

Future You: *Do something today that your tomorrow self will say thank you for.*

Ice-Breaker: *(Group Leader - Have everyone in your group answer this question. Start with one person and then proceed around the group in a circle until the last person has answered. Be specific with who you would like to start with.)*

- **What is something you are grateful for in your life today that is a result of something you did yesterday?**
 - *Having a hard time thinking of something... (What is your kid's name?)*

Proverbs 1:1-6 Text to Consider (aka - Wisdom Literature): *(Group Leader - Ask 1 person to read the following text.)*

*These are the wise sayings of Solomon,
David's son, Israel's king—
Written down so we'll know how to live well and right,
to understand what life means and where it's going;
A manual for living,
for learning what's right and just and fair;
To teach the inexperienced the ropes
and give our young people a grasp on reality.
There's something here also for seasoned men and women,
still a thing or two for the experienced to learn—
Fresh wisdom to probe and penetrate,
the rhymes and reasons of wise men and women.*

Group Questions: *(Group Leader - Ask 2 or 3 specific people to answer these questions.)*

- *Why was this text written down?*
- *What are your thoughts on the reason it was written down?*

Wisdom Literature: Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes & Song of Solomon

**Scholars identify three different types of wisdom that run through all five Wisdom books:*

1. *Village wisdom/folk wisdom characterized by short, pithy statements, with examples drawn from nature and framed as instruction from parents to their children, as in [Prov 20:4](#).*
2. *Royal wisdom from one of the Israelite capitals, instructing junior bureaucrats on the intricacies and treachery of palace politics, as in [Prov 23:1-3](#).*
3. ***Theological** wisdom of deep reflection on the most controversial of theological topics, such as: Is there a God? If there is a God, why do such awful things happen? ([Eccl 3:19-21](#))*

*The sages had two sources of information about life: the natural world and their Wisdom tradition. Unlike prophets and priests, the sages believed that God wove important principles into the fabric of the universe, which careful observation could discern. *(David Penchansky)*

Wisdom (A Working Definition): Insight from God on how to walk through life.

Lady Wisdom Calls out

*Lady Wisdom goes out in the street and shouts.
At the town center she makes her speech.
In the middle of the traffic she takes her stand.
At the busiest corner she calls out:
"Simpletons! How long will you wallow in ignorance?
Cynics! How long will you feed your cynicism?
Idiots! How long will you refuse to learn?
About face! I can revise your life.
Look, I'm ready to pour out my spirit on you;
I'm ready to tell you all I know.
As it is, I've called, but you've turned a deaf ear;
I've reached out to you, but you've ignored me.*

Group Questions: *(Group Leader - Ask 2 or 3 specific people to answer these questions.)*

- *How does this text make you feel?*
- *What is your position on wisdom?*
- *What posture or action will you take to hear/live wisdom?*

Three truisms about habits from Sunday:

1. They take effort (especially the good ones).
2. They can be broken or changed (which means you aren't trapped, but also that you can't give up or slack off).
3. They are easier in groups (accountability or team-of-positive-guilt).

Closing Thought: Wisdom is insight from God on how to walk a blessed path through life. Determining to make a blessed life, a habitual lifestyle takes work, but can be done and is best done in a group.

Group Challenge Question: *(Group Leader - Ask all people to answer this questions.)*

What is one thing that you would like to see God bless and become a habit in your life so that your tomorrow self will say thank you for the decision you are now making?

Congratulations, you just made an important step in forming blessed habits in your life.

Closing Prayer: *(Group Leader - Please pray this with your group.)*

- God please help us to gain wisdom from you and develop habits that will cause our tomorrow self to say thank you for the decisions we make today.

Thanks: Thanks to everyone for coming to group.