

Connection Group Questions

Taken from the sermon on October 15, 2017

Proverbs: Words of Wisdom - 4

Questions for PERSONAL GROWTH

Monday: *Binding Him to your heart...* Please read Proverbs 3 in its entirety. Circling back to vv. 1-2, also read Deuteronomy 4:23-24, 6:1-9; Psalm 1:1-3 and 2 Timothy 3:16-17. Why does Proverbs keep stressing that we hold on to wisdom and how is it good for us? How does the "use it or lose it" idiom apply? What are the rewards to remembering His law and commandments – binding them, and writing them on your hearts?

Tuesday: *Finding favor in mercy and love...* In Proverbs 3:3, we are instructed, "don't forsake mercy and truth." What does mercy have to do with wisdom? What are the limitations of exercising wisdom from you head, alone, rather than from your heart? Now please read James 3:13-18. How would you describe the difference between worldly wisdom and godly wisdom? What are the rewards given in v. 4? How hard is it to find favor with God and man? (John 15:18-19) If you desire wisdom, pray for love first!

Wednesday: *God's wisdom trumps yours...* Please re-read Proverbs 3:5-6. What would life look like if you trusted God completely, with all your heart, and not in your own understanding? Please read Jeremiah 9:23-24, Isaiah 55:8-9 and Romans 11:33. How do you react when you don't understand? How can you acknowledge Him "in all your ways"? (1 Chronicles 28:9; Hosea 4:1-2, 6:6, and Joshua 9:11-19) If you knew Jesus were returning today, would you think or act differently?

Thursday: *Don't be a wisecrack...* Please re-read Proverbs 3:7-8. What are specific ways in which we can be "wise in our own eyes"? How can pride, judging God and others, or rationalizing sin contribute to this? What keeps you and others from fearing the Lord and departing from evil? (Job 38:2; Matthew 11:28-30) Has a lack of reverence for God, and your subsequent actions, ever caused spiritual and/or physical weariness in you? What benefit is given for fearing God in v. 8?

Friday: *Giving Him your best...* Finally, consider the teaching in Proverbs 3:9-10. How can you honor God with all of your possessions? Think this question through. What have you been given? (i.e. good health, family, friends, material wealth, giftedness, faith) How gracious and responsible are you in giving and receiving? What keeps us from honoring God with our "firstfruits"? What can be learned from v.10 and Malachi 3:10? How can you demonstrate your trust and obedience to God, today? May God grant you His favor and esteem – a long life of health and peace, overflowing with blessing!