



Life Group Guide

A GUIDE FOR LIFE GROUPS, FAMILIES OR INDIVIDUAL STUDY



SCAN TO
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. 24

"KNOWING THE TIMES AND THE SEASONS"

BASED ON THESE READINGS

Proverbs 3:5-6, 12:15, 16:3, 16:25, 16:31, 16:33, 19:21, 20:29, 21:30-31, 22:17-21 | Matthew 6:7-13

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

Heavenly Father, Scripture tells us that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). May we rest confidently and completely in your truth as we face daily changes. Please send the Holy Spirit to speak gently into our hearts, and according to your will, help us navigate through "the times and the seasons" of our lives. It is in your son's name we pray. Amen.

CONNECTING QUESTION

What is your favorite time of day or your favorite season? Why?

EXPLORE THE TEXT

1. Heraclitus, a Greek philosopher, is quoted as saying "change is the only constant in life." James said (1:17) that "whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God our Father, who created all the lights in heaven. He never changes or casts a shifting shadow." What do you learn about God's faithfulness in the face of always changing times and seasons?
2. Proverbs 19:21 and Romans 8:28 speak to the gracious omnipotence of God. How could these verses be your daily encouragement that God is in charge of our lives and works all things for our ultimate good?
3. Read Proverbs 16:31 and 20:29. What do these verses teach you about enjoying your current stage of life

rather than feeling anxiety with where you are and/or wanting a different stage?

4. Read Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. How do you find peace in and with God if time never stops marching on and seasons always change?
5. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11. What assurance and comfort do you receive from Paul's words?
6. What are your thoughts or reaction to the Old Yiddish adage – "Man plans and God laughs"?
7. Jesus promised that "there is more than enough room in my Father's home. When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am" (John 14:2a,3). What do you think heaven will look like where time is eternal and the "Son light" will warm the ever-present season of joy in the Lord?

FOLLOWING JESUS

React to the statement: "Trusting is not a work for us to do but belief in the work God has done" (Pastor Peter Woodward). Then, using Proverbs 3:5-6, identify specific ways that you can lean into Jesus and trust in his loving directions through the power of the Holy Spirit. How does "acknowledging" your current circumstances and future goals change as you accept his will and purpose for your life?

CLOSING PRAYER

No matter the time or the season, ask the Lord to "teach us to realize the brevity of life, so that we may grow in wisdom. Satisfy us each morning with your unfailing love, so we may sing for joy to the end of our lives" (Psalm 90:12,14 NLT).

Our Father...