



Wisdom for
a New Day

WEEK 6 | LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

CONNECT

- There is a truth we all face, we have a tendency to make dumb decisions. YouTube Fail videos and America's Funniest Home Videos are the biggest evidence. **What is an example of a dumb decision you have seen someone make? Feel free to share a video...**

CONSIDER

- **What encouraged or challenged you from the sermon and/or daily devotions this week?**

CHRIST

Read Proverbs 8:11; 14:8, 12, 15; 22:3 & Ephesians 5:15-17 as a group.

- **What do you learn about the wisdom of the prudent from these passages? What resonates with you? Why?**
- Prudent is defined as acting with wisdom or showing care and thought. Proverbs defines it as giving thoughts to your steps (14:12). We all face decisions (big or small) on a regular basis, and these choices are often based on a certain criteria (whether we realize it or not). **Take a moment and think about the criteria you use to make your decisions? What are the top 3 criteria you use to make decisions? Discuss your groups' answers.** (Examples: Does it make the world a better place?, What does the Bible say about it?, Is it the right thing to do?, WWJD?, etc.)
- Proverbs often put in contrast the wise man and the fool. In this case, the fool deceives himself, relies solely on himself, and believes anything (14:8, 12, & 15). **What are some of the reasons we make unwise decisions or don't give careful thought to our actions?**
- **Share a story about a wise or foolish decision you have made. How did this decision impact your life? Those around you?**
- There will never be a day not filled with decisions to make. Some will have a greater impact than others. **What is a decision you are considering right now? Are you using the right criteria to give careful thought?**



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- AJ Sherrill writes, “Self knowledge is the gateway to almost all life change...With self knowledge, the individual can move into pursuing inner work, which is often painful.” One hindrance to the wisdom of the prudent is self deception. **How does the quote encourage or challenge you? How do we tend to deceive ourselves? What have you learned about yourself (strengths/weaknesses/gifts/etc...) since following God?**
- Another hindrance to the wisdom of the prudent is time. Without time, you can’t give thought to your ways. **What pressures do you face in how you spend the use of time? How do the urgent things often crowd out the important things?**

How do your current rhythms help or hinder you giving careful thought to your ways?

- A recent researcher² identified these top two deathbed regrets: I wish I’d had the courage to live the life true to myself, not the life others expected of me. I wish I hadn’t worked so hard. **How would you evaluate your life in those two areas? How can these two regrets be avoided with the wisdom of the prudent?**

CALLING

- Self-Knowledge or Time? Both of these can be a hindrance to the wisdom of the prudent. **Which is the biggest hindrance you are facing now? What are the wise decisions to make to grow in this area?** Follow the wisdom of Solomon and give some thought to your ways.
- To continue having the Best Summer Ever, check out these suggested resources at mynorthside.com/bestsummerever.
- **Daily Devotions:** Spend 15 minutes each day with Northside devotions. Text JOINGOD to 81411 or use the Study tab in Northside’s App for Daily Devotions.
- **Memorize:** “*The wisdom of the prudent is to give thought to their ways, but the folly of fools is deception.*” Proverbs 4:8
- **Further Study:** Wisdom reading plan (Proverbs & Ecclesiastes) from the *Best Summer Ever* resources.

¹ AJ Sherrill, *The Enneagram For Spiritual Formation* (Brazos Press, 2020), 12.

² Bronnie Ware, *The Top Five Regrets of The Dying* (2012).