

Sermon Discussion Guide: Wisdom for Relationships

Series: Proverbs: Wisdom for Living

Main Text: Proverbs 2:17; 5:1–2; 22:6; 23:22

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 Options

- What's the best (or funniest) piece of relationship advice you've ever received?
- What makes family relationships both so rewarding and so challenging?

1. Spouse to Spouse Relationships

Key Scripture: "The kind of person who abandons the companion of their youth and forgets their covenant with God." – Proverbs 2:17

Leader's Note:

Marriage is designed by God to be a covenant, not just a contract. Proverbs teaches that a healthy marriage is built on commitment, friendship, and passion.

Discussion Questions:

How does the idea of "covenant" change how you view marriage?

- What are some ways couples can grow in friendship over the years?
- How can couples keep physical affection and passion alive in long-term marriage?

2. Parent to Child Relationships

Key Scripture: "My son, pay attention to my wisdom; listen closely to my understanding so that you may hold on to insight and your lips may guard knowledge." – Proverbs 5:1-2

Leader's Note:

Parenting isn't just about control or affirmation—it's about forming wisdom in children through loving discipline, intentional instruction, and patient consistency.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. What does it mean to parent with wisdom rather than reaction?
- 2. Which of the 5 steps of child discipline stood out to you and why?
 - Define the Boundaries
 - Communicate it Clearly
 - o Explain the Consequence if Broken
 - o Respond with Action if Boundary is Broken
 - Make Sure the Punishment Fits the Crime
- 3. How can parents balance grace and discipline effectively?

3. Child to Parent Relationships

Key Scripture: "Listen to your father who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old." – Proverbs 23:22

Leader's Note:

Even as adults, we're called to honor our parents—not because they are perfect, but because God commands it. Honor may look like staying connected, offering care, and forgiving where needed.

Discussion Questions:

- What are practical ways you can show honor to your parents (living or deceased)?
- If you've been hurt by your parents, how can you begin walking the path of forgiveness and healing?
- How does remembering that God is your perfect Father help you in this area?

Closing Prayer

Invite the group to reflect on one relationship that needs wisdom right now. Pray for grace to love as Christ loves—sacrificially, patiently, and wisely. Ask God to heal broken places in family relationships and empower each person to walk in godly love and truth.