

# Small Group Discussion Questions

// Week of January 07, 2024

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## LEADER INFO

- 101: Next Sunday!
  - A class designed for anyone who wants to take a next step here at Southside
    - Serving, Baptism, Financial classes... come to 101 and learn!
  - Next Sunday (January 14th) at 12:45 in the auditorium
  - Text "101" 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** During the sermon this week, we learned fun facts like:

- Hot water freezes faster than cold water
- The Mona Lisa has no eyebrows
- The national animal of Scotland is the Unicorn
- You'll spend approximately 100 days of your life on the toilet
- There is only one flavour of Fruit Loops
  - ***Do you have any fun facts of your own to share?***

# What is Wisdom?

85% or more of the decisions you make in 2024 will be wisdom-based decisions.

## Read

### Proverbs 8

*Wisdom is better than all the trappings of wealth;  
nothing you could wish for holds a candle to her.  
<sup>12-21</sup> "I am Lady Wisdom, and I live next to Sanity;  
Knowledge and Discretion live just down the street*

*I love those who love me;  
those who look for me find me*

*"God sovereignly made me—the first, the basic—  
before he did anything else.  
I was brought into being a long time ago,  
well before Earth got its start.  
I arrived on the scene before Ocean,  
yes, even before Springs and Rivers and Lakes.  
Before Mountains were sculpted and Hills took shape,  
I was already there, newborn;  
Long before God stretched out Earth's Horizons,  
and tended to the minute details of Soil and Weather,  
And set Sky firmly in place,  
I was there.  
When he mapped and gave borders to wild Ocean,  
built the vast vault of Heaven,  
and installed the fountains that fed Ocean,  
When he drew a boundary for Sea,  
posted a sign that said no trespassing,  
And then staked out Earth's Foundations,  
I was right there with him, making sure everything fit.  
Day after day I was there, with my joyful applause,  
always enjoying his company,  
Delighted with the world of things and creatures,  
happily celebrating the human family.*

## Matthew 11

*Come to Me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.*

<sup>29</sup> *Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and 'you will find rest for your souls.'*

<sup>30</sup> *For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."*

### 1. Wisdom is not Morality:

- a. People often assume that Wisdom = Morality (right and wrong) when in reality, wisdom includes morality but goes beyond it.
  
- b. Pastor Mike shared examples of Christian people who have tried to make morality-things, wisdom-things (it's morally wrong to read Harry Potter, no travel insurance because faith will protect us, we need to boycott certain toothpaste brands because of a rumour about their logo...)
  - i. Do you have any funny examples from growing up or throughout your life? (eg. *no Pokemon, no music that isn't from a Christian artist, ban the Beatles...*)
  
- c. Wisdom isn't quick, it's not always simple and it's usually not black and white. But as humans, we love speed, simplicity and certainty as humans
  - i. Have the desire for speed, simplicity or certainty ever cost you?

### 2. Wisdom is not Knowledge:

- a. Wisdom includes knowledge but it goes beyond "a+b=c"
  - i. Using the example of "you should choose the job that makes you the most money", why would wisdom complicate that simple formula, and potentially change which job you end up choosing?

### 3. Why is Wisdom a big deal?

- a. Wisdom is “discovering, and living in light of this pattern called reality.”
- b. Patterns in reality govern every sphere of our lives: relationships, our spirituality, finances, work, love, family...
  - i. Have you ever met someone (or been someone) who had everything going for them (beautiful, popular, rich, intelligent, credentialed or morally-upright), but they eventually crashed without wisdom?
  - ii. Have you ever met someone who wasn't overly beautiful, popular, intelligent, rich, credentialed or morally-upright... but they soared because they're wise?
- c. “You can ignore reality but you can't ignore the consequences of reality.”
  - i. What do you think that means?

### 4. How do you get Wisdom?

- a. Proverbs tells us that wisdom was there “at the very beginning” with God, before He created the world. All of creation was created with wisdom.
- b. Matthew 11:28-30
  - i. *“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”*
    - 1. “Learn from me” is Jesus' invitation. He wants you to ask!
      - a. How does that comfort you?
- c. In which areas of your life are you asking Jesus for wisdom this year?
  - i. *Eg. Should I date them? Should I speak my mind? Should I move? Should I take that job? Should I go to school? Should I hang out with them? Should I trust them?*

**PRAY**