



Wisdom (vs. Foolishness)

When you think of the word wisdom do you envision graying or white hair?

If so, this imagery speaks of wisdom as *knowledge of life that is gained and shaped through much time and through many experiences*. More than likely this expression of wisdom has many faces of failures and difficult lessons learned, coupled with lessons of successes.

This attitude of wisdom has us looking forward to a future of being "wise" that would also have us looking back with regrets, if we were to reach that place without walking toward it in wisdom.

This thought should cause us to pause... to ask how wisdom can be attained at a younger age, so we can have more successes throughout our lives, and less trials and tribulations from bad choices.

To do that we first need to look at the definition of

wisdom, which is:

Perceiving reality (from a clear or unclouded perspective) and doing what is best or seeing and responding to life situations from a perspective that transcends my current circumstances.

Next we need to realize that wisdom is something that can be learned and cultivated, just like critical thinking and learning skills.

In its simplicity, wisdom can be gained through making good choices by understanding what is lost, or by understanding the consequences of bad choices, before we actually make a decision.

To do this we have to rise up beyond our emotions or viewpoints to seek what is best as we learn to choose wisely. And as we learn to make wise decisions, we can attain wisdom earlier in life, so we can look forward to a future of few regrets!

Reflections of Wisdom

Commit to:

- Listen to those in authority over me
- Learn from mistakes and correction
- Choose friends carefully
- Remember there are consequences to all my actions
- Ask myself "what is the right thing to do?"

It is characteristic of wisdom not to do desperate things.
Henry David Thoreau

The mission of Prattville-Autauga Character Coalition is to strengthen our communities by promoting excellence in character for each citizen.

Visions of Character

People grow through experience if they meet life honestly and courageously. This is how character is built.

—Eleanor Roosevelt