

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

PRAY TOGETHER

Father God, we invite you into this time and ask you to open our hearts with a deep, healthy fear of the Lord—a reverence that makes us terrified to live one moment apart from you. Give us wisdom like you gave Solomon, not for our own benefit, but so that the people around us—our families, friends, coworkers, and neighbors—would flourish through the choices we make. As we talk, convict us clearly of at least one concrete step of obedience you are calling each of us to take this week. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen!

ICE BREAKER

What's a time you walked into something way overconfident—kind of like Pastor Joseph thinking he'd be the world's best husband while watching Monday Night Football—and it ended up humbling you?

SERMON OVERVIEW

This week, we are joined by our Noblesville Campus Pastor, Joseph Antley, as we study King Solomon. When faced with the overwhelming responsibility of leading God's people and following his father, King David, Solomon made a request to God for wisdom and a discerning heart—this pleased God. The sermon emphasizes that true wisdom begins with the fear of the Lord—not being afraid of God, but being terrified of living life without Him. The message challenges believers to move beyond mere familiarity with God to a deep reverence that leads to obedience, fearlessness in the face of worldly concerns, and trust in all circumstances. The sermon teaches that wisdom isn't just about gaining knowledge for personal benefit, but about building something lasting that serves and benefits those around us. When we seek God's wisdom, our families, marriages, communities, and churches are transformed because the greatest benefactors of wisdom are those God has placed in our lives. The beautiful truth is that wisdom isn't reserved for the elite or highly educated; it's available to anyone who asks the Lord with a reverent heart.

READ SCRIPTURE

1 KINGS 3, PROVERBS 9:10, JAMES 1:5

CONNECT RELATIONALLY

1) Think of a time when you were about to start something new, and you thought, 'I'm not sure I'm ready for this.' What did you need to feel more prepared, and how did it turn out? How did that affect your view of God—did it move you toward dependence on Him or toward worry or self-reliance?

2) Pastor Joseph shared how his father's wisdom ("ministry is about serving") shaped his entire ministry and family life. How has someone else's wisdom directly benefited your life? Where in your life have you confused visibility or recognition with genuine service?

3) Share a moment when you had to choose obedience to God over what culture, friends, or family thought was 'normal' or 'acceptable.' How were you able to discern the appropriate steps to take, and what was the outcome?

**GROW
SPIRITUALLY**

4) What stands out to you most about Solomon's request for a "discerning heart to govern your people and distinguish right and wrong?" (1 Kings 3:9) Why was God so pleased with this request? (1 Kings 3:10-11) How does this truth reshape your motivation for seeking wisdom?

5) Pastor Joseph mentioned that many of us are familiar with God rather than truly fearing Him. How does the distinction between being familiar with God versus having the fear of the Lord change your understanding of what it means to walk with God?

6) How does Scripture correct the idea that "if I just have enough faith, things will work out" when it comes to building a lasting life, family, or ministry?

**LIVE
GENEROUSLY**

7) In what situation are you currently holding back because of fear of others' opinions (sharing your faith, confessing sin, engaging in worship, making a costly choice)? What is one courageous action you will take this week to "fear God more than man" in that area?

8) Following the wisdom that "ministry is about serving," identify someone in your life who would benefit from your service. How can you commit to one specific act of service for them this week—with no expectation of recognition or return?

9) Read James 1:5 again together. What is one specific area of your life right now where you will intentionally begin asking God for wisdom daily this week, and how will you practically remind yourself to ask? Pray for it now.

**TAKE
ACTION**

Based on our conversation today, how do you sense the Holy Spirit inviting you to take a next step in practical application? Please complete this statement, I am feeling convicted to take the following action (keep it simple):

Please invite each group member to share their next step, if they have one.

**PRAY
TOGETHER**

Take a few minutes for each person to share a recent joy or praise, as well as something that's weighing on their heart. Then invite someone to pray over these requests. Be sure to pass them along to everyone in the group so you can keep praying for one another between meetings.

**ENGAGE
TOGETHER**



Mother Daughter Mud Run - Girls who are incoming 7th graders through graduating seniors and their Mother or Mother figures are invited to the Northview Church Carmel Campus for our Mother Daughter Mud Run! Come and hear a message about our identity in Christ. Mother figures will also have the opportunity to share God-given strengths and gifts they see in their girls. Afterward, everyone will slide, slip, jump, splash, and splat their way to the finish line in a run/walk through various obstacles and mud challenges.