

**“For the wise men of old, the cardinal problem of human life was how to conform the soul to objective reality, and the solution was wisdom, self-discipline, and virtue. For the modern, the cardinal problem is how to conform reality to the wishes of man, and the solution is a technique.”**

*C.S. Lewis*

# Issues

- Technological Age
- Sin-Forgetful Age
- Secular Age

**“The end product of evangelism is not just to get you out of hell and into heaven, but to get God out of heaven and into you, so that Christ living in your heart might bring God out again into the open where He can be seen”**

*W. Ian Thomas*

# Know

1. That you are a fool
2. That this world is Temporary
3. Christ's Death solves the problem of Suffering—we are redeemed and we are called to stand ground for others
4. Whether you are two-faced or not? What do you really want?

# Produces

- Humility
- Freedom
- Compassion
- Faith
- Christlikeness
- Genuine Faith: consistency, staying power—Stand in the Gap
- Readies us for eternal mission

# Ask

- For Wisdom
  - Different world wisdom
  - So make appropriate personal decisions, so make progress
  - See significance of things
  - Ability to apply God's ways to life
  - If not ask not realize need
  - Focus not on self but generosity of God
  - God delights in giving
- In Faith
  - Not two-faced— not serve two masters
  - Active Obedience— trust God's ways, timing, methods, character
  - Believe God capable
  - Not intellectual knowledge, emotion or feeling-commitment (Daniel 3:18/Job 13:15)
- And Will Receive— God delights in giving (His nature to give)— not criticize— His welcome never fails— He desires our maturity

# Tested Faith

- Brings depth of character  
(Romans 5:3-5)
- Enables us to comfort and encourage others  
(2 Corinthians 1:3-5)
- Encourages us to lead a productive and effective life  
(2 Peter 1:5-9)
- Helps us identify with Christ  
(Matthew 4:1-11, Hebrews 5:7-10)
- Allows us to focus on our future hope in Christ  
(Romans 8:18-24)

# What Do I Really Want

- To single-mindedly trust Jesus (to take God at His Word)
- To have a Christ-Like Character
- To be mature, complete
- To be one with God—not right with but one with
- Whole-hearted commitment to Jesus, His ways and His future
- Or to have it all right now—do I have my feet in both camps
- Hebrews 12:2



# To Have Wisdom

- Know you are a fool
- Know that this world is temporary
- Know Christ's death is the means and the norm

Start a Thanksgiving Journal