

## Wise Guy

### Small Group Questions: Part 2: Wisdom Notes

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#### Read

Proverbs 8; James 1:5; and 1 Kings 3:6–13

#### Reflect

When Solomon becomes king, he asks God for an understanding mind, for wisdom—in Hebrew, a heart for hearing—toward his people. God is so pleased that he grants wisdom to Solomon, along with great wealth, honor, and a long life. Do you expect wisdom to come in a flash or in a more steady fashion? When have your circumstances not been specifically addressed in the Bible and you’ve had to discern what to do?

Pastor Darrin Patrick discusses how we can gain God’s wisdom:

1. God’s love is the foundation of wisdom.
  - a. Who or what do you look to for wisdom?
  - b. Have you asked God for wisdom? If so, wisdom for what?
  - c. What are God’s gifts and wisdom based on? Is it something you can earn? Explain.
  - d. What is your definition of “shalom”?
  - e. How has God been generous with wisdom with you?
2. Humility is the prerequisite for wisdom.
  - a. When have you felt like God withheld an answer? In hindsight, why do you think that was?
  - b. When has pride impacted your decision-making and led to an unwise decision?
3. The reward in wisdom is a tender heart.
  - a. What practices help you focus on God and hear what he has to say? What environments help you the most?
  - b. Who do you know manages to be calm in the midst of chaos? What gives them their focus?
4. The purpose for wisdom is worship.
  - a. When have you focused on God receiving the glory, and he gave you more joy than you could have imagined?
  - b. How often do you request wisdom to help someone else? How are you sharing it?
  - c. How does Jesus embody wisdom?
  - d. What idols do you need to be careful of?
  - e. Do you sometimes want an answer from God more than you want God? Explain.
  - f. Audit your prayer life. How many prayers are for you or your family, versus your community and world?

**Respond:** Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you?