

“Living In Reality: Testing Everything According to Wisdom”
Proverbs 8:1-36

What is “Felt Reality”? It is reality, or what is true, framed by my own thoughts, desires, assumptions, emotions, and experiences. It is what all my thinking, speaking, and acting flows from.

What is “Biblical Reality”? It is basing what is true on the reality of God’s Word or wisdom. Reality is what we need to root all of our thinking, speaking, desiring and acting off of.

“Where there is an understanding heart and a willingness to receive the truth in love, wisdom will be valued above silver and gold.” — Matthew Henry

- Reality Calls to All Mankind (Proverbs 8:1-9):
 - *“She is loud and wayward; her feet do not stay at home; now in the street, now in the market, and at every street corner she lies in wait.” (Proverbs 7:11-12; cf. Proverbs 8:1-4)*
 - *“How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge?” (Proverbs 1:22; cf. Proverbs 8:5)*
- The Value of Reality (Proverbs 8:10-12):
 - *“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.” (Proverbs 3:5-6)*
- Walking and Leading in Reality Blesses People (Proverbs 8:13-16):
 - *“When one rules justly over men, ruling in the fear of God, he dawns on them like the morning light, like the sun shining forth on a cloudless morning, like rain that makes grass to sprout from the earth.” (2 Samuel 23:3b-4)*
- Walking and Leading in Reality Produces Fruit (Proverbs 8:17-21):
 - *“By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be My disciples. As the Father has loved Me, so have I loved you. Abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love....” (John 15:8-10)*
- All Things Were Created by Wisdom (Proverbs 8:22-31):
 - *“For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities — all things were created through Him and for Him.” (Colossians 1:16)*
- The Consequences of Rejecting Reality (Proverbs 8:32-36):
 - *“For the simple are killed by their turning away, and the complacency of fools destroys them.” (Proverbs 1:32)*

Announcements:

★**COMMUNION:** We will be partaking of and celebrating Communion together as a Church Body THIS Sunday, February 1st.

★**GREETING MINISTRY MEETING:** We are having a Greeting Ministry Meeting THIS Sunday, February 1st, immediately following the worship service. If you currently serve in that ministry, or if you are interested in serving in that ministry, please plan on staying for this meeting! For any questions, please see Shawn Bailey.

★**CHURCH NIGHT OF PRAYER:** Our monthly Church Night of Prayer is THIS Sunday, February 1st, from 5:30-7pm. During this prayer time we will be praying for specific prayer requests within the church body. Please consider joining us for a portion of this time or for the full time of prayer.

★**NEW MEMBERS' CLASS:** If you are interested in becoming a Church Member, or have any questions about Church Membership, we are having a New Members' Class on Sunday, February 15th, and on Sunday, February 22nd, at 9am. There is a sign-up list on the table in the Entryway, please sign up if you want to participate in this class. For any questions, please see Pastor Zach.