



ENGAGE

Break the Ice: (The purpose of these first questions is to help your group open up. Please don't feel like you have to ask each question. You may even have a better question. Once you feel that the group is engaged, move on to the "Inspire" section.)

- Share some of the truth and wisdom that your parents or grandparents taught you.
- What did God teach you during the message this weekend? Did anything in particular stand out?

Prayer: Take some time to pray for God's Spirit to speak to your group through His Word.

INSPIRE

(Since the group may need time to process each question, don't let silence scare you. Try to avoid filling the space with unnecessary explanation or moving on from the question too quickly.)

1. Read Proverbs 4:1-9.
 - What jumps out at you from these verses?
 - What is the outcome in our lives when we gain godly wisdom? What changes?
 - Discuss what the world's wisdom looks like to a 20-year-old, 30-year-old, 50-year-old, etc.
2. When passing along wisdom to the next generation, what order of importance (greatest to least) would you place the following: Open communication; Setting a good example; Sharing a list of Do's and Don'ts; Let them make mistakes.
3. Read Proverbs 4:10-19.
 - From these verses, what does Proverbs promise us will happen when we seek wisdom? And what happens if we don't?
 - Phil pointed out that sin begins with curiosity, but ends in slavery. Why do you think this is true?
 - How does our world interpret sin? Does the world view sin as slavery? Why or why not?
3. Read Proverbs 4:20-23.
 - Describe how the heart is the wellspring of life.
4. Read Matthew 12:34-35 and Luke 6:45.
 - Do you put much thought into protecting your heart?
 - Phil said, "A sin takeover does not necessitate a conscious decision to willingly go down the path of destruction; a sin takeover doesn't need our permission. It simply needs us to let down our guard." How does Phil's statement about sin challenge you?

5. Read Proverbs 4:23-27.

We not only need to be sensitive to worldly things we want to guard against, we also must be intentional about engaging in the disciplines that will transform our heart to reflect the heart of Jesus.

- Where are you tempted to swerve to the right or to the left?
- What do you need to do now to keep your eyes looking straight ahead?
- What are you doing to intentionally fill yourself up with the knowledge of Christ and His way?



EQUIP

(These questions will challenge your group members to apply the study to their daily lives. It is highly important that you go over this section with your group each week for the group study to be a success. Set aside 10-15 minutes at the end of your study to go over this section.)

Using a driving motif as it applies to your pursuit of Biblical wisdom, which best describes you:

- a) Just me and road
- b) Off-road thrill seeker
- c) Driving with a learners permit
- d) Demolition derby
- e) Chugging along in my 18-wheeler
- f) Out of gas
- g) Strictly thumbing and bumming

Prayer:

Take some time to pray over each group member's identified action steps and life issues.

Equip Your Mind:

"Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life." (Proverbs 4:23, ESV)