

THINKING AS A CHRISTIAN PROV. 18:13,15,17

I grew up around arguing...loud, irrational, very limited knowledge, very poor reasoning skills...but tons of opinions!!!

Most of it was silly stuff and didn't matter!

Some things are serious though!

3 activities: (simultaneous to some degree and intertwined)

1. Suspension of judgment

John 7:24,

Judge not according to the appearance, but judge (a) righteous judgment	Μὴ κρίνετε κατ' ὄψιν, ἀλλὰ τὴν δικαίαν κρίσιν κρίνατε
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Proverbs 18:13 He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, It is folly and shame unto him.

This sounds so funny:

- No rush to judgment
- Being willing to wait
- Being willing to not know
- Taking your time
- Don't judge a book by its cover
- Don't jump to conclusions
- Act in haste, repent at leisure
- Nah, I got this...oops!
- I don't have to have an opinion!!!
- Measure twice, cut once
- The jury is still out

Proverbs 17:27 He that hath knowledge spareth his words: And a man of understanding is of an excellent spirit. Proverbs 17:28 Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise: And he that shutteth his lips is esteemed a man of understanding.

Calvinism vs Arminianism

For me it took from 10-15 years...piece by piece!

Why is this important?

- It prevents us from looking like a fool
- Do we like to be wrong?
- Have we ever been wrong?
- Have we ever changed our mind?
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2. The accumulation and evaluation of evidence

Most of us are not good at this but this is exceptionally Biblical!

Proverbs 18:13 He that answereth a matter **before** he heareth it, It is folly and shame unto him.

Proverbs 18:15 The heart of the prudent **getteth** knowledge; And the ear of the wise **seeketh** knowledge.

Proverbs 18:17 He that is first in his own cause seemeth just; But his neighbour cometh and searcheth him.

Thoughts:

- Get the facts / evidence

➤ **Get the facts / evidence before you make a decision / have an opinion**

➤ **Actively get the facts / evidence**

➤ **Get the facts / evidence as an expression of who you are**

Heart, prudent, ear, wise

Wise men are known for their carefulness and caution.

➤ **Get all the facts / evidence**

➤ **Get the facts / evidence from all sides**

➤ **Get the facts / evidence with the help of others**

Proverbs 11:14 Where no counsel is, the people fall: But **in the multitude of counsellors** there is safety.

Proverbs 15:22 Without counsel purposes are disappointed: **But in the multitude of counsellors** they are established.

Proverbs 20:12 The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, The LORD hath made even both of them.

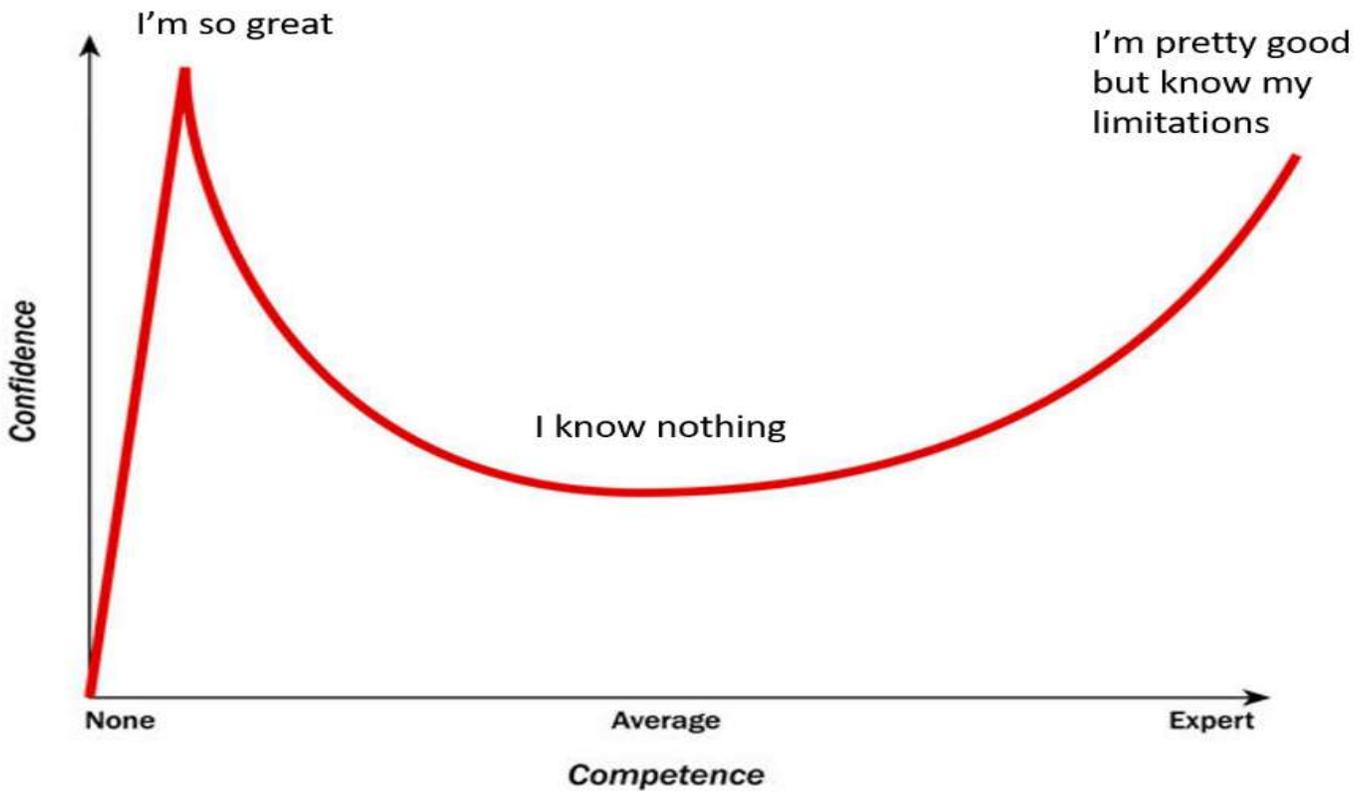
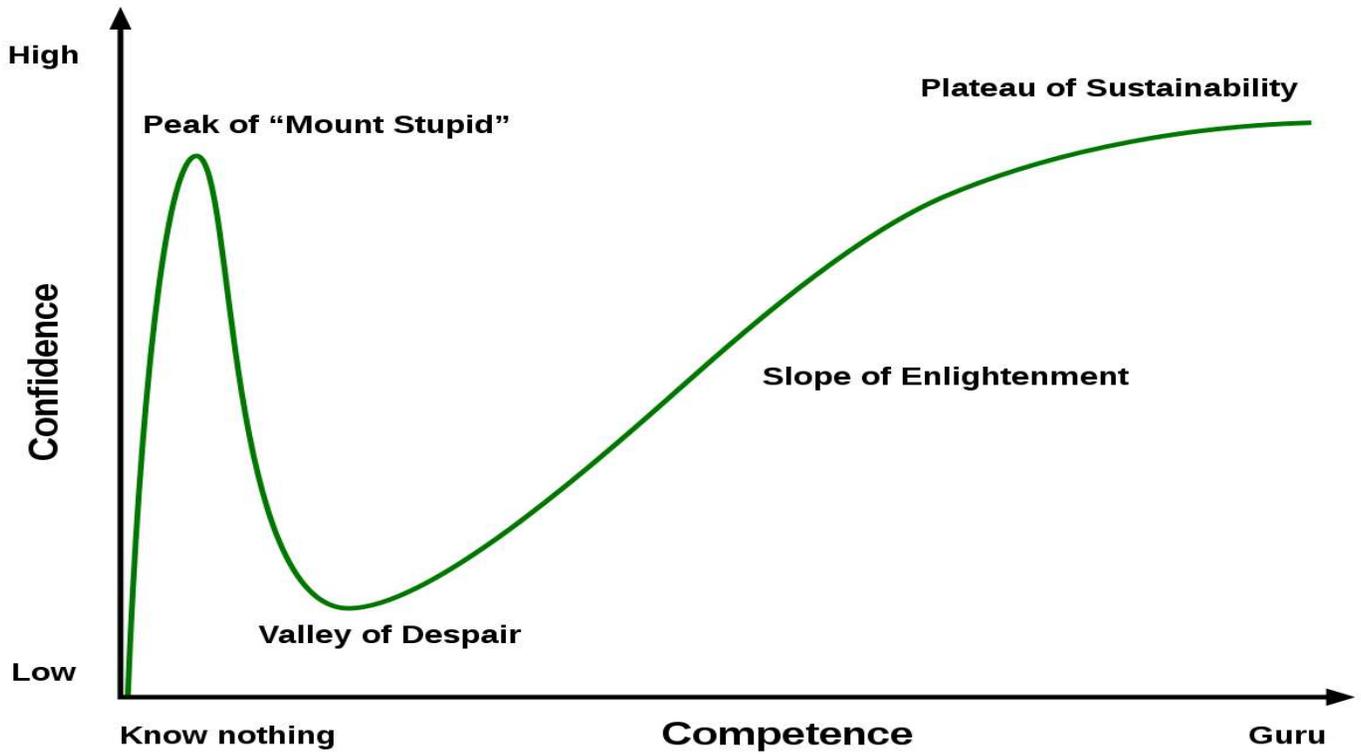
Proverbs 20:18 Every purpose is established **by counsel**: And **with good advice** make war.

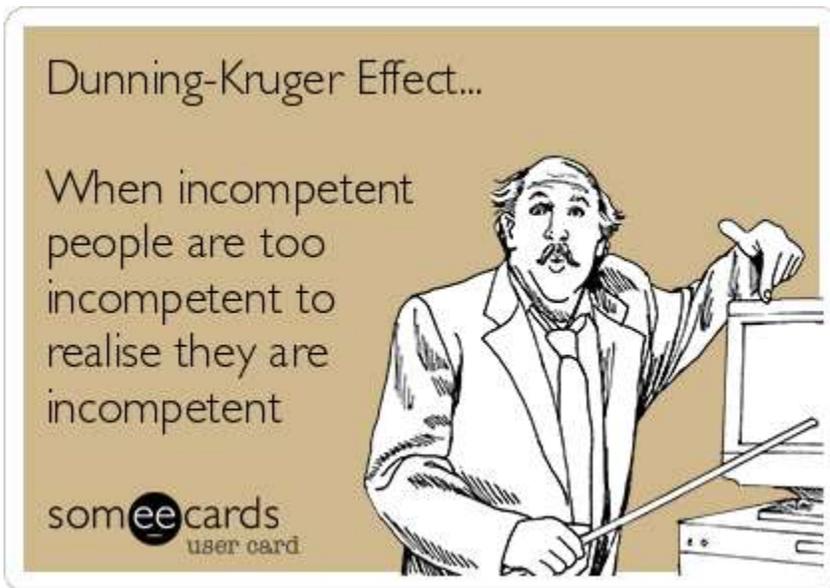
Proverbs 21:2 Every way of a man is right in his own eyes: **But** the LORD pondereth the hearts.

Proverbs 20:5 Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water; But a man of understanding will draw it out.

Proverbs 24:6 For **by wise counsel** thou shalt make thy war: And **in multitude of counsellors** there is safety.

Dunning-Kruger Effect





Beware of (ultra-)crepidarianism!!!

Sutor, ne ultra crepidam! Shoemaker, not beyond the shoe!