

Bible Study Guide: Proverbs 1

Title: “Where Wisdom Begins”

1. Author & Context

- **Author:** Solomon
- **Time Period:** Around 10th century BC
- **Audience:** Young learners, future leaders, anyone seeking wisdom

Purpose of the Chapter:

To introduce the foundation of wisdom, warn against sinful influence, and show that wisdom is available—but must be chosen.

2. Key Scripture (Foundation Verse)

Proverbs 1:7

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.”

Big Idea:

Everything in life flows from your relationship with God.

3. Chapter Breakdown & Teaching Points

Point 1: Wisdom Has a Purpose (Proverbs 1:1–6)

Main Truth:

Wisdom is given so we can live with skill, integrity, and discernment.

Key Words:

- Wisdom = Skill for living
- Instruction = Correction and growth
- Understanding = Insight into life

Application:

- Growth requires humility
- You don't drift into wisdom—you pursue it

Supporting Scripture:

- James 1:5

“If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God...”

Sticky Quote:

“Wisdom isn't automatic—it's intentional.”

Point 2: Wisdom Begins with God (Proverbs 1:7)

Main Truth:

Reverence for God is the starting point of all true knowledge.

What “Fear of the Lord” Means:

- Respect
- Awe
- Submission
- Trust

Contrast:

- Wise people receive correction
- Foolish people reject it

Application:

- Pride blocks growth
- You cannot bypass God and still be wise

Sticky Quote:

“You can’t live right if you don’t start right.”

Point 3: Guard Against Wrong Influence (Proverbs 1:8–19)**Main Truth:**

Sin often enters through the voices we listen to.

Warning:

- Don't be enticed by sinners
- Avoid people who normalize wrongdoing

Examples in Text:

- Violence
- Greed
- Peer pressure

Application (Men's Focus):

- Your circle shapes your future
- Accountability matters

Supporting Scripture:

- 1 Corinthians 15:33

“Bad company corrupts good character.”

Sticky Quote:

“Show me your circle, I'll show you your future.”

Point 4: Wisdom Calls—Will You Respond? (Proverbs 1:20–33)

Main Truth:

Wisdom is available to everyone—but not everyone listens.

Imagery:

- Wisdom is calling publicly (in streets, crowds)
- It's not hidden—it's ignored

Warning:

- Ignoring wisdom leads to consequences
- Rejection leads to regret

Promise:**Proverbs 1:33**

“But whoever listens to me will live in safety and be at ease, without fear of harm.”

Application:

- God warns before He disciplines
- Listening now prevents pain later

Sticky Quote:

“Wisdom whispers before consequences shout.”

4. Major Themes

1. Wisdom Starts with God

- Relationship before information

2. Influence Determines Direction

- Your environment shapes your decisions

3. Sin is Deceptive

- It promises gain but delivers loss

4. Wisdom Must Be Chosen

- It calls—but you must answer
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5. Life Application

Reflection Questions

1. Do I truly honor God in my decisions?
 2. Who is influencing my life right now?
 3. Where am I ignoring wise counsel?
 4. Am I teachable—or resistant to correction?
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Action Steps

- **Pray daily for wisdom** (James 1:5)
- **Evaluate your relationships**

- **Act quickly on conviction**
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6. Teaching Outline (Quick Use)

Title: *Where Wisdom Begins*

1. Wisdom Has a Purpose (vv. 1–6)
 2. Wisdom Starts with God (v. 7)
 3. Wisdom Guards Your Path (vv. 8–19)
 4. Wisdom Calls—Will You Answer? (vv. 20–33)
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7. Big Idea

“Wisdom is not just knowing what’s right—it’s choosing God’s way daily.”
