

# **Bible Study Guide: Proverbs 16 – Committing Your Life to God’s Direction**

## **Overview**

**Author:** Solomon

**Theme:** God’s sovereignty, human responsibility, humility, and wise living

### **Big Idea:**

*We make plans, but God directs our steps—wisdom is found in surrendering our lives to Him.*

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## **Section 1: God Directs Our Steps (Proverbs 16:1–3, 9)**

### **Scripture (Key Verse)**

“Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans.” (v.3)

### **Main Point**

God is ultimately in control of our lives and direction.

### **Explanation**

While we plan and prepare, it is God who determines the outcome. True wisdom is not in perfect planning but in **surrendering our plans to Him.**

## **Application**

- Pray over your plans and decisions
- Seek God's guidance before acting
- Trust Him when plans don't go as expected

## **Discussion Questions**

- What plans are you currently holding onto tightly?
  - How can you surrender those to God?
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## **Section 2: Pride vs. Humility (Proverbs 16:5, 18–19)**

### **Scripture (Key Verse)**

“Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.” (v.18)

### **Main Point**

Pride leads to downfall; humility leads to honor.

### **Explanation**

God opposes pride because it places self above Him. Humility acknowledges dependence on God and opens the door for His guidance.

### **Application**

- Examine your heart for pride

- Practice humility in relationships
- Give God credit for your success

## **Discussion Questions**

- Where does pride show up in your life?
  - What does humility look like in your daily walk?
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## **Section 3: The Value of Righteous Living (Proverbs 16:6–8, 12)**

### **Scripture (Key Verse)**

“Better a little with righteousness than much gain with injustice.” (v.8)

### **Main Point**

Righteousness is more valuable than wealth or success.

### **Explanation**

Integrity and faithfulness matter more than material gain. God honors those who live rightly, even if it costs them.

### **Application**

- Choose integrity over profit
- Make decisions based on God’s truth
- Trust God to provide

## **Discussion Questions**

- Have you ever had to choose between integrity and gain?
  - How did that decision impact your life?
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## **Section 4: Wisdom in Words (Proverbs 16:21–24, 27–28)**

### **Scripture (Key Verse)**

“Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.” (v.24)

### **Main Point**

Wise speech brings life, healing, and influence.

### **Explanation**

Words have the power to build up or tear down. A wise person speaks with grace, truth, and intention.

### **Application**

- Speak with kindness and wisdom
- Avoid gossip, conflict, and harmful speech
- Use words to encourage and uplift

## **Discussion Questions**

- How have your words affected others recently?
  - What changes can you make in your speech?
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## **Section 5: The Danger of Wrong Paths (Proverbs 16:25, 29–30)**

### **Scripture (Key Verse)**

“There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.” (v.25)

### **Main Point**

Not every appealing path leads to life—discernment is essential.

### **Explanation**

Human judgment can be flawed. Without God’s wisdom, people often choose paths that seem right but end in destruction.

### **Application**

- Seek God’s direction in decisions
- Don’t rely solely on feelings or logic
- Test your choices against Scripture

### **Discussion Questions**

- Have you ever followed a path that seemed right but wasn't?
  - How can you grow in discernment?
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## **Section 6: Patience, Self-Control, and Character (Proverbs 16:32)**

### **Scripture (Key Verse)**

“Better a patient person than a warrior, one with self-control than one who takes a city.”

### **Main Point**

Self-control is greater than outward strength.

### **Explanation**

True strength is not physical—it is the ability to control your emotions, reactions, and desires.

### **Application**

- Practice patience in difficult situations
- Control your responses, especially in conflict
- Grow in emotional and spiritual maturity

### **Discussion Questions**

- Where do you struggle most with self-control?

- What practical steps can you take to improve?
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## **Section 7: Trusting God's Sovereignty (Proverbs 16:33)**

### **Scripture (Key Verse)**

“The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord.”

### **Main Point**

God is sovereign over every detail of life.

### **Explanation**

Even things that seem random are under God's control. This truth brings peace and confidence in His plan.

### **Application**

- Trust God in uncertain situations
- Release anxiety about outcomes
- Rest in His sovereignty

### **Discussion Questions**

- How does God's sovereignty bring you peace?
- What are you currently worrying about that you need to surrender?

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## **Key Takeaways from Proverbs 16**

- God directs your steps when you surrender your plans
- Pride leads to downfall; humility leads to honor
- Integrity is more valuable than wealth
- Words have the power to heal or harm
- Discernment is necessary for wise decisions
- Self-control is a sign of true strength
- God is in control of every detail

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## **Life Application Challenge**

This week:

- Surrender one major plan to God
- Practice humility in a specific situation
- Speak words that bring encouragement
- Choose patience instead of reacting emotionally

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## **Closing Prayer**

“Lord, help me to surrender my plans to You and trust Your direction for my life. Teach me humility, guide my words, and strengthen my self-control. Lead me in

wisdom so that my life reflects Your truth in everything I do. Amen.”