



wise

women

LIVE!

DISCIPLEMAKERS' WOMEN'S CONFERENCE 2020

Contents

Schedule	3
Main Session 1: <i>The Beginning of Wisdom</i>	5
Main Session 2: <i>The Call of Wisdom</i>	7
Workshop 1: <i>What Do I Do Now? Making Wise Decisions</i>	8
Workshop 2: <i>Sticks & Stones & Dynamite: The Real Power of Gossip</i>	13
Main Session 3: <i>Leading a Life of Wisdom</i>	17

Schedule

Friday

7:00 p.m. Welcome and worship

7:20 p.m. **Main session**
The Beginning of Wisdom—Proverbs 1:1–9 (Shannon Fodale)

8:15 p.m. Small group discussion

Saturday

10:30 a.m. Welcome and worship

10:45 a.m. **Main session**
The Call of Wisdom—Proverbs 1:20–2:8 (Jenny Fitch)

11:30 a.m. Small group discussion

Break

1:30 p.m. **Workshop**
What Do I Do Now?—Making Wise Decisions (Sarah Evans)

2:45 p.m. **Workshop**
Sticks & Stones & Dynamite: The Real Power of Gossip (Ali Hallman and Kate Wetzel)

4:00 p.m. Small group discussion

Break

7:00 p.m. Welcome back and worship

7:15 p.m. **Main session**
Leading a Life of Wisdom—Proverbs 9 (Megan Royes)

8:05 p.m. Worship and closing thoughts

Proverbs 1:1–9

The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel:

²To know wisdom and instruction,

to understand words of insight,

³ to receive instruction in wise dealing,

in righteousness, justice, and equity;

⁴ to give prudence to the simple,

knowledge and discretion to the youth—

⁵ Let the wise hear and increase in learning,

and the one who understands obtain guidance,

⁶ to understand a proverb and a saying,

the words of the wise and their riddles.

⁷ The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge;

fools despise wisdom and instruction.

⁸ Hear, my son, your father's instruction,

and forsake not your mother's teaching,

⁹ for they are a graceful garland for your head

and pendants for your neck.

I. Wisdom's Blessing

Wisdom blesses with _____ and _____.

II. Wisdom's Division

Wisdom divides people into those who _____ wisdom's path and those who _____ the path of wisdom.

III. Wisdom's Source

Wisdom is _____.

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge” Prov 1:7

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.” Prov 9:10

Proverbs 1:20–2:8

Wisdom cries aloud in the street,
in the markets she raises her voice;
²¹ at the head of the noisy streets she cries out;
at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:
²² “How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple?
How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing
and fools hate knowledge?
²³ If you turn at my reproof,[a]
behold, I will pour out my spirit to you;
I will make my words known to you.
²⁴ Because I have called and you refused to listen,
have stretched out my hand and no one has heeded,
²⁵ because you have ignored all my counsel
and would have none of my reproof,
²⁶ I also will laugh at your calamity;
I will mock when terror strikes you,
²⁷ when terror strikes you like a storm
and your calamity comes like a whirlwind,
when distress and anguish come upon you.
²⁸ Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer;
they will seek me diligently but will not find me.
²⁹ Because they hated knowledge
and did not choose the fear of the Lord,
³⁰ would have none of my counsel
and despised all my reproof,
³¹ therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way,
and have their fill of their own devices.
³² For the simple are killed by their turning away,
and the complacency of fools destroys them;
³³ but whoever listens to me will dwell secure
and will be at ease, without dread of disaster.”

2:1 My son, if you receive my words
and treasure up my commandments with you,
² making your ear attentive to wisdom
and inclining your heart to understanding;
³ yes, if you call out for insight
and raise your voice for understanding,
⁴ if you seek it like silver
and search for it as for hidden treasures,
⁵ then you will understand the fear of the Lord
and find the knowledge of God.
⁶ For the Lord gives wisdom;
from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;
⁷ he stores up sound wisdom for the upright;
he is a shield to those who walk in integrity,
⁸ guarding the paths of justice
and watching over the way of his saints.

“There is no third way between wisdom and folly, and there is no second chance between life and death.”
Bruce Waltke in *The Book of Proverbs*

I. Wisdom's Call (1:20–23)

II. The Cost of Ignoring Wisdom's Call (1:24–32)

III. How to Receive Wisdom's Call (1:33–2:8)

A. Listen humbly (v.33)

B. Pursue eagerly (vv.1–8)

Wise Decisions are Rooted in the Word.

Wise Decisions Consider the Path

Proverbs 2:6-8

For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity, guarding the paths of justice and watching over the way of his saints.

Proverbs 14:12

There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

Proverbs 22:3 & 27:12

The prudent sees danger and hides himself, but the simple go on and suffer for it.

Wise Decisions are Made in Community

Proverbs 11:14

In an abundance of counselors there is safety.

Proverbs 12:15

The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.

Proverbs 18:1

Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire; he breaks out against all sound judgement.

Wise Decisions Acknowledge God's Sovereignty

Proverbs 16:9

The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps.

Proverbs 16:33

The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision comes from the LORD.

Proverbs 19:21

Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand.

The Wise Decision-Making Flowchart:

Case Study Notes:

What Should I Do Now? Wise Decision-Making Case Studies

1. Jenna is a senior microbio major. She wants to be a vet and is considering grad schools. Her family strongly desires her to stay close to home. Her home church is okay, but doesn't have a clear value on disciple-making. Her second option is one of the nation's best 3 year vet programs, but there are no gospel-preaching churches within an hour drive. The third program is in the Midwest, and a friend mentioned a solid, gospel-preaching church within biking distance of the school. What should Jenna consider when making her decision? How can she honor the Lord in her choice?
2. Danielle is a finance major and has been accepted to two internship opportunities for the summer and she has one week to decide which she will do. The first option is a ten-week training and discipleship program in campus ministry. The second is to intern with an investment firm. What decision does Danielle make?
3. Noel became a Christian about a year ago. Following Jesus has been a tough but life-giving process as she has had to let go of a lot of old habits to embrace her new life with Jesus. One of those old habits was hooking up on Tindr and trying to find fulfillment in sex. Kyle is another student at her school who she met on Tindr and formed a complicated relationship with him. She hasn't talked with him in months, but today she ran into him. He asked her if she wanted to come study with him in the library. She agreed and they chatted for a while and studied. After a while Kyle asked if she wanted to come back to his place and just hang out. Noel reasons that she's been doing fine just chatting here and tells him she's glad to come over, but only for a little while because she's different now and doesn't want things to be like they were before. Kyle agrees. Did Noel make a wise choice? Why or why not?
4. Mia is a spiritually mature junior. She has been dating Jeremy, a spiritually mature senior, for a while. They have a healthy relationship, and Jeremy has mentioned engagement. There isn't anything wrong, Mia just isn't sure if that is what she wants. How should Mia wisely think through this decision?
5. Joy just turned 21 and is invited to go out for drinks with some unbelieving classmates. What wisdom should she consider before making her decision?
6. Maria is a nursing student struggling to keep up with the course load and extra paperwork from clinical, so she often stays up all night to do the work in order to get an A. She isn't procrastinating, it's just literally too much. How can Maria approach this problem wisely and respond in a way that honors the Lord?

Scripture for *Sticks & Stones & Dynamite* workshop

Genesis 1:1–5

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

John 11:43–44

When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.” The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Romans 10:9

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Proverbs 18:21

Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.

Matthew 12:36–37

I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.

Proverbs 15:4

A gentle tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.

Proverbs 16:24

Gracious words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body.

Luke 6:43–45

For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, for each tree is known by its own fruit. For figs are not gathered from thornbushes, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

Psalms 101:5

Whoever slanders his neighbor secretly I will destroy...

Proverbs 10:18

The one who conceals hatred has lying lips, and whoever utters slander is a fool.

Proverbs 18:8

The words of a whisperer are like delicious morsels; they go down into the inner parts of the body.

Proverbs 12:18

There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts

Proverbs 25:18

A man who bears false witness against his neighbor is like a war club, or a sword, or a sharp arrow.

Proverbs 11:9

With his mouth the godless man would destroy his neighbor

Proverbs 16:28

A perverse person stirs up conflict, and a gossip separates close friends

James 3:5–6

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell.

John 1:1–2, 14, 16

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth... For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

Ephesians 4:29–32

Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

I. Gossip: would we know it if we saw it?

II. What does the Bible say about words?

- A. Genesis 1:1–5

- B. John 11:43–44

- C. Romans 10:9

- D. Proverbs 18:21

- E. Matthew 12:36–37

III. What IS gossip?

Destructive words against others, spoken in secret, that overflow from a sinful heart.

- A. From a sinful heart
 - 1. God told us to use words for LIFE: Prov. 15:4, 16:24, Col. 3:16

 - 2. But we use them for DEATH: Prov. 15:4, 18:21

- B. That overflow: Luke 6:43–45

C. Spoken in secret: Psalm 101:5, Prov. 10:18, 18:8

D. Destructive words against others

1. Violence and wounds: Prov. 12:18, 25:18

2. Breaking relationships: Prov. 11:9, 16:28

3. Irreparable damage: James 3:5–6

IV. What is the remedy?

V. What do we do now? Questions to diagnose our hearts:

A. Am I remembering WHO is on the throne?

B. Am I remembering the GOSPEL?

C. Am I remembering my MISSION to speak LIFE? Ephesians 4:29-32

D. Do I want to: (LIFE) Or do I want to: (DEATH)

E. Reject it!

1. Run to Jesus and repent

2. Make a choice to speak LIFE

3. Set some standards

VI. Work it out!

Proverbs 9

Wisdom has built her house;

she has hewn her seven pillars.

² She has slaughtered her beasts; she has mixed her wine;
she has also set her table.

³ She has sent out her young women to call
from the highest places in the town,

⁴ “Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!”
To him who lacks sense she says,

⁵ “Come, eat of my bread
and drink of the wine I have mixed.

⁶ Leave your simple ways, and live,
and walk in the way of insight.”

⁷ Whoever corrects a scoffer gets himself abuse,
and he who reproves a wicked man incurs injury.

⁸ Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you;
reprove a wise man, and he will love you.

⁹ Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser;
teach a righteous man, and he will increase in
learning.

¹⁰ The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,
and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

¹¹ For by me your days will be multiplied,
and years will be added to your life.

¹² If you are wise, you are wise for yourself;
if you scoff, you alone will bear it.

¹³ The woman Folly is loud;
she is seductive and knows nothing.

¹⁴ She sits at the door of her house;
she takes a seat on the highest places of the town,

¹⁵ calling to those who pass by,
who are going straight on their way,

¹⁶ “Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!”
And to him who lacks sense she says,

¹⁷ “Stolen water is sweet,
and bread eaten in secret is pleasant.”

¹⁸ But he does not know that the dead are there,
that her guests are in the depths of Sheol.

To search for wisdom apart from Christ is not simply foolhardiness, but utter insanity.
John Calvin

I. Listen Carefully: Two Competing Calls

II. Look Closely: Three Subtle Differences

A. A Lack of Activity

B. A Compromised View of God's Word

C. A Hidden Cost

III. Know Yourself: One Vital Test