

1) I will grow in wisdom.

What was the wisest thing you did last year?

What was the most foolish thing you did last year?

What do you need wisdom for in the new year?

What sources of wisdom do you need to tap into in the coming year?

Read Luke 1:80. Do you feel like you are in a “wilderness”? Describe it. How does God use the wilderness to prepare you for public ministry?

Read v.51. How did Jesus respond to his parents when they directed him to come out of the temple? What is the correlation between submitting to authorities and growing in wisdom? Would your authorities say you are submissive to their direction?

2) I will grow in favor with God.

How have you seen God’s favor in your life this year?

What will you do to invite God’s favor in the new year?

Read Isaiah 66:2. What kind of life invites the favor of God?

The life that invites God’s favor is characterized by these things. Are these evident in your life?

- Give up your pride.
- Give your attention to God’s Word.
- Give God everything that belongs to him.

3) I will grow in favor with man.

Jesus lived a life with such wisdom and integrity, it drew people to hear his message. Do you find people drawn to you to glean from your wisdom?

Who has drawn your favor this year? Why?

Is your life marked by honesty, generosity, hard work, selflessness, and sacrifice toward others? If not, is it any wonder you are out of favor with others?

Are you susceptible to either of these two dangers?

1. Growing in favor with man while growing out of favor with God.
2. Growing in favor with God while not sharing with men how to have favor with God.

Additional Scripture

- Proverbs 2:1-15
- James 1:5
- James 3:13-17
- Isaiah 66:2
- Isaiah 30:21
- Psalm 119:105
- Malachi 3:8-10