

C. **My ultimate qualifications** (22-31)

- i. Job's encounter with God (Job 38:1-18)

- ii. Wisdom was there!

Summary: What does listening look like?

LIVE THE STORY

We must not only love the Gospel Story, we must begin to live the Gospel Story, indeed, to have the Central Character live in us.

- What is the difference between hearing and listening?
- What does listening look like for you? How are you currently applying yourself to listen to Wisdom?
- In what ways is the importance of the call to listen heightened by the location from which Wisdom calls?
- How does the location of this Wisdom's call in Proverbs 8 compare with the location at which Jesus was crucified? Do you think this merely a coincidence?
- What does it mean to listen, not just with our ears, but with our hands and our feet?
- What insight do you gain comparing Job's encounter with God in Job 38:1-18 with Wisdom's self-description in Prov. 8:22-31?
- Read the O'Connell quote on pg. 2 of outline. How does this speak to you? How have you changed in relation to your ability to listen/learn as described there?

Wisdom's Call to Everyman

Jerry Cisar — June 6, 2010

Text: Proverbs 8

Introduction: One Call Being Made

A. Proverbs 8 is making one appeal. It calls us to one thing.

B. The importance of this one command is **heightened** by where Wisdom locates herself!

i. *On the heights along the way...*

ii. *Where the paths meet...*

➤ This is an appeal made to **those at an impressionable crossroads.**

iii. *At the entrance...the gates leading into the city...*

C. This one demand clarified by whom it is made to.

O'Connell: *“Some people are incapable of learning, not because they lack intelligence but because they lack humility. Moreover, such people disrupt the community because they are unable to learn from others... The humble, on the other hand, are those who are aware that there is more to life than their limited experience of it. They can recognize the narrowness of their own frame of reference, and so they are teachable. Conversely, people without humility join the ranks of fools and suffer the consequences.”*

I. The Call

A. Look at the Imperatives...

- i. vs. 4
- ii. vs. 6
- iii. vs.10
- iv. vs. 32-36 (conclusion):

B. Proverbs 8 is one, clear, uncomplicated command: Listen!

- i. We are to listen not just with our ears, but with our hands and feet also!

C. The bulk of chapter 8 is essentially Wisdom's resumé.

II. The Resumé

A. Here is what I will deliver

- i. I deliver perfection. (6-9)

➤ Deuteronomy 32:4

➤ 1 Peter 2:22-23

Calvin: *“Our reason is overwhelmed by so many forms of deceptions, is subject to so many errors, dashes against so many obstacles, is caught in so many difficulties, that it is far from directing us right.”*

b) The self-authenticating truth of Scripture.

ii. I deliver value. (10-11)

B. My accomplishments (12-21)

i. Wisdom disassociates herself from the arrogant fools.

ii. Wisdom tells you where she has been at work.

➤ Job 12:13

➤ Isaiah 11:2-3