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SERIES TITLE: The Wiser Way

Sermon Title: Where Wisdom Begins

Introduction

This week, we begin our series, “The Wiser Way.” Everyone wants a better life, but not everyone chooses the wiser way. The book of Proverbs shows us that wisdom isn’t just knowledge, it’s a way of living that leads to life, clarity, and direction. In this series, we’ll explore where wisdom begins, how to guard your heart, why your words matter, what it means to trust God, and how discipline shapes your future.

Main Idea: Wisdom is not just about gaining more information, but about being transformed by seeing life from God’s perspective and living in trusting reverence toward Him. The foundation of true wisdom is letting God shape how we think, live, and become who He calls us to be.

Key Scriptures: Proverbs 1:1-7

DISCUSSION

Share a “What was I thinking?” moment from your life—something funny, embarrassing, or a decision you later questioned. What did you learn about yourself through it?

Read Proverbs 1:1-7

DISCUSSION & REFLECTION

Wisdom vs. Information

- Proverbs teaches that “the fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge.” How would you describe the difference between having information and having wisdom?
- In your daily life—at work, with family, or in making decisions—where do you see the gap between what you know and how you act?
- Jesus said, *“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.”* (Matthew 7:24, NIV)
Where do you find it hardest to move from knowing to actually doing?

Trust and Control

- The group heard, “Every foolish decision starts by believing the same lie—that my way is better than God’s way.”
Looking at your own life, where do you find it hardest to trust God’s way over your own? Are there areas you’re tempted to keep control?
- What does “the fear of the LORD” look like in practical, everyday terms? Is it fear, awe, respect, or something else?
- Reflect on this: *“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.”* (Proverbs 3:5-6, NIV)
What helps you trust God when you don’t see the whole path ahead?

Wisdom in Relationships and Work

- Proverbs 1:3 highlights doing "what is right and just and fair."
What does living wisely look like in your relationships—with your spouse, kids, friends, or coworkers? Can you think of a time when wisdom changed the outcome of a difficult situation?
- For those in leadership (at home, work, or church), how does wisdom shape your approach to responsibility?
- How does humility play a role in gaining wisdom? Proverbs 1:5 says, "let the wise listen and add to their learning." What does it look like to remain teachable as an adult?

Learning from Mistakes

- Everyone has "What was I thinking?" moments. How do you process regret or past mistakes in light of God's grace?
- "God's goal is not information, but transformation."
What are some practical steps you can take to let God's wisdom transform you this week?

APPLICATION & PRAYER

- Next Steps:
Is there a decision or area of your life right now where you need to seek wisdom? What's one step you'll take this week to listen for God's voice or apply wisdom?
- Group Prayer:
Invite the group to pray for one another, asking for open hearts to God's wisdom and courage to trust Him, especially in areas where it's hardest.

CLOSING NOTE

Remember, wisdom isn't about having all the answers—it's about trusting the One who does. Each decision is a chance to walk the wiser way.