

GET WISDOM

A SERIES IN THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

Discussion Questions 8/13/23

The Master's Plan

Intro: This week we concluded our series on wisdom. We can all agree that it is wise to plan ahead. If wisdom is the application of knowledge, planning is very much wisdom in action. Some take planning more seriously than others, but it's safe to say that we all know what it's like to have a plan and then watch that plan fall apart. What we do with those pieces of broken plans also takes wisdom. Do we fall apart as well, or do we surrender to the Master's Plan and see where God's plans take us?

Story: Pastor Ricky shared his story of how God abruptly changed his plans, thus bringing him into ministry and ultimately here to Lemoore. Share with each other a time when your plans were changed and you had to face a new reality. Can you trace the Master's fingerprints on how things unfolded and new plans were laid?

Read: Proverbs 16:9

1. If we believe the Lord establishes our path, what is a crucial step in planning that many people may simply forget?
2. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12. Often when we're planning it is for the really big things in life. Paul seems to indicate the importance of the little things. Why do the things mentioned by Paul matter so much?
3. Read Mark 13:9-11. In this passage Jesus warns his followers of persecution that is going to follow. This is in line with Romans 8:17 telling us that we will share in Christ's suffering. Many of us stress and plan for the worst. What advice does Jesus give us in these verses that we can apply at all times when anxious thoughts can induce some unhealthy planning?
4. As image bearers, we reflect God to the world around us. Ricky taught that God is the ultimate planner. How can we better bear God's image with our approach to both planning and how we respond when plans fail?
5. Reflecting on Proverbs 16:9, what is one practical step you can take this week to align your plans and decisions more closely with God's leading? How can your small group support one another in this journey of seeking and surrendering to God's will?

Pray for:

- Wisdom.
- Humility to acknowledge where you lack wisdom and ask God to make your paths straight
- Transformation in your character - to be a person who trusts God to provide the wisdom and then bear that image to the world around you.