



Sermon Series: The Good Life...  
begins with God  
June 23 of 2024  
Small Group Notes

Why do you think that Proverbs often uses the opposites of wise vs. fool, or wise vs. sluggard? Why might it use such black and white options?

How would you describe, or what examples can you think of that show, the difference or relationship between wisdom and knowledge?

When is it difficult to say 'I don't know'? What do we need inwardly to be able to say 'I don't know' or even to depend on others? When might this be difficult?

**Read Proverbs 3:5-7**

Why might we find depending on God difficult when, by definition, it is the best thing we can do?

**The Wise Know They Don't Know**

**Read Proverbs 1:1-7**

What stands out to you from this passage?

Sometimes people say that a wise person knows nothing. What is right or wrong about this statement?

What do you see in the contrast between the wise, in verse 5, and the foolish in verse 7?

What gives a wise person the ability to be 'slow to speak'? Why are fools quick to air their opinions (Prov. 18:2)?

When we are young, we are often in the vulnerable place of not knowing, or depending on others. In what ways might we stop learning as we become adults? What of this might be good, what should we guard against?

Do you have any examples of times you thought you knew best when you were young? What happened and what did you learn from it?

**The Wise know the value of wisdom, and search for it**

In chapter 1 wisdom calls out to those that will listen. In chapter 2 those that are wise get proactive and search for it.

Can you think of a time when you have ‘searched for hidden treasure’? What was it like? Did you succeed?

What would it feel like to be searching for something that is truly valuable?

What do you think about describing our pursuit of wisdom in this way?

When have you pursued wisdom only to find you were ‘digging an empty hole’? What have you learned from this?

**Read Proverbs 2:1-6** – Pay attention to the verbs

What stands out to you from this passage? What description of searching for wisdom do you like best?

## The Wise Know that God Knows Best

Those that are truly wise, in Proverbs, grow in their understanding of God as the source of all knowledge and wisdom.

**Compare Proverbs 1:7, 2:5-6, and 3:5-6**

What stands out to you?

What points of connection do you see between these passages?

Each passage uses the idea of fearing God. What do you think might be a proper or wrong way of understanding what it means to fear God?

**Read Romans 11:33-36, Isaiah 55:8-9, and Isaiah 40:14-17, and Psalm 90:10-12.**

Is there anything that stands out to you from these passages?

What things distract you from your pursuit of wisdom?

When have you dug empty holes? What can we learn from this?

In our pursuit of wisdom what practical things do you find helpful? What can you share with your group that might help them in their pursuit?

Shawn.