

June Bible Study Series:
Wise Up!
(Lessons from the book of Proverbs)

Lesson One

The Way of the Simple

(Lessons from the book of Proverbs)

**Proverbs 1:32, For simpletons
turn away from me—to death.
Fools are destroyed by their own
complacency.**

**Proverbs 7:7, I saw among the
simple, I noticed among the
young men, a youth who had no
sense.**

A Simpleton is a person lacking in common sense, an ignorant, foolish, or silly person. A person who is felt to be deficient in judgment, good sense, or intelligence.

If simplicity is a malady of the young, there are several implications to this truth:

**Simplicity is an Aliment
of the Young.**

**1. Being Simple is not a Sin, but
a Phase in One's Growth
Toward Maturity.**

**2. One Cannot Remain Simple
Just as One Cannot Remain an
Adolescent.**

**3. Simplicity is not Remedied
by Time, but by Choice.**

**4. While Simplicity is an
Ailment of the Young, Every
Age has its Pitfalls.**

1 Timothy 4:12, Do not let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.”

Titus 2:2-5, Teach the older men to be temperate, worthy of respect, self-controlled, and sound in faith, in love and in endurance. Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good. Then they can urge the younger women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God.

5. Simplicity is a Condition Filled with Dangers.

1.They Lack Wisdom

Psalm 19:7

**2. They Lack Knowledge and
Discretion**

Proverbs 1:4

**3. They Lack Understanding and
Sense**

Psalm 119:130

6. The Simple, like all Fallen Mankind, are Inclined toward Evil, and not toward what is Good and Righteous.

Proverbs 1:22, “How long, O naive ones, will you love simplicity? And scoffers delight themselves in scoffing, and fools hate knowledge?”

Proverbs 1:32, “For the waywardness of the naive shall kill them, And the complacency of fools shall destroy them.”

**Proverbs 14:18, The naive inherit folly,
But the prudent are crowned with
knowledge ”**

**7. The Simple are often the
Target of those who are Evil
and Immoral.**

**8. Simplicity, while a
Dangerous Disease, is not an
Incurable One.**

There is hope for the simple.

**Psalm 116:6, The Lord preserves the simple;
I was brought low, and He saved me.**

**Psalm 19:7, The law of the Lord is perfect,
restoring the soul; The testimony of the
Lord is sure, making wise the simple.**

**Psalm 119:130, The unfolding of Thy words
gives light; It gives understanding to the
simple.**

Bible Study Follow-up Chat Questions:

- 1. What is the difference between “simple” and “simpleton?”**
- 2. What are some of the primary problems of the Simpleton?**
- 3. What can the Simpleton expect if he does not gain prudence?**
- 4. How can the Simpleton gain prudence and escape this destiny?**
- 5. Can a person be intelligent, yet simple minded?**

6. Do you find it hard to connect with simple minded people?

7. “If you use your mind to think about how you use your mind, you will be able to stop being so simple minded.”

8. Why do people remain a simpleton?

9. Is it your responsibility to be kind to those without common sense?