

Grow Group Resources

- Sermon Summary

- Wisdom for Life: The Way of Wisdom
 - Text: Proverbs 1:1–9
 - This sermon introduces a new series on biblical wisdom and explores the foundational message of the book of Proverbs: God not only wants us to know Him and experience salvation, but also to learn how to live well in a complex and broken world.
- Wisdom Is a Treasure Worth Pursuing
 - Proverbs teaches that wisdom is more valuable than silver, gold, or precious jewels. While people spend their lives pursuing careers, relationships, entertainment, and personal goals, Scripture calls believers to make wisdom one of their highest pursuits.
 - Wisdom brings many blessings, including:
 - Protection and guidance
 - Honor and favor
 - Insight and understanding
 - The ability to navigate life well
 - Blessing for ourselves and others
 - However, Proverbs offers probabilities, not guarantees. Wisdom generally leads to flourishing, though life in a fallen world does not always follow simple formulas.
- Wisdom Begins with Reverence for God
 - The central message of Proverbs is found in Proverbs 1:7: “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.”
 - The “fear of the Lord” does not mean terror but reverence, awe, and humility before God. True wisdom begins when we recognize:
 - God is the Creator and ultimate authority.
 - We do not know everything or control everything.
 - We need His guidance and instruction.

- Without this reverence, people become foolish because they attempt to live independently of God.
- Wisdom Must Be Pursued
 - No one is born wise. Wisdom is something we must intentionally seek.
 - Proverbs portrays wisdom as calling out publicly, inviting people to come and learn. Yet many competing voices also seek our attention—social media, self-help culture, and popular opinions.
 - The sermon offers several practical ways to pursue wisdom:
 - Seek and savor Scripture. Regularly read and meditate on God’s Word, especially Proverbs.
 - Learn from wise people. “Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise” (Proverbs 13:20). Seek mentors and people whose lives display godly fruit.
 - Ask God for wisdom. James 1:5 promises that God generously gives wisdom to those who ask.
- Wisdom Must Be Applied
 - Wisdom is more than information; it is applied knowledge.
 - Knowing facts does not make someone wise. Wisdom comes when truth is put into practice. Just as owning tools does not make someone a skilled craftsman, possessing knowledge does not produce wisdom unless it is used well.
 - Growing in wisdom takes time. It develops through learning, experience, and faithful application of God’s truth in everyday life.
- Wisdom Never Expires
 - God’s wisdom remains relevant because:
 - It comes from an unchanging God.
 - It is woven into the fabric of creation itself.
 - Living wisely means learning to live according to the way God designed the world. Like sanding wood with the grain instead of against it, wisdom teaches us to live in harmony with God’s created order.
- Wisdom Is Generational

- Proverbs often present a father instructing a son, emphasizing that wisdom is passed from one generation to another.
- Wisdom is not inherited genetically; it is transmitted through: Teaching, Humility, Example, and Intentional discipleship
- As we grow in wisdom, we not only bless our own lives but also future generations. Our children and those who follow us benefit from the wisdom we learn and practice today.
- Final Challenge: The 31-Day Wisdom Challenge
 - The sermon concludes with a practical invitation: Read one chapter of Proverbs each day for 31 days. By consistently immersing ourselves in God’s wisdom, we gather the “tools” needed to live faithfully, walk in righteousness and justice, and become people who honor God and bless others.
- Big Idea: The way of wisdom begins with reverence for God, requires intentional pursuit and practical application, and leads to a life of blessing that impacts generations to come.

- Discussion Questions

1. What are you currently pursuing most in life? The sermon reminded us that we pursue many things—careers, relationships, hobbies, success—but Proverbs calls us to pursue wisdom above all else.

Discussion:

- What tends to consume most of your time and energy right now?
- In what ways might God be inviting you to pursue wisdom more intentionally?

2. What does “the fear of the Lord” mean to you? Proverbs says, “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.”

Discussion:

- How would you describe the difference between being afraid of God and having reverence and awe for Him?
- How does humility before God shape our decision-making?

3. Where are you currently seeking wisdom? The sermon talked about the many voices competing for our attention—social media, podcasts, self-help books, and cultural opinions.

Discussion:

- What are the primary influences shaping your thinking right now?
- How can you better discern whether the wisdom you are receiving is rooted in God's truth?

4. In what area of your life do you need wisdom today? Proverbs speaks to practical areas like relationships, finances, work, parenting, and speech.

Discussion:

- Is there a specific challenge or decision where you need God's wisdom right now?
- How could Scripture, prayer, or seeking counsel from a wise person help you?

5. What is the difference between knowing something and living it out? The sermon defined wisdom as "applied knowledge."

Discussion:

- Can you think of a time when you knew the right thing to do but struggled to put it into practice?
- What is one truth from God's Word that you need to apply more intentionally?

6. Who has passed wisdom on to you, and who are you passing it on to? The sermon emphasized that wisdom is generational—it is received from others and shared with those who come after us.

Discussion:

- Who has been a source of godly wisdom in your life?
- How can you intentionally invest in the next generation, whether through your children, family, friends, or younger believers?