

The Wise, Foolish, & Evil

New Endings: Making Way for What's Next - Part 3

January 19, 2025

Relationships are one of the hardest areas of life to discern when endings or beginnings are needed.

There are relationships that tear down and there are relationships that build up. How do we know the difference?

*⁷Anyone who rebukes a **mock**er will get an insult in return. Anyone who corrects the **wick**ed will get hurt. ⁸So don't bother correcting mockers; they will only hate you. But correct the **wis**e, and they will love you." Proverbs 9:7-8 (NLT)*

<u>WISE</u>	<u>FOOL</u>	<u>EVIL</u>
Aware and care	Unaware and don't care	Aware and don't care
Correct → adjust self → love you	Correct → adjust reality → insult you	Correct → hurt you!
Own mistakes	Deny mistakes	
Grow	Delay growth	
Talk	Stop talking → consequences and limits	Protect → lawyers, police, money

Which relationships in your life might need to **begin** and which might need to **change** or even **end**?

Additional great verses on relationships:

“Walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble.” Proverbs 13:20 (NLT)

“As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend.” Proverbs 27:17 (NLT)

“Wounds from a sincere friend are better than many kisses from an enemy.” Proverbs 27:6 (NLT)

“A friend is always loyal, and a brother is born to help in time of need.” Proverbs 17:17 (NLT)

“¹⁴Don’t team up with those who are unbelievers. How can righteousness be a partner with wickedness? How can light live with darkness? ¹⁵What harmony can there be between Christ and the devil? How can a believer be a partner with an unbeliever? ¹⁶And what union can there be between God’s temple and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God said: ‘I will live in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they will be my people.’” 2 Corinthians 6:14-16 (NLT)

“Even my best friend, the one I trusted completely, the one who shared my food, has turned against me.” Psalm 41:9 (NLT)

“Some people make cutting remarks, but the words of the wise bring healing.” Proverbs 12:18 (NLT)

“Fools think their own way is right, but the wise listen to others.” Proverbs 12:15 (NLT)

“So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.” 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NLT)

“Run from anything that stimulates youthful lusts. Instead, pursue righteous living, faithfulness, love, and peace. Enjoy the companionship of those who call on the Lord with pure hearts.” 2 Timothy 2:22 (NLT)

Recommended resource: Necessary Endings by Dr. Henry Cloud