



# Life Group Guide

A GUIDE FOR LIFE GROUPS, FAMILIES OR INDIVIDUAL STUDY



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ACCESS LG  
VIDEOS

## 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, OCT. 10

### “KNOWING THE HEART”

#### BASED ON THESE READINGS

Proverbs 4:14-16, 4:23-26, 12, 14:30, 15:14, 16:2, 17:22, 24:1-2, 25, 27:19, 28:13, 29:6 | Matthew 13:10-16

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

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#### OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, “keep creating in me a clean heart. Fill me with pure thoughts and holy desires, ready to please you. May you never reject me! May you never take from me your sacred Spirit! O God, my saving God, deliver me fully from every sin, even the sin that brought bloodguilt. Then my heart will once again be thrilled to sing the passionate songs of joy and deliverance! Lord God, unlock my heart, unlock my lips, and I will overcome with my joyous praise!” (Psalm 51:10-11, 14-15 TPT) In the precious name of your Son, Jesus, we pray. Amen!

#### CONNECTING QUESTION

David is described as “a man after God’s own heart.” Do you know someone like that? Share why he or she reflects God’s heart.

#### EXPLORE THE TEXT

1. “As water reflects the face, so one’s life reflects the heart” (Proverbs 27:19). What do you think Solomon was teaching in this verse?
2. What are the characteristics of God’s heart? Does God know your heart better than you do? Why or why not?
3. What are the characteristics of your heart? Are there any characteristics you pray God will change? Please share.

4. Do you believe that your heart hosts the presence of God through the power of the Holy Spirit? Explain.
5. Read Jeremiah 29:11-13, 2 Corinthians 3:3, Ephesians 3:16-19. Why are these verses a gracious testimony to and promise of God's love for each of us individually?
6. We are told "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it" (Proverbs 4:23). Tim Keller elaborates on this verse, "...the heart is the seat of your deepest trusts, commitments, and loves, from which everything...flows. What the heart most loves and trusts, the mind finds reasonable, the emotions find desirable, and the will finds doable." How do you guard your heart?
7. Read 1 Corinthians 13 and Galatians 5:22-23. How can these verses be "fertilizer" for growing deep roots in good soil so your heart reflects the heart of Jesus?

### **FOLLOWING JESUS**

In a variety of translations, search the Old Testament and New Testament for numerous verses on the heart. Record those that speak to your heart and how you are going to incorporate their wisdom into your faith walk.

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

"Lord, the feelings of my heart are so unruly, but teach me how to exhort my heart rather than simply listening to it (Psalms 42:5, 103:1-5). And help me in my resolve to also take charge of it by loving and obeying what you command. Amen" (Tim Keller) Rewrite this prayer in your own words to encourage you to continue your journey to know God's heart better and yours too.

Our Father...