

Prayers God Always Says Yes To - Week 2 June 13-14, 2020 - Tim Harlow

This week, Pastor Tim teaches about how God always says "Yes" to our prayers for the wisdom to live each day.

NOTE: We are sending this out before the services so you and your families can spend time watching service and discussing the Study Guide together! If you're looking for some virtual ways to connect with your Small Group, check out Zoom or Google Hangouts!

CELEBRATE

At the beginning of your small group time, it's good to share about your week and share with each other how you're doing. So, spend some time, right now, connecting before jumping into the discussion questions. You can use the *Connect* section as a guide. If you're doing this Study Guide on your own, take a moment to focus your mind on God and what He might want you to hear today.

CONNECT

1. Talk about a situation where you know you made an "unwise" decision. Talk about how you dealt with the consequences. What did you learn from that situation?

2. Talk about a person you would describe as "wise." What characteristics do you see in that person that fit your definition of wisdom?

Before watching the <u>sermon</u>, or moving on in this study, take a minute to remember that God is always with you. Pray as a group for God to bless your conversation and open your eyes and hearts to what He wants you to hear.

REFLECT

Before moving forward in your study, remember the big picture of this week's teaching:

• God always says "Yes" to wisdom, giving us the resources every day to overcome the obstacles to a wise life.

SCRIPTURES USED IN THE MESSAGE: Genesis 3:6, 2 Chronicles 1:10, Proverbs 4:5-7, 12:15, 13:20; Matthew 7:24-29, 11:19; John 15:7, 16; James 1:5-61 John 3:22, 5:14

RESPOND

- 1. Talk about a thought, phrase, or moment from this week's message that resonated with you. What made it stick out to you?
- 2. Try as a group (or for yourself) to come up with a definition of wisdom. Talk about what wisdom "is" and what it is "not" based on what you've heard from this week's message.
- 3. Pastor Tim said that wisdom isn't necessarily knowing WHAT to do, but HOW to do it. Talk about how your relationship with God has helped you know HOW to make wise decisions. What is one situation recently where you could have used some of that "HOW-TO" wisdom from God?
- 4. Read Psalm 90:1-12. Read out loud and make a note of any words or phrases that stand out to you. This is a poem called a Psalm, and it is believed that Moses wrote this particular poem. As with poems today, the point isn't so much to teach as to express an emotional truth about God, life, and real human struggles.
- 5. Psalm 90 talks about the difficulties and struggles of life. Talk about how having wisdom has helped you avoid some of the common struggles of things like parenting, work, and marriage. How has Godly wisdom (from the Bible, other followers of Jesus, preaching, etc.) helped you deal with those struggles?
- 6. The writer talks about the difficulty we sometimes feel of living life with a God that we don't completely understand. Talk about how Jesus' life and teachings give us the wisdom to think differently about God (I.e. not an angry man in the sky).
- 7. Psalm 90:12 says "teach us to order our days" the words here mean "to take an inventory." As you think about the message from this week, take an inventory of the decisions and challenges in front of you right now. What might God be saying to you about wisely "ordering" your life to handle those situations?

Takeaway

Pastor Tim mentioned that the three best resources for wisdom are Scripture, action, and community. They help us deal with the barriers of knowledge, discipline, and isolation.

Consider making a commitment today (as a group, family, or even with one other person you know) to do a Bible reading or devotional plan with other people. You may even want to commit to a day and time and ask the people around you to hold you to your promise.

You can follow this link to find a Bible reading plan or a YouVersion devotional you can do on your mobile device.