

Reading Proverbs

Small Group Questions



*The following questions are intended to start conversations.
Use only the ones your group finds helpful. Explore others as they come up.*

Our preaching series this fall is on Wisdom. Questions will be provided each week to help you think about themes BEFORE you listen to the sermon. It is our hope that this will encourage your own study and prepare you for the upcoming sermon.

- How have you read the book of Proverbs? What has been helpful? What has been challenging?
- Read **Proverbs 22:1-16**. Is there any coherent theme in this chapter? Does this matter?
- Ellen Davis writes that “the medieval monks spoke of ‘chewing’ scripture. They said each word of the Bible is like a grain of spice; you need to hold it in your mouth until it yields its full savor. That is how Proverbs should be read.” Do you agree? How might this change how you read Proverbs?
- Read **Proverbs 22:6**. How do you understand this proverb? Does this verse guarantee good outcomes for good parenting? Is this a promise or it is something else?
- What is the nature of the book of Proverbs? Is it a collection of random sayings that are always true? Sometimes true? Are these promises or good advice? Or are they something altogether different?
- Read **Proverbs 22:11**. What does it mean to “love a pure heart and speak with grace”? What is the result of doing that? How would you apply this today?
- Read **Proverbs 22:14**. The mouth of an adulterous woman is vividly described as a “deep pit.” Take a moment to sit with this image. Why do you think scripture often portrays sexual temptation as something that can trap us rather than simply satisfy us? How would you apply this today?
- Re-read **Proverbs 22:1-16**. Is there a particular saying that stands out for you? For what reason? How will you “chew” on this proverb in the coming week?