

Character Counts
Proverbs 1:20-33 & others

Introduction:

I. God's Wisdom is calling! [Prov 1:20-21]



II. WHEN GOD'S WISDOM CALLS YOU, YOUR RESPONSE REVEALS YOU. (Prov 1:22-33)

1. The **Simple:** _____ God's wisdom.
(cf. Psalm 19:7; 119:130; Proverbs 1:32; 7:7; 8:5; 9:4-6, 13-16; 14:15, 18; 19:25; 21:11; 22:3; 27:12)

2. The **Fool:** _____ God's wisdom.
(cf. Proverbs 1:7, 32; 10:21, 23; 12:15, 23; 14:16; 15:14; 18:2; 22:23; 26:11; 28:26)

3. The **Scoffer:** _____ God's wisdom.
(cf. Proverbs 3:7, 34; 14:6, 9; 15:12; 19:28-29; 21:24; 22:10; 24:9; Isaiah 29:20)

4. The **Wise:** _____ God's wisdom.
(cf. Proverbs 1:5, 33; 3:13; 9:8-9; 10:8, 14; 12:15; 13:1; 14:16; 15:31; 18:15; 21:11)

WHEN GOD'S WISDOM CALLS YOU, YOUR RESPONSE REVEALS YOU!

Group Discussion Questions

1. Read Proverbs 1:20-23. What are some of the primary ways God's wisdom "calls" to us today? What makes it easy for us to hear God's wisdom but not actually respond to it?
2. Read Proverbs 1:22 & 14:15. Where are you most tempted to be spiritually passive or willfully ignorant? How can neglecting God's wisdom be just as dangerous as deliberately rejecting it?
3. Read Proverbs 12:15 & 28:16. Where do you see the tendency to reject God's wisdom – in our culture? In yourself? What are some warning signs that we have begun trusting our own judgment more than God's Word?
4. Read Proverbs 3:7 & 21:24. How can disagreement with God become arrogance, or even hostility toward His truth? Why is humility essential to receive God's wisdom?
5. Read Proverbs 9:8-9 & 15:31. One mark of the Wise is being receptive—not only to God's counsel, but also to God's correction. How well do you receive correction? What does your response when someone corrects you reveal about your character?
6. Of the four responses: Neglect, Reject, Disrespect, Accept – How might your response to God's wisdom be shaping the person you are becoming?
7. The sermon ended by connecting the "tree of life" in Proverbs 3:18 to Jesus, who died on the *tree* to give us *life* (Gen 2:9; Rev 22:2; Gal 3:13). How does following Jesus involve more than simply *knowing* what is wise? See 1 Cor 1:23-24, 30.
8. Of the four responses—Simple, Fool, Scoffer, Wise—which one most challenges you? What is one specific way you will respond differently to God's wisdom this week?