

City Nights

Youth.

DATE

September 17th, 2025

SERIES

Bible Breakdown-Proverbs: Week Two

BEFORE GROUP

BOTTOM LINE:

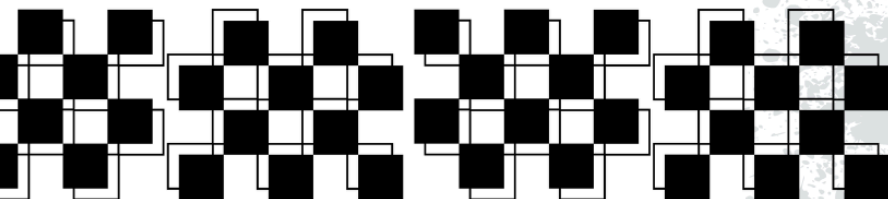
Following the way of Jesus isn't just about "right" and "wrong", it's about seeking the next wise decision.

SCRIPTURE:

- Proverbs 13:20
- Proverbs 8:1-5
- 1 Corinthians 15:33

GOAL OF COMMUNITY GROUPS:

To help students see wisdom as more than just "right" or "wrong", and to be mindful of the company they surround themselves with.



THINK ABOUT THIS:

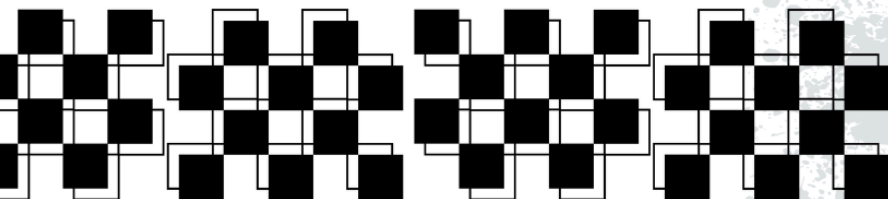
This week we want students to understand that Proverbs isn't just about rules or right vs. wrong, it's about the *spectrum of wisdom vs. foolishness*. Many choices in life aren't technically sinful, but they may not be wise. Wisdom is about making decisions that honor God, build character, and shape your life in a positive way, while foolishness leads to harm over time. Encourage students to think beyond "Is this allowed?" and ask "Is this wise?" as they evaluate their own choices and the influences around them.

Proverbs 13:20 says, *"Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm."* This verse is especially relevant for high schoolers because their friendships strongly influence their hearts, habits, and decisions. Wise friends draw us closer to Christ, provide encouragement and accountability, and model godly living. Foolish companions can slowly pull us away from God through compromise, distraction, or poor decisions. The goal isn't to avoid non-believers or isolate them from the world, but to identify who has *deep influence* over your heart and life.

As you lead, keep the conversation practical and relatable. Ask students to share real examples of friends who have encouraged wise decisions or, conversely, led them into foolish choices. Challenge them to reflect on their own role: *Am I walking in a way that helps others grow in wisdom? Am I a wise friend or a harmful influence?* Remind them that God calls us not just to avoid sin, but to actively pursue wisdom and surround ourselves with people who do the same.

This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here. The goal is to get students verbally engaging, NOT to get through everything in the curriculum.

DURING COMMUNITY GROUP



HIGH/LOWS & OPENING

Begin with highs & lows from their week after they introduce each other. Really take this time to listen and ask questions to show you are interested in their lives.

QUESTIONS:

Begin with highs & lows from their week after they introduce each other. Really take this time to listen and ask questions to show you are interested in their lives.

ICEBREAKER:

If you could be friends with one fictional character, who would it be?

SCRIPTURE/VIDEO DISCUSSION:

(Some groups may watch the video to begin Group time and then break off into their smaller groups, and that's okay)

DISCUSS THIS

1. What's the difference between being "smart" and being "wise"? How have you seen that play out in real life?
2. What's an example of something that isn't technically "wrong," but might not be very wise? Is it easier for you to think of the things you do as "right"/"wrong", or "wise"/"foolish"?
3. Proverbs 13:20 says, "Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise." When you think about your closest friends, how do you see them shaping the kind of person you're becoming?
4. Proverbs 13:20 also warns that "the companion of fools will suffer harm." Have you ever seen someone (maybe even yourself) get pulled into bad decisions just because of the people they were around?
5. What do you think it looks like for you to have friendships with people who don't follow Jesus while still staying strong in your faith?
6. What does a "wise friend" look like to you? If your friends described you, would they say you're the kind of person who points them toward God? Why or why not?
7. If you're honest, do your closest relationships push you closer to God or pull you away? What's one step you could take this week, either in a friendship you need to lean into, or one where you might need some better boundaries?

