



Sermon Discussion Guide – *May 12, 2019*

SERIES – WISDOM: *The Key To A Happy Life*

TITLE - *“How Do I Get Wisdom?”*

Proverbs 4:7-12

SUMMARY – Everybody wants it. Not everybody uses it even if they have it. It is important to living life to the fullest. What is it? Wisdom! This three week series will take a deep look into this important subject. We find that Wisdom is something that can be passed on from generation to generation, but can also be neglected or intentionally dismissed. What makes someone wise? Can we be wise in some ways and not in others? Let’s explore this week “How” we can get more wisdom and the importance of Jesus in the process.

DAILY STUDY & PRAYER

Read / Reflect / Respond

(*READ* the verse, take a moment to *REFLECT* on its meaning, *RESPOND* by writing down some thoughts and praying)

Monday - 1 Corinthians 1:30 NLT *“God has united you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made him to be wisdom itself. Christ made us right with God; he made us pure and holy, and he freed us from sin.”*

Tuesday - Proverbs 4:7 *“The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom,”*

Wednesday - 1 Corinthians 9:24 *“Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it.”*

Thursday – James 1:5 *“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.”*

Friday – Psalm 90:12 NLT *“Teach us to realize the brevity of life, so that we may grow in wisdom.”*

Saturday – Proverbs 8:35–36 *“For whoever finds me [wisdom] finds life and obtains favor from the Lord, but he who fails to find me injures himself; all who hate me love death.”*

GROUP DISCUSSION

(*This is only a guide – select the points you want to discuss or supplement with your own materials*)

Open with Prayer

1. What is something you remember from the sermon that stood out to you or never heard before?
2. One verse says “The Fear Of The LORD” the start of wisdom? Another says the beginning of wisdom is to “get wisdom”. Are these contradictory or complimentary in there messages?
3. Why does thinking about the truths of life and death lead to more wisdom?
4. In your own words what does it mean to be “united with Jesus”?

Close with prayer requests and prayer

NEXT STEPS (Optional for group discussion)

1. TEMPERATURE GAUGE – How am I doing when it comes to growing wise? How would I rate myself on a scale of 1-10?
2. RESPOND – How is the Lord calling me to respond? In confession and repentance? Prayer for help and guidance? Seeking out a confidant or listening ear? Take a moment to write down one action step.
3. PRACTICE – What is one way that you can incorporate or practice increasing your wisdom this week?



Sermon Discussion Guide Leader Notes

Preparing to Lead Your Group

- ✓ **PRAY** for insight as you begin to prepare for leading your group. Ask for God's wisdom, that the Holy Spirit will be the teacher and that you will be God's instrument to lead the group to greater understanding and a willingness to commit to becoming more like God. ***Prayer should be your primary source of personal preparation for leading your group!***
- ✓ **PLAN** where you want to take your group during the next series. Is your group strong in some areas and weak in others? How can you challenge the members to live more balanced Christian lives?
- ✓ **EVALUATE** after each session and at the end of a series. Reflect on what went well and what didn't. Re-evaluation is key to your growth as a leader. How are you doing with leading the discussion: is it stimulating, challenging, and meaningful? Are you able to keep the group on track? Do you need to make some changes?

Using This Sermon Discussion Guide

- Review the discussion guide and sermon notes for this week. You can also view the sermon from our website, www.faithunitedepc.org. As the discussion leader, you should preview and evaluate the questions based on the needs of your group.
- Feel free to adapt the format as needed. If your group is mature and wants to dig deeper, consider using the Next Steps section or add additional Scripture and resources. Remember this is only a guide and you don't have to complete all of it. It is a tool to promote good discussion. The goal is good discussion not necessarily getting through every question.
- The questions with Bible verses associated with them are there to encourage Bible literacy. So encourage different people to open their Bibles and read selected verses if they are willing and able.
- Your goal as the leader is to bring the group into a stimulating discussion that helps the members recognize their needs for personal life change. Ultimately you want them to be willing to commit to change with accountability to the group. Accountability helps us to persevere in our commitments and achieve the blessings of success.