



Life Group Study Guide

Proverbs: Wisdom and Folly

Ice Breaker – What are some similarities and differences between knowledge and wisdom? Who is the most knowledgeable person you have ever known? Who is the wisest person you have ever encountered? Do you think that knowledge and wisdom are a package deal, or are they two separate attributes?

Introduction – Proverbs is found in the section of Scripture commonly referred to as “Wisdom Literature,” or “Books of Poetry”. The other books in this section are Job, Psalms, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon. They are written in poetic style in contrast to the narrative style of the historical books.

Oswald Chambers suggested these overall themes for the Books of Poetry:
Job – how to suffer; Psalms – how to pray; Proverbs – how to act; Ecclesiastes – how to enjoy; Song of Solomon – how to love.

Read Proverbs 1:1-7

In these verses, Solomon states the benefits that can be gained from studying his proverbs. List them here.

Which of these benefits are the most meaningful to you? Why?

If a friend asked you to describe what it means to have a disciplined and prudent life (verse 3), what real-life, practical examples would you provide?

Conclusion

What do you think Solomon meant when he wrote that “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline?” How have you experienced the truth of this statement in your life?

Pray for each other that the fear (awe, honor, respect, reverence, and worship) of the LORD will be the foundation in all areas of your lives.