

## Big Idea

If wisdom is at the top of God's list, it needs to be at the top of our list. Knowledge understands God but wisdom walks with God. Today, the goal is to help understand the book of Proverbs.

### 4 Types of People in Proverbs:

1. The Simple. This is the person that is naïve and is without wisdom. The cure for the simple is time.
2. The Fool. They know what to do, but they're not going to do it. The cure for the fool is tragedy.
3. The Mocker. They will intimidate, criticize, and manipulate in order to get people to do what they want. The only cure for mockers is God.
4. The Wise. The quality of a wise person is that they are teachable.

There is a little bit of simple in all of us. We all need godly people in our lives who we can talk through things with and receive counsel about the things to which we are ignorant. There's also a little bit of a fool in all of us. Unfortunately, fools learn the hard way. Every tragedy carries with it, a lesson equal in significance to its heartbreak. Fortunately, there is a purpose for your pain and God will use it. We want to be the fourth kind of person – the wise. Wise people are teachable.

*Correct the simple and they won't get you. Correct the fool and they will ignore you. Correct the mocker and they will hate you. Correct the wise and they will thank you.*

The fear of the Lord is the place to start – your view of God. Three declarations to teach you what the fear of the Lord actually is: *God is awesome. God is holy. God is right.* A word of wisdom: When I grasp what it means to fear God, I can live fearlessly.

## Scripture

- "Wisdom is supreme; therefore, get wisdom. Though it cost you all you have, get understanding" Proverbs 4:7
- "I saw among the simple, I noticed among the young men, a youth who had no sense" Proverbs 7:7
- "A fool find pleasure in wicked schemes..." Proverbs 10:23
- "Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still; teach the righteous and they will add to their learning" Proverbs 9:9

## Discussion Question

- Can you identify areas in your life where you are currently ignorant or foolish? What steps do you need to take to gain wisdom in those areas?
- Have you ever experienced a mocker? Have you been one? Please share.
- Does your view of the Lord need to be adjusted? Do you fear the Lord according to the 3 declarations given?

## Prayer Focus

Father, we thank you for who you are – awesome, holy, and right! Help us to grasp what it means to fear you. We lift our level of respect and declare that you are King. We side with you and your word and we trust you with it all. In Jesus mighty name, amen.

## Next Steps

- What's one practical step you can take this week to move one step?
- Spend time this week enjoying God through song, prayer and scripture. Create an environment to experience God by finding a quiet place where you can sing and pray out loud.

## Leader Tip

Encourage transparency in your group by sharing which of these truths spoke the most to you this week. Share what you're walking through and how God is speaking to you in your current season.