



Discussion Guide

Tune In to Wisdom

1 Kings 3:3-12 | Pastor Jon Gerlach | September 27, 2026

Session Overview

This week's sermon explored Solomon's request for wisdom in 1 Kings 3 and connected it to life in an age shaped by artificial intelligence, algorithms, hurry, and distraction. Pastor Jon reminded us that technology can be useful, but it can also lead us down the wrong paths when we give it too much authority. Solomon gives us a better model: he listened to wise counsel, sought God even in an imperfect place, and humbly admitted his need for divine wisdom. The invitation for the group is to consider what voices are shaping us, where we need to seek God in the ordinary places of life, and what practical steps will help us tune in to God's wisdom.

Session Flow (60-75 minutes)

Welcome and Icebreaker (10 minutes)

What does your relationship with Artificial Intelligence look like?

Purpose: This will get individuals to put into perspective how much time they are spending on their phones with fruitless results.

Scripture Reading

Read 1 Kings 3:3-12 aloud together.

Leader Coaching Sidebar

- Keep the conversation grounded and practical. Some people may feel excited about technology, while others may feel anxious or skeptical.
- The goal is not to debate AI, but to help the group notice what captures their attention and what forms their wisdom.
- Encourage honesty without shame. When people share distractions or pressures, ask gentle follow-up questions like, "What would it look like to invite God into that space this week?"
- Aim to end with one concrete next step for each person

Discussion (40-50 minutes)

- 1. When you need to make a decision or you are looking for words of wisdom, who or what are the first things you turn to? Is it AI? A friend? God?**

Leader Note: There is not just one answer for everyone. We will be digging into those answers in the next question.

- 2. What are the pros and cons of leaning on AI or people for big decisions and where do you think God can intervene? What ways would it be more beneficial to turn to God?**

Leader Note: Here, you can go deeper into the things or people we depend on in life. Assure the group knows neither are inherently bad, the problem is when they replace God.

- 3. Pastor Jon said that technology can sometimes take us down the wrong paths. Where have you seen that happen in everyday life?**

Leader Note: Keep this from becoming a complaint session. Instead, help the group individually reflect on how technology has effected attention, relationships, or spiritual life.

- 4. David gives Solomon wise counsel to be strong and attentive to God. Is there anyone in your life who you go to for wisdom? Are you this person for someone else?**

Leader Note: Be sure to emphasize that the people in your group can be ones to give them wise counsel and this connect group is to be there for each person in the group.

- 5. Solomon asked for an understanding hear instead of wealth, power, or revenge If God asked, "What do you want?" what would your honest first answer be?**

Leader Note: This may be vulnerable, so encourage the group to keep an atmosphere of honesty and confidentiality if needed.

- 6. What does humility look like in Solomon's story, and what might humility look like for you right now?**

Leader Note: Draw attention to Solomon admitting, "I am like a little child who doesn't know his way around."

- 7. The sermon said, "God doesn't just show up in the perfection, he shows up in the process." Where could you seek God in the ordinary rhythm of your week?**

Leader Note: Push for specificity: school pick-up, commute, lunch break, before coffee, before bed. Encourage small, realistic practices rather than idealized spiritual goals.

- 8. Which comparison between artificial intelligence and true wisdom found in the Lord challenged or encouraged you the most?**

Leader Note: Refer back to the sermon: Christ is the same, God is the source of wisdom, God provides, God never leaves us, Christ alone saves, and awe of the Lord begins wisdom.

- 9. Of the practical steps (build intentional relationships with wise people, create space to hear God, and ruthlessly remove the noise), which do you need to practice this week?**

Leader Note: Have each person choose one step and name one action. Keep it realistic and measurable.

- 10. What would change in your life if God's wisdom had more authority than the loudest voice competing for your attention?**

Leader Note: Invite reflection on priorities, decisions, peace, relationships, habits, and obedience. This question can transition the group toward prayer and response.

Application and Prayer (10-15 minutes)

Where are you currently relying on your own understanding, a cultural voice, or a technological tool more than you are relying on the wisdom of God—and what would repentance, surrender, or trust look like this week?

Closing Prayer Suggestion

Lord, thank You for being the source of true wisdom. In a world full of noise, distraction, and competing voices, help us tune our hearts to You. Give us the humility of Solomon to admit where we are overwhelmed and need Your guidance. Surround us with wise people who point us toward Christ. Teach us to seek You in the ordinary moments of our days, and give us courage to remove whatever keeps us from hearing Your voice. May Your wisdom shape our desires, decisions, relationships, and worship this week. In Jesus' name, amen.