

Finding God's Will: Wise Counsel - Week 4

Luke 1:5-7, 1:26-45, Proverbs 1:5, 15:22

BELONG

Ask this Ice Breaker Question: What is the best advice you have ever received and who gave it to you?

BELIEVE

Have someone in your group read aloud: Luke 1:5-7, Luke 1:26-45

- 1. Why do you think Mary went to see Elizabeth? What response did Elizabeth have? How could she have known this information?**
- 2. Read Luke 1:6 in a couple of different translations (New Living Translation or the Living Bible for example. You can find these on the YouVersion Bible App). What do we know about Elizabeth from this verse? Do you think this would make her a person who would give wise counsel? Why or why not?**
- 3. Who do you know that is careful to obey God? What have you learned from them?**

Leader Context (Not to be read aloud):

Mary and Elizabeth were cousins, and both had something extraordinary happen to them. In the story of the birth of Jesus, we also find out about the miraculous birth of John the Baptist who would go before Jesus and "prepare the way." (Luke 1:13-17) Elizabeth is much older and a woman who is righteous before God and walked with Him blamelessly. Mary likely knew this about her cousin and sought her out possibly as a source of encouragement during her early pregnancy.

Have someone in your group read aloud Proverbs 1:5, Proverbs 15:22

- 4. According to Proverbs 1:5 and 15:22 how are we to gain wisdom and help ensure that our plans will not fail? Have you found this to be true in your own life? Share a time when you sought the wisdom of counselors, and they helped you navigate a tough decision or season in your life.**

Leader Context (Not to be read aloud):



The book of Proverbs was written primarily by Solomon around 950-750BC. It is considered a wisdom book (along with Job and Ecclesiastes) that helps us answer questions like "why and how" regarding the ways of God and the purpose of life. Solomon tells us in chapter 1 the purpose of the book is to "become wise." It is interesting to consider that part of that journey involves seeking wise and godly counsel and guidance as we seek to follow the ways of God.

BECOME:

Over the past couple of weeks, we have talked about how to know God's will. Pastor David taught us that it is effective to line up these 3 poles when it comes to this process:

1. The Word of God
2. The Witness of the Holy Spirit
3. Godly Counsel

1. Considering the previous two weeks, how do you know if someone has given you godly counsel?

2. What is one step you can take this week to seek out true godly counsel that will point you to the Word of God and align with the witness of the Holy Spirit?

3. How can you prepare your own heart to be a source of godly counsel for someone else?

Close by praying together.