

# Proverbs 18:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The heart of the prudent getteth knowledge; and the ear of the wise seeketh knowledge.

## Analysis

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The intelligent heart actively acquires knowledge while the wise ear seeks it out. This describes lifelong learning as mark of wisdom. Passive reception isn't enough —prudent pursuit of understanding demonstrates hunger for truth that characterizes the regenerate heart.

## Historical Context

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Wisdom schools in ancient world required students' active pursuit, not passive attendance. Teachers gave knowledge to those who demonstrated earnest seeking through diligent inquiry.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. How actively do you pursue biblical knowledge versus passively receiving it?

2. What new area of truth are you currently seeking to understand?

## Interlinear Text

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|------------------|-----------------------|----------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| ל בָּבָן         | בְּבָנָה              | דִּעָתָה       | אֶל              | חַכְמָה            | תְּבַקֵּשׁ         |
| <b>The heart</b> | <b>of the prudent</b> | <b>getteth</b> | <b>knowledge</b> | <b>and the ear</b> | <b>of the wise</b> |
| H3820            | H995                  | H7069          | H1847            | H241               | H2450              |

דִּעָתָה  
**knowledge**  
H1847

## Additional Cross-References

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**Proverbs 15:14** (Parallel theme): The heart of him that hath understanding seeketh knowledge: but the mouth of fools feedeth on foolishness.

**James 1:5** (Parallel theme): If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

**Proverbs 9:9** (Parallel theme): Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.

**Proverbs 23:23** (Parallel theme): Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.

**Proverbs 4:7** (Parallel theme): Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

**Proverbs 1:5** (Parallel theme): A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:

**Luke 10:39** (Parallel theme): And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word.

**1 Kings 3:9** (Parallel theme): Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?

**Proverbs 4:5** (Parallel theme): Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth.

**Proverbs 10:14** (Parallel theme): Wise men lay up knowledge: but the mouth of the foolish is near destruction.

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