

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Part 4 of The Wise Life

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Wise Words

1. The Power of Wise Words

Discuss:

- *Proverbs 15:1 says a soft answer turns away wrath. Why do you think tone can be just as powerful as the words themselves?*
- *Proverbs 21:23 teaches that guarding our tongue can keep us out of trouble. What practical habits could help us pause before we speak?*
- *Jesus said in Matthew 12:36 we'll give an account for every careless word. How does that reality change the way we speak in everyday situations—like texting, posting online, or casual conversations?*

2. The Potential of Wise Words

Discuss:

- *Proverbs 15:28 says the righteous “ponders how to answer.” Why is pausing before we respond often harder than it sounds?*
- *Proverbs 25:11 compares timely words to “apples of gold in a setting of silver.” Can you think of a moment when someone’s well-timed words made a big difference for you?*
- *If you had to pick one area to grow in—being more compassionate, more thoughtful, more timely, or more humble with your words—what would it be and why?*

3. The Possibility of Wise Words

Discuss:

- *James 1:19 calls us to be “quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.” Which of those three do you find the hardest, and what makes it challenging?*
- *Proverbs 16:23 connects the wisdom of the heart with persuasive speech. How can what’s in our heart spill over into our words in positive—or negative—ways?*
- *Proverbs 18:13 warns against answering before hearing. What’s one practice that could help us listen more deeply before responding?*

