1. In our last session we discovered that Maturity/Wisdom has at least four

 requirements:

 A. Maturity/wisdom requires time.

 B. Maturity requires a mindset.

 C. Maturity requires a willingness to engage in conflict.

 D. Maturity requires a God’s perspective on problems and pain.

II. The New Testament takes the Proverbs’ principles to teach us to celebrate discipline.

 A. Hebrews 12:1-12 is the “locker room” talk for all the mature/wise.

 B. Hebrews 12:1-12 is but a paraphrase of Proverbs 13.

 1. Prudence cannot be separated from knowledge of God’s instructions:

 Proverbs 13:16

III. Proverbs 14 paints the picture that the mature/wise are people who are under

 construction.

 A. No building lasts on a poor foundation: Proverbs 14:11

 B. Jesus concludes the Sermon on the Mount with this same illustration:

 Matthew 7:24-26

 C. The mature/wise know that construction is internal and external.

 1. Philippians 3 teaches the mature/wise how the deal with failure.

IV. Proverbs 15 is a short course in theology.

 A. Poetry is a great tool for conveying the theology of God’s attributes.

 1. The mature/wise recognize that God has “eyes” and 20/20 vision:

 Proverbs15:3,11

 B. Hebrews 4:12-13 uses the poetry of a metaphor to expose the truth of

 Proverbs 15:3

 C. Proverbs 15 ends where Proverbs began. The fear of the Lord is the surest

 theology.

 D. The application is the call for the mature/wise to be humble: v. 33

V. Proverbs 16 is truly a summation application of all the presentations of chapters

 1 - 15.

 A. Application answers the question, “So what?” to the “What’s what’s” of

 scripture.

 B. God’s attributes line up in Proverbs 16.

 1. God is holy. (Therefore, know what He “hates.”) (aka Justice)

 2. God is omniscient. (Therefore, know what He “sees.”) (aka

 Foreknowledge)

 3. God is omnipotent. (Therefore, know what He can do.) (aka

 Sovereignty)

 4. God is merciful. His mercy matches his justice.

 a. This is the path that leads to life and life everlasting!