

# SMALL GROUP HOST PACK



## Dear Small Group Leaders and Participants,

We are excited to kick off our new 6-week teaching series called “Proverbs: Eternal Truths for Everyday,” starting May 19. In this series, we dive deep into the book of Proverbs and these eternal pearls of wisdom, exploring how timeless principles can be applied to our daily lives.

King Solomon, renowned for his unparalleled wisdom, was the third king of Israel, reigning after his father, King David. His wisdom, wealth, and building projects, including the first Temple in Jerusalem, are legendary and deeply rooted in the Jewish and Christian Traditions. According to the Bible, Solomon’s wisdom was a divine gift, granted to him by God in response to his request for an understanding heart to govern his people justly. His authorship is traditionally attributed to several books of the Bible, including Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon, each reflecting his insights into human nature, the complexities of life, and the pursuit of divine wisdom. The book of Proverbs is a treasure chest of ancient wisdom, offering practical guidance for every area of life.

As small groups, you will play a critical role in unpacking these lessons and facilitating deeper discussions around them. This is an opportunity to challenge one another, grow in understanding, and support each other as we strive to live out our faith more authentically.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to small groups. Your willingness to lead and participate in these discussions is instrumental to the spiritual growth of our church community.



**Stephen Martin**  
*Founding & Senior Pastor*

A handwritten signature of Stephen Martin in black ink, written in a cursive style.



## The Big Idea

We will open the series looking at the structure and context of the Proverbs, including an overview of our journey together. We will uncover the foundational principle of wisdom in Proverbs: the fear of the Lord. We will explore how a reverent awe of God is the starting point knowing and loving Him.



## Things to Remember

*“Wisdom is the skill to use knowledge rightly.”*



## Next Steps

This week, try to progress through the levels of fearing God by engaging daily with Scripture and reflecting on its messages. Apply a proverb in your interactions, observe the outcomes, and discuss these experiences with a friend or mentor. Aim to understand not just what God says, but why He says it, deepening your understanding and love for His ways.



## Discussion Questions

1. How does understanding the context of a biblical text change your perception of its messages? Share an example from your experience.
2. The message mentions three levels of fearing God. Which level do you currently identify with, and why?
3. Discuss the implications of Proverbs 1:7 and Proverbs 9:10 in your daily life. How do you apply the ‘fear of the Lord’ as the foundation of wisdom?
4. Reflect on the concept of wisdom as “the skill to use knowledge rightly.” Can you think of a recent situation where you could have applied this skill?



## Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank you for guiding us through the wisdom of Proverbs. Help us to deeply understand and fear You in a way that transforms our lives. Teach us to apply Your wisdom daily, respecting and loving Your ways above all. As we continue our journey in faith, bless our discussions and inspire us to live out the truths we learn. In Your Holy Name, Amen.

## Key Verses

Proverbs 9:10, Proverbs 1:7, Proverbs 15:33





## The Big Idea

Building on week one, we will learn how to practically receive Wisdom's call and grow over the course of time. This will be a process that can be applied in our daily life to grow in wisdom and love for God.



## Things to Remember

*"Wisdom calls out to you and wants you to have it."*



## Next Steps

This week, focus on actively seeking wisdom by engaging with the Scriptures daily, particularly Proverbs, to guide your decisions. Don't hesitate to ask God for wisdom in your daily challenges, and be receptive to the guidance and correction from those you trust. This approach will help you apply Godly wisdom in all aspects of your life.



## Discussion Questions

1. How does Proverbs 1:20-23 challenge our daily decision-making? Discuss times when you may have ignored the "call of wisdom" in your own life.
2. Reflect on the idea of "fearing the Lord" as the foundational step for acquiring wisdom (Proverbs 9:10). What does this concept mean to you, and how can it transform your daily actions?
3. In the pursuit of wisdom, why is it crucial to surround ourselves with wise counsel (Proverbs 13:20)? Share personal experiences where being around wise individuals influenced your choices.
4. Wisdom is described as "crying out" to us in Proverbs 1:20-23. What are practical ways we can make ourselves more receptive to wisdom in our busy lives?



## Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the gift of wisdom and the clarity Your word provides. Help us to hear Wisdom's call in our daily lives and give us the courage to respond. Guide us to seek and maintain wise counsel, and instill in us a heart that fears You above all. As we continue our journey this week, let Your wisdom guide our decisions, relationships, and actions. In Your holy name, we pray, Amen.

## Key Verses

Proverbs 1:20-23, Proverbs 9:10, Proverbs 13:20





## The Big Idea

Our words have the power to build or to destroy and God has called us to be intentional about the words we use. This week, we will investigate the potent force of words as Proverbs portrays them and learn how to harness this power to build up, encourage, impart grace, and transform our relationships and day to day interactions.



## Things to Remember

*“Words reveal where your heart is.”*



## Next Steps

This week, focus on the impact of your words. Before speaking, reflect on whether your words will uplift or harm. Practice silence in moments of temptation to respond negatively. Aim to make every conversation more positive and filled with truth, reflecting the wisdom of Proverbs in your daily interactions.



## Discussion Questions

1. How can you identify areas in your life where your words may not be reflecting the wisdom and truth of God? How can you improve?
2. In what ways have you experienced the power of words, either through encouragement or hurt? Share a personal experience.
3. Why do you think controlling the tongue is emphasized so heavily in both Proverbs and the New Testament (James 3:2)?
4. Discuss the statement, “The mouth speaks what the heart is full of” (Luke 6:45). How does this challenge you to assess the state of your heart?



## Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the wisdom You provide through Your Word, teaching us about the power of our words. Help us to use our tongues to bring life and not destruction, to reflect Your love and truth in all we say. Guide us this week as we apply these teachings, making our words a fountain of wisdom. Strengthen us in our moments of weakness and help us to honor You in all our communications. Amen.

## Key Verses

Proverbs 18:21, Proverbs 18:4, James 3:2







## The Big Idea

In week four we will learn about the immutable principles of diligence, integrity, and stewardship in our work and financial life. We will gain Biblical insight into honoring God first as our provider and stewarding our life for maximum impact.



## Things to Remember

*“God’s way is better. His way works, and the fruit in your life will be a better blessing than anything the world could ever give you.”*



## Next Steps

This week, take time to assess how you integrate wisdom, diligence, honor, and faith into your financial decisions. Ask for wisdom in managing your finances and making decisions that align with God’s principles. Practice diligence by setting specific financial goals and working steadily towards them. Lastly, exercise faith by trusting God’s provision when you make financial decisions that feel risky but are biblically sound.



## Discussion Questions

1. How does the concept of “Wisdom Before Blessing” challenge the typical views on wealth in today’s society? Discuss examples of how prioritizing wisdom can impact your financial decisions.
2. The passage describes diligence as a learned behavior and a discipline. Share personal experiences where diligence led to success, especially in areas you initially struggled with. How can these principles be applied to financial growth?
3. In the context of “Honor Protects,” discuss how the practice of giving first fruits can reshape our perspective on money and possessions. What are the challenges and benefits of this practice in a materialistic culture?
4. “Faith Overcomes” suggests a deep trust in God for provision. Share times when you had to step out in faith concerning your finances. How did it affect your spiritual and material life?



## Closing Prayer

Dear Lord, thank you for the wisdom shared through Proverbs on managing wealth Your way. Help us to prioritize wisdom, practice diligence, honor You with our first fruits, and walk in faith. Guide our discussions and actions this week as we seek to apply these principles in our lives. May we trust in Your provision and care, knowing that Your ways are higher than ours. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

## Key Verses

Proverbs 8:18, Proverbs 3:9, Proverbs 3:5-6





## The Big Idea

In week five we will learn from Solomon about wisdom in our family and friendships. By practicing the wisdom of Proverbs we will learn how to nurture stronger relationships. Whether it's honoring parents, cherishing our spouse, or fostering genuine friendships, Proverbs holds the keys to relational wisdom.



## Things to Remember

*“Church is more than a place you go to, it’s a family you belong to.”*



## Next Steps

This week, take time to reflect on your family and church relationships. Identify one area where you can apply the wisdom of teaching, cherishing, or setting boundaries more effectively. Consider volunteering for a church ministry team to help foster these values in others.



## Discussion Questions

1. How can we apply the concept of “Wise Families Have Parents That Teach” in modern contexts where family structures and roles may vary?
2. In the message, discipline within the family and the church is emphasized. Discuss the balance between discipline and grace in nurturing relationships.
3. The text mentions that “Wise Families Cherish Each Other.” How can we foster an environment of cherishing and appreciating each other within our own families and the church community?
4. What practical steps can we take to establish and maintain healthy boundaries as described in Proverbs, both in personal relationships and in community settings?



## Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the wisdom You provide us through Your Word. As we reflect on the teachings of Proverbs, help us to become wiser in our relationships—strengthening our families and our church community. Guide us in teaching, disciplining, cherishing, and setting boundaries with love and wisdom. Let our actions reflect Your love and grace. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

## Key Verses

Proverbs 1:8-9, Proverbs 22:6, Proverbs 12:26





## The Big Idea

We will conclude our series in week six looking at the characteristics of a wise person. We will reflect on how wisdom shapes character, influences decisions, and is manifested in a life well-lived, inspiring each other to continue growing in wisdom long after this series is over.



## Things to Remember

*“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.”*  
(Proverbs 1:7)



## Next Steps

**Daily Reflection:** Spend time each day reflecting on areas where fear of the Lord can be deepened in your personal and professional life.

**Seek Feedback:** Actively seek out and accept feedback from others, using it as a stepping stone to grow in humility.

**Discipline Practices:** Identify one habit that contributes to foolishness or distraction in your life and commit to a disciplined practice to overcome it.

**Live with Integrity:** Choose one day this week to consciously live out integrity in all your interactions, noting the challenges and benefits.



## Discussion Questions

1. **Fear of the Lord:** How do you understand the concept of “fearing the Lord” in your daily life, and how does it differ from simply being afraid?
2. **Humility and Growth:** Share a personal experience where humility led to significant personal growth. How did it change the way you approach wisdom?
3. **Discipline in Wisdom:** Discuss how discipline plays a role in acquiring wisdom. Can you think of an area in your life where increased discipline could lead to greater wisdom?
4. **Integrity and Courage:** Integrity and courage are vital aspects of wisdom. How can we practically uphold integrity and courage in a world that often values convenience and comfort over hard truths?



## Closing Prayer

Lord, we thank you for the wisdom that comes from fearing You. Help us to embrace humility, seek knowledge, and act with courage and integrity. Strengthen our discipline and guide us in Your ways. As we leave this place, let us carry these lessons into our lives, showing others the power of Your wisdom. Amen.

## Key Verses

Proverbs 14:26-27, Proverbs 13:10, Proverbs 28:1

