

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a church steeple with a cross on top, set against a clear blue sky. In the foreground, several American flags are flying on tall, silver flagpoles. The flags are slightly out of focus, creating a sense of depth. The overall tone is patriotic and religious.

STAND UP FOR  
**JESUS!**

THE **LEGAL  
ALERT**

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CHRISTIAN LAW ASSOCIATION

JUNE 2025

# WISDOM



## 1. **Wisdom is the principal thing (Proverbs 4:7).**

When God told King Solomon to ask for anything he wanted, Solomon asked for wisdom (2 Chronicles 1:7–12). Living in the shadow of his father, King David, he asked for the one thing that really touched the heart of God, Heaven-sent wisdom. When God saw that Solomon's heart was filled with a desire for wisdom, He gave him the wisdom he asked for, as well as extreme riches that he did not ask for.

## 2. **Do not confuse wisdom with knowledge.**

Knowledge is “knowing things”; wisdom is “knowing what to do and when to do it.” We have all met people who are extremely intelligent, but the actions of their day-to-day lives are extremely foolish. It is impossible to navigate the Christian life without knowing what to do and when to do it. We cannot be successful spouses, parents, employers, or employees without having this wisdom. We can rely on our own best efforts, or we can rely on God's magnificent wisdom.

## 3. **Wisdom brings happiness.**

Proverbs 3:13–15 explains, “Happy is the man that findeth wisdom.” If you want to be happy, you need to obtain Heaven-sent wisdom. Given the choice between wealth and wisdom, always choose wisdom. Seeking happiness by following the way of the world is a catastrophic choice. True happiness is found only by seeking divine wisdom and living the lives God has designed for us.

## 4. **We must acknowledge that we lack wisdom.**

James 1:5 says, “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask.” The word *lack* here means “to be destitute,” not “to be just a little short.” We must be honest with ourselves and with God. We must admit that we simply do not know how to raise our children or manage our careers without God's divine help. In most cases, people who are highly talented, gifted, or experienced have even more trouble asking for God's help. Our prayer must be, “God, I admit that I lack. I must have Your wisdom because I do not know what I am doing.” While the world encourages us

to believe in ourselves and trust in what we can make of ourselves, God's Word commands us to humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God, thereby acknowledging our lack (1 Peter 5:6). We must never get comfortable living without Heaven-sent wisdom.

## 5. **We must ask God for wisdom.**

When we ask God for wisdom, God promises to give us a generous portion of it. He will give us even more wisdom than we need. Furthermore, God promises that He will never find fault with us for asking for wisdom. He will never say, “You seem weak for asking.” We should ask God to give us wisdom for the specific situations we encounter day by day. In every situation of life that we encounter, we should ask ourselves, “Do I care enough about this to ask God for His help?”

## 6. **We must exercise faith when we ask for wisdom.**

In salvation, we exercise faith and ask God to save us. In our day-to-day lives, we must exercise faith in asking God for wisdom. We can't be fickle, thinking, “Maybe God will give me wisdom; maybe He won't.” That kind of thinking is unstable. Stable, Bible-based thinking is remembering that we are part of God's family, and our loving Heavenly Father wants to give us wisdom. It is tragic for a wife to look for leadership from an unstable husband who is not asking God for wisdom, or for a child to seek guidance from a parent who is comfortable living without God's wisdom.

## 7. **Wisdom impacts our daily lives.**

When we choose to seek God's wisdom, it improves our relationships. Heaven-sent wisdom makes us better parents, better children, better employers, and better employees. When we are filled with God's wisdom, our actions will manifest the fruit of the Spirit, “Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law” (Galatians 5:22–23).

**Christian, have you asked your Heavenly Father for wisdom today?**



## DEFENDING RELIGIOUS LIBERTY AT WORK

About two years ago, an employee in the medical industry worked within the rules of his company to establish a Bible study with some of his fellow employees. This, however, was strongly opposed by some of his superiors, and they began to develop a plan to shut down the Bible study.

Without any notice and without being given any reason, the employee was sent home. Because he knew his bosses well, he knew that—regardless of what anyone might state

publicly—the real reason for this was their desire to disband the Bible study. He also knew that he would likely lose his job.

When he contacted the Christian Law Association, our experienced attorneys were able to provide sound legal guidance. After all this time, the Bible study is still going. One man who attends the Bible study has now become a Christian.

Because of God's goodness, the man who operates the Bible study still has a career that is on track. In fact, it appears that his superiors can perceive the value of his work, and they have even continued to provide him with customary increases of salary.

The Christian Law Association is committed to fighting for religious liberty. Whether that is handling cases that appear before the highest courts of the land or helping a good-hearted Christian man keep his Bible study going, we are privileged to defend the rights of Bible-believing Christians.



## A MINISTRY OF LEGAL HELPS

Since 1969, CLA has been providing free legal assistance to Bible-believing churches and Christians who are experiencing difficulty in practicing their religious faith because of governmental regulation, intrusion, or prohibition in one form or another. The Christian Law Association serves in the following ways...

- Free legal defense of those facing difficulties for the Biblical faith
- Free legal counsel to churches and Christians for their ministries
- Free legal help to homeschooling families
- Publication of *The Legal Alert*, a monthly newsletter
- Legal books and other resources to inform Christians of their rights
- Preaching in churches across the country
- Intercessory prayer ministry for requests sent to the ministry offices
- Free legal consulting to local, state, and federal officials and legislators to provide maximum religious liberty
- Prayer initiative for our national leadership and government
- Legal seminars for ministries to help prevent lawsuits
- Weekday radio program broadcast, *The Legal Alert*, on 1,600 outlets around the world

## HYMN HISTORY STAND UP FOR JESUS

Pastor Dudley Tyng faithfully ministered in Philadelphia during the Great Revival of 1858, commonly called "The Work of God in Philadelphia." Sadly, Tyng was the victim of a tragic accident on the family farm. Some of the last words he ever spoke were, "Stand up for Jesus. Father, stand up for Jesus. And tell my brethren of the ministry wherever you meet them to stand up for Jesus!"

The following Sunday, Pastor George Duffield crafted a poem that was used at the end of his sermon. "Stand up,

stand up for Jesus, ye soldiers of the cross," the poem began. "Lift high His royal banner; it must not suffer loss." From

the mid-nineteenth century until this moment, these words have encouraged God's people to be bold in their faith, to support the work of God, and to share the Gospel everywhere.



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# 10 TIPS FOR A GREAT SUMMER

## When summertime arrives, churches kick into high gear.

Activities, camps, special programs—all these projects can excite the membership and keep the staff extremely busy. As you enter into this joyous, but hectic, season, keep these tips in mind to stay safe and legally sound.

### 1. Review and Update Insurance Coverage

Make sure your liability insurance is current and covers all summer activities, including off-site events, camps, and volunteer-led outings.

### 2. Require Signed Permission and Waiver Forms

Get signed consent and liability waivers from parents/guardians for minors participating in events. Clearly outline the activities and any associated risks.

### 3. Screen All Volunteers and Staff

Conduct background checks on anyone working with children or youth. Document the process to protect the church legally if an issue arises.

### 4. Provide Staff & Volunteer Training

Offer mandatory safety training, including child protection policies, emergency procedures, and mandatory reporting obligations.

### 5. Comply with State and Local Laws

Ensure activities meet all local, state, and federal legal requirements (like permits for large gatherings, food service regulations, and transportation rules).

### 6. Implement a Two-Adult Rule

Never allow one adult to be alone with a minor. Always have two unrelated adults present to protect everyone involved.

### 7. Prepare Emergency Medical Plans

Have clear emergency procedures. Keep medical release forms and allergy information on hand, and ensure first-aid kits are available at every event.

### 8. Transport Minors Safely and Legally

Use approved drivers with valid licenses and proper insurance. Get written permission for any off-site transportation.

### 9. Monitor Outdoor and Water Activities Closely

For activities like swimming or hiking, use certified lifeguards or qualified supervisors, and have clear supervision ratios based on age and activity risk.

### 10. Document Everything

Keep thorough records of incident reports, permission slips, training sessions, and background checks. Good documentation can be crucial if any legal issues arise later.

Taking a little extra time to tend to these matters is an important step in safeguarding the many activities on your summer schedule. If you need additional information or have questions, please contact our offices.



## AMERICA NEEDS CHURCHES!

**If we take the time to look around,** it is obvious that the attendance in many churches is lower today than it was a year ago. This downward trajectory is not associated with just one church; it is unfortunately a part of a growing trend in all churches across America.

We have all felt the impact of rising prices, and churches are no different. In many congregations, the financial challenges are severe. Expenses are going up, but offerings are going down.

When the COVID-19 panic hit, many faithful church members stayed home, planning for that to be only for a season. Sadly, many of them have never returned. That—coupled with shifting trends in many people's attitude about organized religion—is another contributing factor to the current weakened state of church growth.

The statistics for 2024 are not complete, but reasonable estimates indicate that somewhere between 4,000 and 10,000 churches closed their doors permanently during the year.

Going back to 2019, statistics about Protestant churches indicated approximately 4,500 closures that year. It is common for churches to close or to merge because church attendance in America is in trouble.

America needs churches! America needs you to keep your church strong!

At the Christian Law Association, it is our privilege to fight to protect the religious liberties of Bible-preaching churches. At the same time, we understand that all the well-intentioned efforts of our legal missionaries cannot replace dedicated pastors and church members who have a heart to keep the New Testament church alive in this nation.

This is the time to support your local church. This is the time to be involved, to contribute, to participate in outreach. The message of the Gospel makes an eternal difference. May the Lord help us rededicate ourselves to support the church which He bought with the precious blood of Christ.

# PRAYER CHECKLIST

We covet your prayers for these requests and hundreds of others we receive regularly.

**"Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."—Jeremiah 33:3**

- ✓ **ALABAMA:** Pray for a church facing challenges after a local ordinance limited street evangelism near public events. CLA attorneys are helping them understand their rights.
- ✓ **ALASKA:** Pray for a Christian school seeking guidance after being asked to comply with non-Biblical hiring practices.
- ✓ **ARIZONA:** Pray for a pastor navigating threats of legal action after the church refused to host an event that conflicted with its statement of faith.
- ✓ **ARKANSAS:** Pray for a youth pastor under investigation for counseling a minor according to Biblical principles. Our attorneys are providing legal support.
- ✓ **CALIFORNIA:** Pray for a Christian business owner contacted for refusing to print materials that went against his religious beliefs.
- ✓ **COLORADO:** Pray for a church facing potential zoning discrimination after trying to expand its facilities.
- ✓ **CONNECTICUT:** Pray for a Christian counselor threatened with loss of her license for counseling in accordance with her faith.
- ✓ **DELAWARE:** Pray for a Christian school needing assistance after state officials challenged their religious curriculum standards.
- ✓ **FLORIDA:** Pray for a Christian ministry that was denied access to a public park to host an outreach event.
- ✓ **HAWAII:** Pray for a church that was unfairly denied a permit to meet in a public facility.
- ✓ **IDAHO:** Pray for a pastor needing help responding to a demand letter accusing the church of discrimination for holding single-gender retreats.
- ✓ **ILLINOIS:** Pray for a pastor who called CLA for guidance after receiving threats over a sermon posted online.
- ✓ **INDIANA:** Pray for a homeschool group threatened with government oversight after expressing Biblical teaching in its materials.
- ✓ **KANSAS:** Pray for a Christian counselor fighting a policy that penalizes faith-based counseling.
- ✓ **KENTUCKY:** Pray for a pastor seeking guidance after the city banned outdoor baptisms in public spaces.
- ✓ **LOUISIANA:** Pray for a Christian club at a public school battling to maintain its religious identity.
- ✓ **MAINE:** Pray for a pastor seeking help after a lawsuit was filed over the church's public statements on Biblical marriage.
- ✓ **MARYLAND:** Pray for a Christian radio station under pressure to censor Biblical content.
- ✓ **MASSACHUSETTS:** Pray for a Christian camp ministry fighting to maintain gender-separated sleeping arrangements based on Scripture.
- ✓ **MICHIGAN:** Pray for a Christian bookstore threatened with a discrimination claim for not carrying non-Christian materials.
- ✓ **MINNESOTA:** Pray for a Christian teacher who was disciplined for sharing her faith after school hours.
- ✓ **MISSISSIPPI:** Pray for a Christian adoption agency facing challenges to its religious policies.
- ✓ **MISSOURI:** Pray for a small church fighting unfair property taxes levied despite its nonprofit status.
- ✓ **NEBRASKA:** Pray for a college student disciplined for quoting Scripture in a classroom presentation.
- ✓ **NEW HAMPSHIRE:** Pray for a pastor who called for help after his church's bank account was frozen over a misunderstanding related to charitable giving laws.
- ✓ **NEW JERSEY:** Pray for a Christian student facing difficulty for inviting classmates to a youth group event.
- ✓ **NEW MEXICO:** Pray for a Christian business owner seeking legal protection after refusing to create promotional material for a cause opposing Biblical values.
- ✓ **NEW YORK:** Pray for a pastor threatened with legal action for posting signs promoting church services in public areas.

CHRISTIAN LAW ASSOCIATION

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# PRAYER CHECKLIST CONTINUED

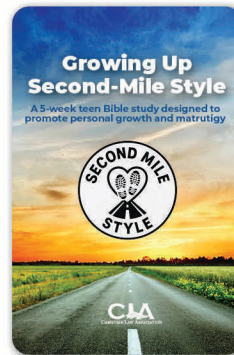
We covet your prayers for these requests and hundreds of others we receive regularly.



Dr. David Gibbs, Jr.

- ✓ **NORTH CAROLINA:** Pray for a Christian counselor being pressured to refer clients to non-Biblical therapies.
- ✓ **NORTH DAKOTA:** Pray for a Christian youth organization denied access to a community center because of its faith-based mission.
- ✓ **OHIO:** Pray for a Christian teacher seeking guidance after being told she could not display a Bible verse at her desk.
- ✓ **OKLAHOMA:** Pray for a Christian-run charity facing government penalties for prioritizing Biblical qualifications in hiring.
- ✓ **OREGON:** Pray for a Christian doctor under investigation for refusing to participate in procedures that conflict with his faith.
- ✓ **PENNSYLVANIA:** Pray for a Christian wedding venue facing fines for declining to host ceremonies inconsistent with their faith.
- ✓ **RHODE ISLAND:** Pray for a pastor seeking help after his church was barred from participating in a town festival because of its religious message.
- ✓ **SOUTH DAKOTA:** Pray for a pastor dealing with city officials trying to impose restrictive noise ordinances on church services.

- ✓ **SOUTH CAROLINA:** Pray for a Christian daycare contacted for using Biblical discipline policies; leaders are seeking help to comply with laws without compromising faith.
- ✓ **TENNESSEE:** Pray for a church needing legal counsel after being sued for removing a disruptive attendee from the congregation.
- ✓ **TEXAS:** Pray for a Christian school battling regulations that would force changes to its faith-based hiring practices.
- ✓ **UTAH:** Pray for a Christian group seeking to hold a public worship event after the city denied them a permit.
- ✓ **VERMONT:** Pray for a Christian retreat center challenged over its policy on Biblical marriage.
- ✓ **VIRGINIA:** Pray for a pastor handling a defamation lawsuit filed by a former church attendee.
- ✓ **WEST VIRGINIA:** Pray for a church facing opposition after applying for a grant available to nonprofits.
- ✓ **WYOMING:** Pray for a Christian camp ministry needing help after government officials challenged their religious exemption status.



## GROWING UP SECOND-MILE STYLE

**COMING THIS  
SUMMER!**

**These five lessons focus on equipping teens to mature into godly adults.** Covering topics like trust, responsibility, self-control, respect, and wisdom, the “Second-Mile Challenges” in this study will encourage and inspire teenagers to go above and beyond, to reflect Matthew 5:41 by showing extraordinary love and service to the world around them.

**LEGAL QUESTIONS, PRAYER REQUESTS, OR DONATIONS**  
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