

Here are some talking points to start using to get your group talking to each other and to start generating meaningful conversations. Remember, you want others to do most of the talking.

Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking. Which part of the message was most impactful to you and why?

Start Sharing & Talking About the message. NOTE: Pastor may not cover all points in all services.

Setting/Open: Wisdom is a gift from God. Pastor Josh contrasts two men, one with wisdom and one without, to illustrate the importance of God's wisdom. Definition of wisdom: ability to discern inner qualities and relationships; good sense; intelligent decisions; prudence. **Psalm 1:7**

1. According to **Eph 5:15** how are we to walk? **A.** Circumspectly (cautiously, carefully) & wisely.
2. Applying God's wisdom to our lives results in what? **A.** Blessings by allowing God to lead us.
Point: We should exam our lives. (Socrates – "The unexamined life is not worth living.")
3. According to **James 1:5**, what will God do if we ask for wisdom? **A.** He will it to give to us.
4. Review **Proverbs 2:1-16** & discuss the benefits of Godly wisdom. **A.** We will understand the fear of the Lord & the knowledge of God (5); He is a shield (7); guards & preserves (8); etc.
5. What it a "key to biblical wisdom?" **A.** To know God & make Him Lord of our lives.
6. Review **Proverbs 3:13-19** and discuss the value and benefits of wisdom. **A.** Wisdom is more valuable than anything we can desire, and we will be happy and have peace. Wisdom should be the most important thing we desire. **Application:** Daily, pray and ask God for His wisdom.
7. When we walk in wisdom, what does it do for the people around us? **A.** It blesses them through our witness. **Point:** We are living in an age of "information overload." So much information/so many sources. **Do:** Go to God for true wisdom, knowledge & understanding.
Genesis 25:24-34 & 41:14-39 - Comparison of Esau (without wisdom) & Joseph (with).
8. **Esau**, by giving up his birthright for a "bowl of soup," what did he lack? **A.** He lacked "situational discernment" "to understand what he was giving up for "instant gratification."
9. According to Pastor Josh, why might Esau have made such an irrational decision?
Note: These reasons may cause us to make unwise decisions. **A.** Esau was weary, hungry and not in his right mind. He was drained physically, emotionally and spiritually. When we are desperate, what might we be prone to do? **A.** Gratify our immediate need.
10. To "filter" information and battle our flesh what 3 things do we need to do? **A.** Study God's word; allow the Holy Spirit to overflow us; listen to godly messages. (add 1 – prayer)
11. **Joseph** walked in wisdom despite circumstances over which he had no control.
Lessons from Joseph before the Paroh: 1) Always be ready to be used by God on short notice. How? **A.** Be prayed up & studied up in God's Word. 2) The same wisdom that God used to create the world is always available to us. How? **A.** Ask for it. 3) At times God will put us in situations that we can't explain or understand. What is our response? **A.** Trust in God & live by His Word. We will have peace that surpasses all understanding. **Phil 4:7**
12. Our emotions are not bad, but what might they do to us? **A.** Deceive us & cause us to walk in the flesh, blocking out the voice of God.
13. **Jer 17:7-10 Point:** God knows us better than we know ourselves. He will give us all we need to get through our circumstances. **John 14:26**

Start Praying & Start Doing. Talk to your group about (1) creating profiles on the Calvary App so your group can create a group chat on the app. Let Pastor Josh know so he can set your group up for you. (2) Encourage your group to read ahead. (3) Please remember to fill out the LIFEgroup meeting assessment form after your meeting. Here is the link: <https://bit.ly/LIFEgroup-Assessment>

LIFEGroups

Talk it over | week 5

discussion | study

The Gift of Wisdom Proverbs 2:6-16 & 3:13-17 & Exodus 25:24-29 & 41:14-41

Pastor Josh Taylor