



Proverbs 4

wisdom rewards

PREPARATION BEFORE THE GROUP MEETS:

The aim of this preparation is to encourage good & prayerful observation of the text of God's word and the joyful experience of discovering its truth.

Pray & read Proverbs chapter 4

What stands out in this reading?

What puzzles you about this reading?

How does this reading make you **feel**?

What do you **think** in response to this reading?

What will you **do** in response to this reading?

When you meet together – pray for understanding and a humble heart

Introduction – Rewards – What kinds of things do you find rewarding? What do you expect from God in terms of rewards (when, what, why etc.)?

read Proverbs 4.1-9

- How is the son to get wisdom? What should he be willing to let wisdom cost him? What will wisdom bring him?
- How are you getting wisdom? How is gaining wisdom costly for you? What is this wisdom bringing you?

read Proverbs 4.10-19

- Discuss the two paths – the way of wisdom and the way of wickedness. What stands out to you? What do you think and feel in response to the contrasting picture language associated with the way of wisdom and the way of wickedness?
- **read Matthew 7.13-14** – Do you think that the narrow and broad paths that Jesus refers to are the way of wisdom and the way of wickedness from Proverbs? Why/why not?
- **read Colossians 2.3** – If you want to pursue wisdom who do you have to know?
- **read 1 Corinthians 1.18-31** – If you want to pursue wisdom what do you have to know?
- **Read Colossians 1.25-28** – what happens when we pursue this wisdom? How is the pursuit of wisdom bringing maturity for you?

read Proverbs 4.20-27

- How active is the pursuit of wisdom (nb. v10, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 23-27)? Do these actions describe you? Write down one action you identify as something to train yourself to not do and one thing to do:

with God's help this week I will train myself to not _____

with God's help this week I will train myself to _____

- **PRAY!** For the conviction, courage and commitment to pursue wisdom. Give thanks to God for what his wisdom promises for this life and the life to come.