



# Life Group Guide

A GUIDE FOR LIFE GROUPS, FAMILIES OR INDIVIDUAL STUDY



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ACCESS LG

## THOUGHTS WHEN READING PROVERBS

1. *No one saying in Proverbs gives a complete picture. "Only all together do the proverbs bring us a wise, nuanced, theologically-rich, many-faceted view of the world." (Tim Keller)*
2. *Read Proverbs in light of Christ and His character.*
3. *Questions to ask yourself:*
  - ▶ *Where in my life or the life of another have I seen this illustrated?*
  - ▶ *How can I put what I've read into practice – in thought, attitude, word or deed?*
4. *How can this passage shape my prayer back to God?*

## PROVERBS SERMON SERIES | SUNDAY, SEPT. 26

### "KNOWING WISDOM"

BASED ON THESE READINGS

Proverbs 1:1-7, 2:3-6, 2:20-22, 3:5-6, 4:7-8, 9:12, | Luke 2:41-52

*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.  
Proverbs 9:10*

## WATCH VIDEO

### OPENING PRAYER

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! "Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?" "Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them?" For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen. (Romans 11:33-36)

### CONNECTING QUESTION

Who is the wisest person you have ever known? What were the qualities that made them wise in your eyes?

## EXPLORE THE TEXT

### WHAT IS WISDOM?

1. A Proverb is a short well-known saying containing a wise thought. In today's video, Pastor Tim shared a couple of non-biblical but well-known proverbs. (Don't put all your eggs in one basket.) Can you think of others?
2. Read Proverbs 1:1-7. Why were the Proverbs written?
3. Knowledge is knowing about something; wisdom is understanding how that knowledge should be applied or used. (e.g. knowledge memorizes the 10 Commandments; wisdom obeys them. Knowledge learns about God; wisdom loves Him). What are some other examples of knowledge vs. wisdom?

4. What do you think verse 7 means? What does it mean to “fear” the Lord? How does that lead to wisdom? (See also Deuteronomy 10:12-13; Psalm 22:23; Hebrews 12:28-29)

#### WHAT IS FOOLISHNESS?

1. According to Proverbs 1:22, 32-33, what are some things that constitute foolishness? (See also Matthew 7:24-26)
2. What is the difference between worldly wisdom and godly wisdom? (See also 1 Corinthians 1:18-21; James 3:13-17). Where have you seen examples of each?

#### HOW DO WE BECOME WISE?

1. Read Proverbs 2:3-6, 20-22. Do we search for wisdom or is it a gift from God?
2. We grow in wisdom through discipline, adversity, discernment, discretion, learning, reflection. How has God grown wisdom in you, through what experience, whether good or bad?
3. Read Proverbs 3:5-7. What are some things that make us wise?
4. We are to trust God even when we don't understand his ways. Why? (See also Isaiah 55:8-9; Romans 8:28). How much do you want to understand everything that's going on? What is something you need to trust God with?
5. In the Gospel Reading from Luke 2:41-52 Jesus, at the age of 12, is found in the temple courts discussing theological matters with the teachers, astounding them with his understanding and answers. He did not stop there. “And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.” (Luke 2:52). If Jesus grew in wisdom, shouldn't we desire that same thing? How does our Life Group help us grow in wisdom as we study the Word together and do life together?”

#### FOLLOWING JESUS

Wisdom is not just for “deep thinkers.” It is how we get through daily life says Tim Keller. It is knowing what to do when your child comes home from school with a black eye, or you come into unexpected money. In what area of life do you most need to grow in wisdom?

#### CLOSING PRAYER

Proverbs 4:7 tells us to “Get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding.” Pray that the Holy Spirit will motivate and inspire you to gain wisdom that comes only through knowing God, loving him and worshipping him.

Pray that all Life Groups would grow together in godly wisdom as we learn to apply what we learn in Christ.

Our Father...