

# Small Group Discussion Questions



// Week of January 21, 2024

---

## LEADER INFO

- Baptism
  - Sunday, February 11
  - To sign up, text "DUNK" to 604-670-3040

**GROW** This section is based on the sermon from Sunday. You can find it here: <https://www.southsidelife.com/>

**ICE BREAKER** What is one highlight and one lowlight of your week?

## Lost Yourself?

*At the end of your life, the greatest aspiration you'll have is to look back and say "You know what? I was me."*

### Read

#### Proverbs 4:11-27

*I instruct you in the way of wisdom  
and lead you along straight paths.*

<sup>12</sup>*When you walk, your steps will not be hampered;  
when you run, you will not stumble.*

<sup>13</sup>*Hold on to instruction, do not let it go;  
guard it well, for it is your life.*

<sup>14</sup>*Do not set foot on the path of the wicked  
or walk in the way of evildoers.*

<sup>15</sup>*Avoid it, do not travel on it;  
turn from it and go on your way.*

<sup>16</sup>*For they cannot rest until they do evil;  
they are robbed of sleep till they make someone stumble.*

- 17 They eat the bread of wickedness  
and drink the wine of violence.*
- 18 The path of the righteous is like the morning sun,  
shining ever brighter till the full light of day.*
- 19 But the way of the wicked is like deep darkness;  
they do not know what makes them stumble.*
- 20 My son, pay attention to what I say;  
turn your ear to my words.*
- 21 Do not let them out of your sight,  
keep them within your heart;*
- 22 for they are life to those who find them  
and health to one's whole body.*
- 23 Above all else, guard your heart,  
for everything you do flows from it.*
- 24 Keep your mouth free of perversity;  
keep corrupt talk far from your lips.*
- 25 Let your eyes look straight ahead;  
fix your gaze directly before you.*
- 26 Give careful thought to the<sup>[a]</sup> paths for your feet  
and be steadfast in all your ways.*
- 27 Do not turn to the right or the left;  
keep your foot from evil.*

## **The Road Back to “You”**

- a. When was the last time (could have lasted a week, a day or a minute) that you felt like yourself?

### **1. Choices (on the road back to you)**

- a. We defined foolishness as “ignoring or being oblivious to this pattern called reality” We can all act foolish from time to time... but Proverbs says for wicked people, this is a way of life....this is not a moment, this is a lifestyle. Once you choose it, you can become locked in.
- i. What is one wise choice you've made recently?
  - ii. What is one foolish choice you've made recently?
  - iii. Wise people and foolish people are on the same road. Wise people are making progress and foolish people are stuck.
    1. Wicked people are on a completely different road: “the path of death” - hurting themselves and hurting other people
      - a. Jealousy is an example of wickedness. Mourning with other people succeed and celebrating when other people suffer
        - i. Have you ever been stuck in jealousy?

- b. Addiction (food, sex, alcohol, drugs...) is an example of wickedness - the wrong path. When you indulge in a behaviour or use a substance, and you feel broken. And the only thing you can think of to deal with the pain of that brokenness is to use or do that same thing again.
  - i. Your story doesn't end here on this path. Do you need help?  
How can this group help you?

## 2. Signs (on the road back to you)

- a. If you see these three things in your life, you're on the road back to you:
  - i. Kindness
    - 1. How do you treat people who can do nothing for you?
    - 2. Discuss examples of people who can do nothing for you and how you can go the extra mile to be kind.
  - ii. Humility
    - 1. When is the last time you apologized in a sincere way? (ie. "I was wrong")  
Who was it and why?
  - iii. Gratitude
    - 1. Do you think you're a grateful person or someone who struggles with self-pity?
      - a. Who is someone in your life who would give you an honest answer for feedback?

## 3. The Way (of the road back to you)

- a. No one starts off on the road to wickedness thinking "I'll do this because I want to destroy myself and other people"
- b. Our culture lies to us, saying that the following things are the road back to "life"
- c.
  - i. Money
    - 1. How is your relationship with money?
  - ii. Comfort
    - 1. Our culture is held hostage by anxiety. Has trying to never be uncomfortable ever held you back?

- iii. Romance
    - 1. “You complete me” is a lie. We are not half-beings walking around looking for another person to make them whole. How is your relationship with romance/expectations for your partner to complete you?
  
  - iv. Family
    - 1. Family is your priority, but Jesus has to come first. You can’t let family absorb every ounce of your attention and energy, or you lose who you were created to be. Have you ever been tempted to make family your whole life?
  
  - v. Work
    - 1. Are you too absorbed with work to truly live? If not, have you ever been? What was that like?
- d. We all have next steps in our faith. One that will never leave us is inviting the people around us to meet Jesus - the Saviour who changed everything for us.
- i. Who in your life could you invite to church with you?

**PRAY**