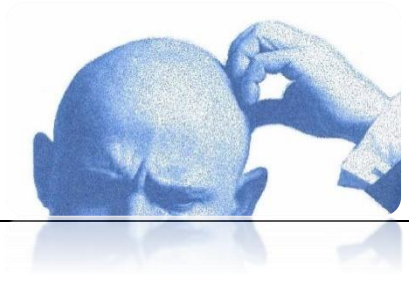


The Beginning of Wisdom

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 would you define wisdom? How is this different from knowledge?
- Why is wisdom important? Consider for a moment Canada's increasingly unpredictable relationship with the US. Regardless of your political opinion, how might wisdom inform how you engage this situation?
- Where can wisdom be found? Does it matter where we find it?
- **Proverbs 9:10** reads, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." What does it mean to fear the Lord? And how does this lead to wisdom?
- What happens to our understanding of wisdom when God is no longer the reference point for determining what is good, true and beautiful?
- Read **1 Corinthians 1:18-25**. What does this tell us about the wisdom of God?
- Read **Proverbs 8:1-21**. In this chapter, wisdom is personified as a woman calling out. What is she saying? What are the benefits of listening? What is significant about the image of calling out by the city gate?
- Throughout Proverbs, the choice between wisdom and folly is often presented as a choice between life and death (see Proverbs 9, especially vs. 5-6 and 17-18). What does this tell us about the long-term consequences of seemingly small decisions?
- Given what is at stake, how can we distinguish the voice of wisdom from folly?