

# Study Through the Bible

## A House of Wisdom – Study 5

PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE

### How to Age Well

*A head of gray is a crown of glory at the end of a righteous story.*

Old age is not defined in the Bible in terms of years, but in terms of physical capacity. The root of the word *old* is *gray*. The Book of Proverbs provides hope and challenge to the mature. This study is about the joy of growing older. God values the elderly. Our society is youth-oriented, but God says gray hair is a “crown of glory.”

**Scripture:**

Proverbs 16:31, 20:29

**Based on:**

“A House of Wisdom,” Series Builder by Jeffrey Arthurs, PREACHING TODAY SERMONS

**PART 1**

## **Identify the Current Issue**

In this course, we have constructed a house called wisdom. In this study, we put the roof on the house. God speaks to the mature among us about the end of our days. As you'll see in this study, he has plenty to say.

**PART 2**

## **Discover the Eternal Principles**

**Teaching point one: Old age is tough.**

**Teaching point two: Old age is to be honored.**

- [Q]** With which statement do you find yourself agreeing most:
- 1) The elderly have to earn the right to be heard.
  - 2) All elderly people deserve respect.
  - 3) There is no difference between respect for the elderly and the young.

**Teaching point three: Old age is a sign of God's blessing—sometimes.**

**Teaching point four: Your twilight years can be your most productive time for the kingdom of God.**

**PART 3**

## **Apply Your Findings**

Glenn and Shirley Baas wanted to make their retirement years count. They thought about going on the mission field, but couldn't find the right fit. So instead they began to befriend international college students at a nearby campus. They have taught international students how to drive, visited them in the hospital, prayed for them, and invited them to church. They are full-time missionaries in their own home.

Mary Merchant always wanted to be a schoolteacher, but could never find the time or money to go back to school. So upon retirement, she volunteered as a full-time aid at the local Christian school.

Wendell Hueber is a great carpenter. Although retired, he is going on his first mission trip to China to help construct facilities for a camp.

*—Study written by Jeffrey Arthurs, with JoHannah Reardon*

