



Family Discussion Guide – “Wisdom Prevails” (Proverbs 1:1–7)

Main Idea

Wisdom isn’t just knowing facts; it’s *seeing life from God’s perspective and living accordingly*. God loves to give His wisdom when we ask, and the starting point of wisdom is having a right, humble, respectful relationship with Him.

Key Verse

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.” — Proverbs 1:7 (NIV)

(You can also explain “fear of the Lord” as deep respect, awe, and trust in God—treating Him as God, not as someone we can ignore.)

Questions for Older Children / Teens

1. **What’s the difference between knowledge and wisdom?**
 - a. How did the pastor explain it (e.g., “knowledge fills your head; wisdom directs your life”)?
2. **Why is wisdom so valuable?**
 - a. The sermon compared wisdom to finding buried treasure or gold coins.
 - b. If you believed God’s wisdom was that valuable, how would it change the way you use your time this week?
3. **“You’ll never pursue what you don’t prize.”**
 - a. What are some things you clearly “prize” (sports, grades, friends, phone, hobbies)?
 - b. What does your schedule say you prize most? Where does seeking God’s wisdom fit?
4. **The “fear of the Lord” as the beginning of wisdom:**

- a. In your own words, what does it mean to fear the Lord (not being scared, but showing respect and awe)?
 - b. How would your choices at school, online, or with friends change if God's opinion mattered most to you?
- 5. Algorithms and discernment:**
- a. The pastor said many of us are being "disciplined by our algorithms." What do you think that means?
 - b. How can you practice discernment (telling what's true and wise) when you watch videos, scroll social media, or hear strong opinions?
- 6. Walking with Jesus and wisdom:**
- a. The pastor said, "The closer we walk with Jesus, the wiser we become."
 - b. What are 1–2 practical ways you can walk closer with Jesus this week (Bible, prayer, choices, friendships)?

Questions for Younger Children

Use simple language and shorter questions.

- 1. What is wisdom?**
- a. Explain: "Wisdom is seeing things God's way and choosing to do what He says."
 - b. Ask: Can you think of a time when you had to choose between what *you* wanted and what you knew God wanted?
- 2. Knowledge vs. wisdom:**
- a. Share the example from the sermon:
 - i. "Knowledge knows a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom knows not to put it in a fruit salad!"
 - b. Ask: Can you think of another funny example of how knowledge and wisdom are different?
- 3. Treasure hunt picture:**
- a. The pastor told a story about people finding cans of gold coins.
 - b. Ask: If someone told you there was one more can of gold in your backyard, what would you do?
 - c. Say: God's wisdom is even more valuable than gold.
 - d. Ask: How can we "search" for God's wisdom? (Read the Bible, pray, listen at church, ask parents, etc.)
- 4. Fearing the Lord (in kid language):**
- a. Ask: What do you think it means to "respect God"?

- b. Give examples:
 - i. Listening when He speaks in the Bible
 - ii. Talking to Him in prayer
 - iii. Obeying even when it's hard
 - c. Ask: Can you name one way you can respect God this week?
5. **Asking God for wisdom:**
- a. Share James 1:5 in simple form: "If you need wisdom, ask God. He loves to give it."
 - b. Ask: Is there something you're not sure what to do about (friend problem, fear, school, sharing, etc.)?
 - c. How could we ask God for wisdom about that?

Family Application

Choose one or more of these to do *together* this week:

1. **Read Proverbs together**
 - a. Pick **one chapter of Proverbs each day** (or just Proverbs 1 each day for younger kids).
 - b. After reading, each person answers:
 - i. "What is **one wise thing** this chapter tells us to do?"
 - ii. "How can I live that way **today**?"
2. **Pray James 1:5 every morning**
 - a. Together (or individually), pray:
 - i. "God, I need Your wisdom today. Please show me what is right and help me do it."
 - b. Parents can model this out loud at breakfast or in the car.
3. **The "What's the wise thing to do?" question**
 - a. Before any significant decision (how to respond to someone, how to spend money, what to watch, how to handle conflict), pause as a family and ask:
 - i. "What is the wise thing to do?"
 - b. Help children see that wisdom is not just "what I want" or "what is easiest," but "what pleases God and follows His Word."
4. **Wisdom Wall / Journal**
 - a. Create a small poster or journal page titled: "Wisdom God Is Teaching Our Family."
 - b. Every time someone makes a wise choice or learns something from Proverbs, write it down.

- c. Review it at the end of the week and thank God for His wisdom.

Short Family Prayer

You can pray this together, or have family members take turns reading a line.

“Dear God,

Thank You that You are wise and loving.

Thank You for giving us the book of Proverbs to help us live Your way.

Please help our family to prize Your wisdom more than anything else.

Teach us to fear You in the right way—to respect, love, and trust You.

When we don’t know what to do, remind us to ask You for wisdom,

and help us obey what You show us.

Draw us closer to Jesus, who is Your wisdom for us.

In His name we pray, amen.”