



Can't Live Without It Week 4 – WISDOM Spiritual Formation & Discussion Guide

We hope you'll use this guide to take the teaching from Sunday's service and reflect on it with a few friends or a group. If you have questions or want to talk more about how to take your next spiritual step, contact us at info@wschurch.org.

Scripture:

"There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end, it leads to death."

Proverbs 14:12

"I, wisdom, dwell together with prudence. I possess knowledge and discretion."

Proverbs 8:12

"Fear of the LORD is the foundation of wisdom. Knowledge of the Holy One results in good judgment."

Proverbs 9:10

Reflection Questions:

- What is one of the best decisions you've made so far in life? Why?
- What stood out to you from Sunday's service? How did you sense God encouraging and challenging you through the songs, the message, and being with others as part of the church? (The message's main points and scripture are listed below if it helps you think back.)
- Read Proverbs 14:12.
 - Is there a situation or memory that comes to mind when you hear this?
 - Take a moment to think about the road you're on in life, especially in one specific area. Think about the direction and destination of your path...where is it headed?
- What does wisdom look like? Is there an image or description that comes to mind when you think of wisdom?
- Eddie shared a definition of wisdom: "wisdom is the ability to make good decisions." What would being able to make good decisions mean in your life? Do you want that? In what area of your life?
- Eddie shared a list of various features of wisdom:

- Discernment – to see things with more clarity, knowing right from wrong
- Safety – security in following God’s wisdom and way
- Peace – go to bed without fear
- Prosperity – more and better life in every area
- Confidence – trusting God
- Prudence – knowing when to be cautious, when to wait and when to act

Which of these aspects is especially attractive to you? Why is that?

- Read Proverbs 8:12. Then, read this quote from Eddie’s message: “Sometimes wisdom speaks boldly. Sometimes wisdom stays quiet. Sometimes wisdom acts decisively. Sometimes wisdom is like a good musician who observes the rest the creator of the song included.” Is there a situation or relationship where you need God’s wisdom and prudence?
- Read Proverbs 9:10. What does this verse indicate about wisdom? How do you want to respond to God as you read this? Pause and talk to him about it now.
- Is there anything else from this teaching that you want to explore more?
- Take time to pray as you close your time of reflection or discussion, asking God to help you act on what he has asked you to do.

Looking for some ways to grow spiritually?

We have a new resource, the **Write it Down Journal**, which you can get at our Next Steps Area for a suggested donation of \$3 or access online at <https://www.wschurch.org/content/pdf/SpiritualJournal.pdf>. Writing things down is a simple spiritual practice that helps us pay attention to God and what he is teaching us.

Visit www.wschurch.org/resources to see additional tools and resources.

Message Main Points and Scripture:

- **If you want the good life God has in mind for you, wisdom is indispensable.**
- Proverbs 1:1-4 – “These are the proverbs of Solomon, David’s son, king of Israel. Their purpose is to teach people wisdom and discipline, to help them understand the insights of the wise. Their purpose is to teach people to live disciplined and successful lives, to help them do what is right, just and fair. These proverbs will give insight to the simple, knowledge and discernment to the young.”
- 1 Kings 3:5 – “That night the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream, and God said, ‘What do you want? Ask, and I will give it to you!’”
- 1 Kings 3:7 - “Now, O LORD my God, you have made me king instead of my father, David, but I am like a little child who doesn’t know his way around. And here I am in the midst of your own chosen people, a nation so great and numerous they cannot be counted! Give me an understanding heart so that I can govern your people well and know the difference between right and wrong. For who by himself is able to govern this great people of yours?”
- 1 Kings 3:10 – “The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for wisdom.”
- **If we gain true wisdom, we can gain access to all we truly need.**
- Proverbs 14:12 – “There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end, it leads to death.”
- Proverbs 14:12 – “There is a PATH before each person that seems right, but it ends in death.”
- **Wisdom is the ability to make good decisions.**
- **One feature of wisdom is discernment.**
- Proverbs 2:9 – “You will understand what is right, just, and fair, and you will find the right way to go.”
- **Another aspect of wisdom is safety.**

- Proverbs 3:21-24 – “My child, don’t lose sight of common sense and discernment. Hang on to them, for they will refresh your soul. They are like jewels on a necklace. They keep you safe on your way, and your feet will not stumble.”
- **Another facet of wisdom is peace.**
- Proverbs 3:24 – “You can go to bed without fear; you will lie down and sleep soundly.”
- **Wisdom also leads to prosperity.**
- Proverbs 3:16 – “She offers you long life in her right hand, and riches and honor in her left.”
- **Another feature of wisdom is confidence.**
- Proverbs 3:26 – “You need not be afraid of sudden disaster or the destruction that comes upon the wicked, for the LORD is your security. He will keep your foot from being caught in a trap.”
- **Wisdom produces prudence.**
- Proverbs 8:12 – “I, wisdom, dwell together with prudence. I possess knowledge and discretion.”
- Proverbs 9:10 – “Fear of the LORD is the foundation of wisdom. Knowledge of the Holy One results in good judgment.”