

Mediator Needs Wisdom

Description

[RG AUDIO 041618](#)

Proverbs 10:13-25

There is a saying, “If you only have a hammer, then everything looks like a nail.” The idea is that it does not matter what the problem is, we try to fix it the same way because that is the only way we know how. The essence of discernment is realizing that different challenges require different responses. The purpose of discernment is to determine the appropriate response given the unique circumstances of a particular situation. Discernment, in other words, is recognizing that not everything is a nail, and determining the appropriate tool for the job.

Beasts of burden only know one way, forward. They are stubborn animals and keep plodding along regardless of what obstacle may be ahead of them. It requires a rod at the hand of driver to redirect the animal when needed.

Those who stubbornly hold to one way of dealing with challenges, have no sense and are unfit to offer wisdom. The proverb reminds us that only those who are able to discern the best way forward among many paths are able to offer wise counsel.

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Date Created

04/16/2018