

# WEEK 5 | LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

# CONNECT

• What nicknames have you had or currently have? How did you get that name?

## CONSIDER

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

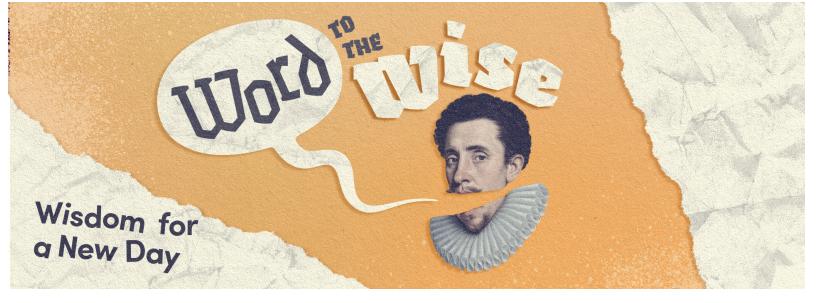
### CHRIST

#### Read Proverbs 3:1-4 as a group.

- The word "prosperity" (v. 2) is often translated as peace, and deepens the meaning of this verse. How does wisdom bring about peace? If peace is a direct result of v. 1, how do you store commands in your heart?
- V. 3 introduces two important qualities: love and faithfulness. Both these qualities are seen in attitude and action. Thoughts and words are not enough, how we live reveals the character of Jesus. How are you growing in love and/or faithfulness? Share a story.
- V. 4 is a direct result of growing in Godly character (v. 3). In every culture, names carry meaning. Not just from the language, but often the legacy of the person(s) tied to the name. Take a moment and look up the meaning of your name. Does the meaning describe you? What Godly characteristics do you want your name/family to be known for? How are you intentionally developing these characteristics?

### Read Proverbs 3:5-8 as a group.

- The promise is that if we will trust God, He will "make our paths straight." Straight paths provide the most direct route to the destination. It is not the promise of an easy path, but it does promise avoiding unnecessary pitfalls and obstacles. How do you know that you can trust God (faith, understanding, experience, teaching, etc...)? Share from your story.
- Two phrases automatically create tension in our relationship with God, "lean not on our own understanding" and "do not be wise in your own eyes"? Why do you think we tend to naturally choose control over trust/surrender? In which areas of your life are you most controlling: family, work, friendships, or something else? How do you need to start trusting God more in this area?



### Read Proverbs 3:9-10 as a group.

- Just after discussing the wisdom of trusting God, Solomon immediately gives a specific example in v. 9 of honoring God with our wealth. How can we honor God from our wealth (time, talent, or treasure)?
- The second half of v. 9 might be the biggest challenge for us in this area. What's the difference between honoring God with the first/best of what you have versus giving Him what's leftover?

## Read Proverbs 3:11-12 as a group.

Back in v. 6, God promises to make our paths straight. But, this infers that our current paths are the wrong way, curvy, or filled with obstacles. In other words, there needs to be some course correction. Read the following verses: Job 5:17, Hebrews 12:5-11, and Revelation 3:19. What do you learn about Godly discipline? Write down your groups' answers.

How have you experienced God's hand in course correcting your own faith story?

# CALLING

- Jesus said it best in Matthew 6:33, "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness..."
  Who are you trusting more, God or your own understanding? Ponder the areas of your life, and begin praying this question over them
- 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**: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6
- **Further Study:** Wisdom reading plan (Proverbs & Ecclesiastes) from the *Best Summer Ever* resources.