

Small Group Discussion Guide

“When the Child is On Their Own”
Louie
1-8-12

Big Idea:

“Know the difference between
the good and the bad.”

Main Text:

Proverbs 10



Discussion Points

- Proverbs 10:1 says, “A wise son brings joy to his father, but a foolish son grief to his mother.” Life choices cause others to rejoice or grieve.

What life choices (yours or your children) have caused you to rejoice? To grieve?
- Read and reflect on 1 Kings 11:9-11. This is tragic. And if it happened to Solomon, it can happen to us.

What “false gods” are you tempted to follow and cause you to disobey the Lord?

Talk about how your small group may be able help you turn from these gods and fully embrace the Lord.
- Reflect and think aloud on how this Proverb applies to you *personally*—“The Lord does not let the righteous go hungry but He thwarts the craving of the wicked” (Prov. 10:3).
- “Proverbs 10 is concerned with the question, ‘What is a wise child?’ These verses answer that a wise child is concerned about honor—honor for oneself, but more important, honor for the family, that it not be shamed.”

Would you say your life has honored your parents or dishonored them? Why do you say that?

If you have children, have they honored you or shamed you by their life choices?

What do you most desire from God as you reflect on all this?
- Louie interviewed Pat and Sandie Thomson. As Pat and Sandie applied the Word of God to their marriage, they came up with these guiding principles:
 1. Trust each other
 2. Have mutual respect for one another
 3. Resolve conflict as soon as possible
 4. Have an “open heart policy” (Don’t harbor secrets!)
 5. Communicate, communicate, communicate
 6. Realize that you are the keeper of your spouse’s emotional security

Which of the above are most helpful to you and why?

What have you learned from God’s Word that helps you maintain godly relationships?