

## Small Group Discussion Guide

“Two Calls. Two Responses.”

Louie

1-1-12



### Discussion Points

#### Big Idea:

“Being wise or being a fool depends on your choices.”

#### Main Text:

Proverbs 9

- “Wisdom offers a future, a call to maturity, and in a word, life. Waywardness only offers the immediate pleasure of good things enjoyed outside their intended boundaries, hiding the fact that such pleasure brings death.”

Give a couple examples of how you chose to pursue wisdom and life in the past year. Give examples of how you chose waywardness. How did those choices bring death?

As you enter the new year, are you primarily on the road to wisdom or waywardness? Why do you say that? What do you need in order to choose wisdom more intently and consistently this year?

- Read Proverbs 9:1-6. In verse 3 the word “highest” means wisdom is set in a visible and central place. It’s an open invitation to come and find life. The proverb is trying to prevent disaster in our lives. What choices are you tempted to make that could take you on the road to disaster if you keep going that way? Will you let your group know (or your leader) in order to forsake those temptations and embrace wisdom’s invitation to life?
- Read Proverbs 9:7-9. How do you respond to correction? Do you tend to respond like a mocker or a wise person? Why do you think you respond that way? Give examples.
- Louie showed a DVD. Men were interviewed who had done extensive research on men who chose a lifestyle that ended up in prison. While many had horrendous backgrounds, they also had siblings who faced the same challenges but chose a different life style. The point—It isn’t primarily about our backgrounds. It’s about our heart and about what errors we believe. It’s about having a willingness to face those lies and make choices that correct our direction.

How do you discern truth from lies? Give examples of lies you tend to believe and how you have come to discern them. How do you turn from them in order to embrace truth? If you don’t do that, do you want to? Why or why not?

- Read and reflect on Proverbs 9:10-12. Wisdom’s first course is the fear of God. This is an invitation to know the Holy One. That’s understanding. Knowing/fearing God (awe/obedience and intimacy/love) is the only way to grow in wisdom.

How do you cultivate your fear of God? How do you grow in personal relationship with him?

- Review the hand out by John Morrow. Talk about how you can use that information to help you grow.