do the hard work that prudence requires especially when it comes to making important decisions in your life.