

## Nothing to Lose, Everything to Gain

### Description

Proverbs 2:16-22

What always happens at the end of an ad for a new medication? You know it well—that quick, monotone voice rattling off what feels like a never-ending list of all the new things that could go wrong if you add the medication to your routine. It always makes me wonder if the trade-off is truly worth it.

Gaining wisdom is not like weighing the risks of taking a new medication. When wisdom enters our hearts and we “walk in the ways of the good” (v. 20), we do not have to consider the negative consequences because the list is only one of gain. We gain understanding, peace, closeness with the Lord, love, and guidance among other things. We are also guarded from deadly pitfalls like wickedness and seduction (vv. 12, 16).

This is not to say the wise will never face struggles and temptations of any kind, but we can be confident that our struggles and temptations are not caused by the presence of wisdom in our lives. Instead, the wisdom we possess helps us learn from those experiences and persevere through them in godly and righteous ways.

Author: Miranda Musick

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