Office Wisdom and Faith

By: David Burruss

One of my favorite shows is The Office. I think one of the reasons I like it so much is because it reminds me of my own Cingular Wireless days when I worked in tech support. The quiet, awkward humor, the strange little moments, and the cast of quirky characters always take me back.

There's a scene where one of the characters says, "Before I do anything, I ask myself, 'Would an idiot do that?' And if the answer is yes, I do not do that thing." It's a funny line, but honestly, there's a lot of truth packed in there.

When I think about it in biblical terms, it hits even harder. The book of Proverbs is filled with wisdom that draws sharp lines between the wise and the foolish. Proverbs 1:7 says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction." That's about as clear as it gets. God has given us His Word, a lamp to our feet and a light to our path (Psalm 119:105). Yet how often do we leave it closed, sitting on a shelf, while we try to stumble our way through life?

Only a fool would ignore God's Word. Only a fool would twist it, add to it, or take away from it. Revelation 22:18-19 gives a sober warning about this very thing, reminding us that the Bible is not ours to edit. God's truth is complete, and it is living and powerful (Hebrews 4:12).

It makes me think. How many times have I rushed into decisions without asking the better question: What does God's Word say about this? James 1:22 says, "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves." To know the Bible and not live it out is to choose the foolish path. It's like hearing Dwight Schrute's little motto from The Office and saying, "Yes, an idiot would do this, but I'll go ahead anyway."

The good news is that God's wisdom isn't hidden. It's right there in the pages of Scripture, waiting for us. And unlike sitcom one-liners, His wisdom has the power to actually change us, guard us, and lead us into life.

So maybe the next time we're tempted to wander off on our own, we should pause and ask not just, "Would an idiot do that?" but more importantly, "Does God's Word tell me how to walk wisely here?" If the answer is yes, then we already know what to do.