

Discussion Guide Navigate — Part 1 PARTICIPANT GUIDE

"Wisdom is the art of living skillfully in whatever actual conditions we find ourselves."

[Eugene Peterson]

ENGAGE & CONNECT

If you could look into a crystal ball and see the outcome of one major life event, what would it be and why would you choose that?

BEGIN WITH PRAYER

Spend a moment praying this passage, beginning your time together in humility and gratitude!

"A scoffer seeks wisdom and finds none [for his ears are closed to wisdom], But knowledge is easy for one who understands [because he is willing to learn]."

[Proverbs 14:6, Amplified]

BIG IDEA

God's way is not a crystal ball ... His way is wisdom!

PASSAGE & DISCUSSION

1 Kings 3:1-14

- 1. In the sermon we heard, "Wisdom and discernment fills the gaps between the ways of life and the Word of God so that we walk as people of God." What "gap" in your life has God recently filled with His wisdom? Let's celebrate and praise God for His wisdom!
- 2. Why is Solomon's request for wisdom and discernment significant? How does God respond to Solomon's request?
- 3. Why does God choose to lead through wisdom, rather than simply revealing the future?
- 4. What causes you to prioritize safety and certainty (based on fear) over making decisions based on wisdom? What is a recent example of this in your own life?
- 5. Read Proverbs 2:6-7. Solomon's request shows that wisdom is about seeing things from God's perspective. How does this differ from worldly wisdom?
- 6. In the sermon we heard, "No area of life is beyond the need for God's wisdom, off-limits to God's wisdom, or unaffected by the absence of His wisdom." In what specific area of your life do you need more wisdom and discernment right now? Be vulnerable with one another!
- 7. Read James 3:17. God's wisdom flows through transformed people. What is a practical way that God is inviting you to grow in wisdom to be transformed?

8. What's one practical way our small group can pursue wisdom-centered living together in the next month?

STEP OF OBEDIENCE

Solomon's story reminds us that wisdom is a gift from God, not just human intelligence. The good news is that God puts us in certain situations and positions, and then He *empowers us to reflect Him wherever we are*! Here are a few questions to consider as we seek, live by, and apply God's wisdom ...

- Will I PRIORITIZE God's wisdom by ...
 - o changing at the heart level?
 - accepting Holy Spirit conviction?
 - seeking relief that comes from the Lord?
- Am I willing to PRAY ...
 - Does this align with your will and purposes?
 - What is the wise thing to do and/or the wise way to be?
- Who am I really BECOMING?
 - Do I reflect God's goodness onto people and into situations?

PRAYER FOCUS

Seeking and Living by God's Wisdom

- God's way is the path of wisdom that guides us step by step and helps us navigate life's complexities with discernment, humility, and grace. Take a moment to thank God that He so generously gives us wisdom when we humbly ask for it.
- As we pray, let's ask God to fill us with His wisdom. Let's seek His guidance in our decisions, invite His truth into our everyday lives, and commit to applying His wisdom in how we love, lead, and live. May we be a people who reflect His wisdom in all we do.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- 1 Kings Ch. 3 Commentary & Leaders Marked By Humility
 - Use these for background and encouragement before your group gathers.
- Tune Into the Work of the Holy Spirit
 - This would be a good resource to use after your group gathers.