

the Language of Belief

ALLEGiance

WISDOM

RIGHTEDNESS

UNITY

MISSION OF A

JUSTICE

Reclaiming the Words that Shape our Faith.

Life Group
Discussion
Guide

10/18/2026

Sermon Summary: In this week's sermon, Pastor Tim defines wisdom as learning to see life from God's perspective and living accordingly. Through Proverbs, Colossians 3, and Jesus' parable of the wise and foolish builders, we discover that wisdom isn't simply knowing the right thing to do, but allowing God's Word to shape our decisions, relationships, and actions. Too often, our pride, fear, or desire to be right can drown out God's direction, leaving us confident in choices that lead us astray. Yet the foundation of Christian wisdom is not our ability to make perfect decisions, but the grace of Jesus Christ, who has already forgiven us and made us new. Because we are loved by Christ, we are free to approach others with compassion, humility, patience, and forgiveness. Pastor Tim encourages us to practice the three Ps; Pause, Pray, and Proceed, as a way of seeking God's wisdom in everyday situations, trusting that Christ will guide our next faithful step.

Conversation Starter: What's a piece of advice you initially resisted but eventually realized was wise?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, we come before You knowing that our understanding is limited, but Your wisdom is not. Open our hearts to Your Word and help us recognize the voices that compete for our attention. As we gather, teach us to listen with humility, speak with grace, and trust in Your guidance. May our conversation draw us closer to You and to one another. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Read Scripture together: Colossians 3:1–17, Proverbs 3:5–6, Matthew 7:24–27

3-Question Study Method

Use this method to understand the passage.

1. What is the passage about?
2. What do I learn about God?
3. What is the lesson I learn that I can apply to my life?

Discussion Questions:

- Pastor Tim defines wisdom as "learning to see life from God's perspective and to live accordingly." Which part of that definition do you find more challenging, and why?
- Proverbs 3 tells us not to lean on our own understanding. How can we distinguish between trusting the judgment God has given us and relying too heavily on ourselves?
- Pastor Tim reminds us that our irritation, fear, and need to be right can all influence our decisions. How can we recognize when these emotions are directing us instead of God's wisdom?
- In Colossians 3, Paul reminds believers that they have been raised with Christ before instructing them how to live. Why does the order of grace before obedience matter?
- Pastor Tim suggests asking, "I wonder what they're carrying today?" when someone treats us poorly. How might this perspective change our response without excusing hurtful behavior?
- Paul calls us to clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Which of these virtues do you think has most potential for Christians to engage in deeper with one another today?
- Jesus describes the wise builder as someone who both hears His words and puts them into practice. What is the difference between knowing Scripture and allowing it to become the foundation of our lives?
- If wisdom means seeing life from God's perspective, how do we guard against confusing God's perspective with our own deeply held convictions? What role should Scripture, humility, and Christian community play in challenging what we believe to be right?
 - Note - *This question invites the group to examine how easily we can mistake personal certainty for spiritual wisdom. Encourage participants to consider how Christians can hold firm convictions while remaining open to correction. The goal isn't to suggest that God's truth is uncertain, but to acknowledge that our understanding of it can be imperfect.*

Memory Verse: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding."
— Proverbs 3:5 (NIV)

Closing Prayer: Gracious God, thank You for loving us even when we take the wrong turns. Forgive us when pride, fear, or frustration guides our actions more than Your Word. Help us to pause, pray, and proceed with humility and compassion. Remind us that our foundation rests not in our wisdom, but in Christ and His grace. Guide our steps this week as we seek to live faithfully in Your love. Amen.