**Sermon Guide:**

***Christ, Our Wisdom: (1) Our Wisdom For Parenting* September 9, 2012**

1) Proverbs 22:15a says, “Folly is bound up in the heart of a child.”

As you reflect on your own childhood, do you remember any foolish moments that personally confirm that “folly is bound up in the heart of a child”? What were they? How was that foolishness pruned from your life?

2) Paul says, “Christ is our wisdom” (Colossians 2:3, I Corinthians 1:30-31). He

 Also says, “All the treasures of wisdom (and that includes the treasures found

 In Proverbs) are found in Him.”

 What wisdom does Christ give parents in the following passages?

 Mark 10:13-16

 Proverbs 4:10-17

 Proverbs 23:5

 Proverbs 22:6

3) Some social observers remark that today’s parents tend to be over-protective, trying to

 Shield kids from all adversity. They don’t see the wisdom of adversity.

 Former Rehoboth principal, Tim Stuart points out that, “Adversity and pain can

 lead to growth…” Then he compares kids to trees. “A tree may grow tall and

 look strong, but unless it has been in the wind, it’s likely to blow over in a

storm. Wind, you see, helps strengthen a tree by building sturdiness in the trunk and encouraging root growth. Although a sheltered tree can tolerate only small gusts, a tree that has grown up with wind can withstand terrible storms. So it is with children. Protecting them from failure may boost their self-esteem temporarily but in the end may weaken their emotional immune system because of the absence of valuable adversity and hurt in their lives.”

 --Tim Stuart, ***Children At Promise,*** 57

4) As you reflect on your own childhood, what did your parents teach you that you want

 To pass onto your children?