



“The Beginning of Wisdom”

Part 1 – Proverbs: Wisdom for Living

Proverbs 1:7, 9:10, 28:14

July 19-20, 2025

Introduction

This guide can be used on your own or with a small group to reflect on the weekend message and apply it to your life. Choose the questions that work best for your group—there’s no need to go through them all. To learn more, visit silverdalebc.com/smallgroups.

Icebreaker Questions

- If wisdom were a person giving you life advice, what celebrity voice would it have—and why?
- What’s a great piece of advice you’ve been given—but didn’t follow right away?

1. What Is the Fear of the Lord?

A. Awe of God’s Majesty

B. Reverence for God's Holiness

"Let the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him!"

Discussion Questions

- Read Isaiah 6:5. Notice Isaiah's response in this verse. When you consider God's holiness, what response is stirred within you?
 - In what ways do you struggle to believe fear of the Lord is more about awe and reverence, not terror?
 - How might cultivating a sense of awe for God change the way you pray, worship, or live daily? How might it change the way we view sin?
 - Are there areas where you have become casual about God's holiness?
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2. The Results of the Fear of the Lord

A. It Gives Us Wisdom for Decision-Making

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction." — Proverbs 1:7

Discussion Questions

- How does *Proverbs 2:1–5* show the connection between knowing God's Word and fearing Him? How might this impact the framework we use to make decisions?
 - Is there a decision you're facing where you need to pause and ask, "What would most honor God?"
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B. It Gives Us Moral Clarity and Leads to Obedience

"Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil." — Proverbs 3:7

Discussion Questions

- How does fearing God differ from fearing people or failure? Which are you more inclined to fear?
- What does it mean to love what God loves and oppose what He opposes? What's an area of your life that you need to realign with God in this way?

- What fear do you need to replace with fear of the Lord?
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C. It Brings the Favor of God

“The fear of the Lord leads to life, and whoever has it rests satisfied.” — Proverbs 19:23

Discussion Questions

- According to *Proverbs 22:4* and *14:26*, what kind of blessings come to those who fear God?
 - Are there times when you’re tempted to do what God says so that He will do something for you? What should ultimately motivate your actions?
 - Can you recall a time when following God’s way brought peace or unexpected blessing?
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Wrap-Up Discussion

What part of this week’s message convicted or inspired you the most? What’s one thing you can do this week to grow in your fear of the Lord?

Pray

- *Pray for a renewed awe and reverence for God.*
- *Pray for wisdom in decision making for your group.*
- *Pray for hearts that love God and desire to obey Him.*