

Highland Colony Men's Roundtable www.MensTable.com

### WISDOM FOR THE JOURNEY

"A wise man will hear and increase in learning, and a man of understanding will acquire wise counsel."

- Proverbs 1:5

Men have always needed wisdom. We need help to make decisions about work; all relationships – in speech and conduct; who to trust - or avoid; along with being measured by the plumb line of true character. Wisdom from Proverbs offers insight into the concrete experiences of human life that help us take charge of our lives. Proverbs is about *how to* live out your faith in God. There is no true wisdom apart from Jesus. Fools are those who rely on their own knowledge to navigate life. In this study, we will look and listen to hear God's voice and see his Son shining through the book of Proverbs. We will be equipped in every way for our journey! So, let's dig in!

# WISDOM FOR THE JOURNEY: Perilous Times Require Wisdom

A man needs wisdom for his journey. We can find that wisdom in Proverbs 5/30/2024 as we are pointed to Jesus.

Scripture: 2 Timothy 3:1-13

Music: Mountain People Worship - My Heart Wants You-https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hQahQg8ymyQ

Video - Discovering Your True Desires: Insights from Jordan Peterson https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LZV-6qwEQAg

Resources - GOD'S WISDOM for NAVIGATING LIFE by Timothy Keller

PROVERBS FOR YOU by Kathleen Nielson

## Wisdom = Knowledge + Emotional Intelligence + Relational Skills (Wholeness & Maturity)

The wisdom of life is the practicality of Godward living. I think we have a massive cultural problem. Yes, even in the church. We live with this spiritual, secular dichotomy in our lives. That dichotomy is assumed by way more believers than you may think. It says that spiritual things belong to the Lord; that's church, that's my tithe, that's ministry, that's fellowship with other believers, that's devotion, and everything else is secular.

Proverbs gives us an incredible portrait of everything that the Bible is about and how to live inside of that portrait. Again, the Proverbs together give us an incredible portrait; everything that the Bible is about and how to live inside of that portrait. They're radically insightful, radically convicting, radically encouraging, radically hope-giving.

One of the dominant themes in Proverbs is the centrality of the heart. You cannot read the Proverbs without concluding that your body only goes where your heart has already gone; your mouth only goes where your heart has already gone; your eyes only go where your heart has already gone. And so, we need this emphasis in Proverbs. It probably reaches its early crescendo in Proverbs 4, where the father says to his son, "Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life." We could put it in modern language, "Son, if you do anything, guard your heart because life comes out of your heart."

Now, we have to unpack what this word means. 'Heart,' if we take all the ways the Bible talks about this word, the Bible describes the heart as the control center of your personhood; it's the center of your thoughts, it's the center of your desires, it's the center of your emotions, it's the center of your purposes and your motivations. And so, the father is saying, "This is what drives you, this is what controls you, this is what shapes your living. You have got to be concerned about your heart." And the Proverbs would tell us the way to guard your heart is to have a Godward heart, to surrender your heart to the will and the way, the presence and the glory, of this God who looms so large in Proverbs. The Way, the Truth, & the Life Jesus offers.

# 7 Desires of Every Human Heart

- 1. To be heard and understood
- 2. To be affirmed
- 3. To be blessed
- 4. To be safe
- 5. To be touched
- 6. To be chosen
- 7. To be included

## **ACTION: JOURNAL THIS!**

- How do you practice wisdom in your everyday living?
- Were the 7 Desires met in your childhood?
- How are they being met in your life today



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#### **SCRIPTURE**

Difficult Times Ahead (2 Timothy 3:1-13)

3 1-5 Don't be naive. There are difficult times ahead. As the end approaches, people are going to be self-absorbed, money-hungry, selfpromoting, stuck-up, profane, contemptuous of parents, crude, coarse, dog-eat-dog, unbending, slanderers, impulsively wild, savage, cynical, treacherous, ruthless, bloated windbags, addicted to lust, and allergic to God. They'll make a show of religion, but behind the scenes they're animals. Stay clear of these people.

6-9 These are the kind of people who smooth-talk themselves into the homes of unstable and needy women and take advantage of them; women who, depressed by their sinfulness, take up with every new religious fad that calls itself "truth." They get exploited every time and never really learn. These men are like those old Egyptian frauds Jannes and Jambres, who challenged Moses. They were rejects from the faith, twisted in their thinking, defying truth itself. But nothing will come of these latest impostors. Everyone will see through them, just as people saw through that Egyptian hoax.

#### Keep the Message Alive

10-13 You've been a good apprentice to me, a part of my teaching, my manner of life, direction, faith, steadiness, love, patience, troubles, sufferings—suffering along with me in all the grief I had to put up with in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra. And you also well know that God rescued me! Anyone who wants to live all out for Christ is in for a lot of trouble; there's no getting around it. Unscrupulous con men will continue to exploit the faith. They're as deceived as the people they lead astray. As long as they are out there, things can only get worse.

## Mountain People Worship - My Heart Wants You

I wake up in the dead of night With my heart calling Yours Jesus, Jesus I lie wide awake in bed With my heart beating out of my chest Jesus, Jesus My heart wants You My heart wants You I wake up in the dead of night With my heart calling Yours Jesus, Jesus I lie wide awake in bed With my heart beating out of my chest

Jesus, Jesus My heart wants You My heart wants You Even when I'm awake I'm dreaming Even in my silence I'm singing Jesus, Jesus Even in my trials I'm praising Even through my fires I'm gazing at Jesus, Jesus My heart wants You My heart wants You

Director of Business & Professional Outreach, Intl. - Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist, Licensed Professional Counselor, and Certified Life Coach 563 Johnson Avenue – Fairhope, Alabama 36532

Phone: 601-925-0707 Webpage: www.bpointl.org

Email: phil@bpointl.org