

# **Oak Grove Church of Christ Newsletter - 2025.08.03**

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## **Sermon recordings**

Scan the QR code below with your phone's cam, or visit [oakgrovecofc.org/sermons](http://oakgrovecofc.org/sermons).

**Speaker-AM:** Steve Helterbrand

**Title:** How Shall The Young  
Secure Their Hearts?

**Recording:**



**Speaker-PM:** Steve Helterbrand

**Title:** One Thing  
**Recording:**



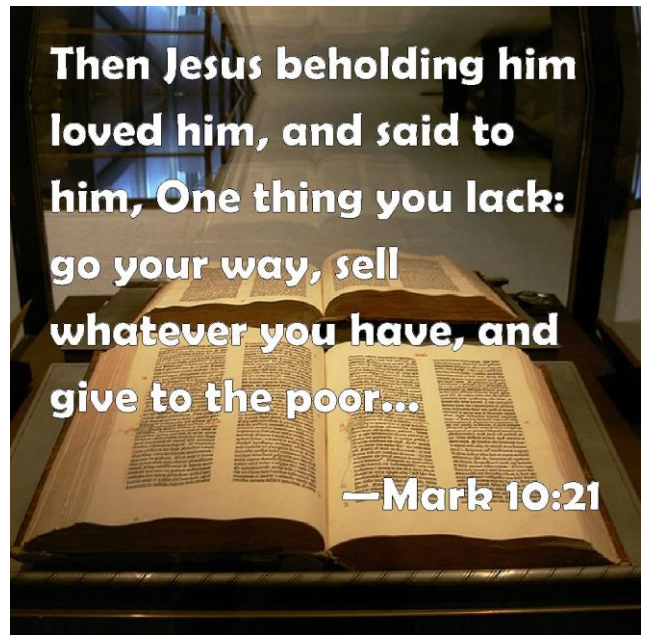
HOW CAN A YOUNG MAN  
KEEP HIS WAY PURE? BY  
GUARDING IT  
ACCORDING TO YOUR  
WORD.

— *PSALM 119:9*



Then Jesus beholding him  
loved him, and said to  
him, One thing you lack:  
go your way, sell  
whatever you have, and  
give to the poor...

—Mark 10:21



### **Jesus is Our Wisdom, 8/4/2025 By Josh Vinyard**

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, this person is a new creation; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come” (2 Cor. 5:17).

For those of us in Christ, the expectation of this verse is hard. The reason it is hard is because if we are “in Christ,” the expectation is that we become different. As Christians, we are supposed to have a new identity. We used to be slaves to sin, but we have been called to be masters over sin. We aren’t without weapons versus Satan now, but instead we are equipped to fight. We used to be the center of our own world but now we have God at the center of our lives. What should that look like?

Paul tells us that in 1 Cor. 1:30 that “Jesus is our wisdom.” He tells the Corinthians that there are two ways to put your life together. You can put your life together by the wisdom of this age or you can put your life together by the wisdom and power of God

A simple definition of wisdom is the ability to put things together. In the OT, there was a person named Bezalel. He was a very skilled master craftsman, and he had the ability to put things together in gold, silver, and wood. God gave him knowledge, but it took great wisdom (skill) to put the tabernacle and furnishings together. Knowledge is about gathering information. Wisdom is about putting it together.

The wisdom of this age is simply a way of putting your life together with yourself at the center. This way asks, “what do I want out of life and how can I get it?” 1 Cor. 1:21 tells us that this wisdom is limited; “For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not come to know God.” If you put your life together in order to figure out how to get everything that you want (even from God), Paul says that way will not lead you to God. If your sole focus is to get out of God what you want. You can believe in Him, and you can pray to Him, but you won’t find him on that road. In 1 Cor 2:8, those who followed the wisdom of this world crucified the Son of God. If you put your life together based upon getting what you want, there won’t be any room for Jesus. It was true for them, and it will be true for us. They couldn’t deny themselves and if we don’t deny ourselves, we won’t have room for Him either.

The other way to put your life together is based upon God’s ways. It means that you put your life together with God at the center. That is how Jesus put His life together. He didn’t try to get everything that He wanted. It was not, my will, but your will be done all the way up until the end (Matt. 26:39). It was how can I love and serve others? If those are the questions we ask, we will put our lives together in an entirely different way.

In fact, choosing to put our lives together with God at the center will show itself every day. There is a big difference between a father who asks, “how can I get what I want from my family?” and one who looks for ways to serve his family. There is a big difference between a husband who looks for ways to get what he wants out of his marriage and one who will look for ways to serve his wife. There is a big difference for one who will try to figure out what they want to get from the church and the one who looks for ways to serves God’s people who are the church. Jesus put his life together with God at the center. We are called to be different from the world and choose God’s wisdom and put our lives together the same way that Christ put his together.