

God's plan to win your battles.

Session 2: Old Testament Writings



Overview:

Theme: God is our Wisdom.

The next five books of the Bible from Job through Song of Solomon show God as the source of our wisdom. The difference between man's wisdom and God's wisdom is:

- 1. Man's wisdom changes. The variety of How-To books are a good example of man's wisdom.
- 2. God's wisdom shows us the truth, and contains applied knowledge for skillful living.

Truth occurs in the Bible more than 200 times. The Bible is the most influential piece of literature written in all of history.

We are all in a battle and need some reinforcement. The Old Testament Writings (Wisdom books) give us that. Job and Psalms speaks of the sovereignty of God, the fear of the Lord, worship and suffering. Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon are written from the three different stages of Solomon's life and contain life truths. (Proverbs = wise, Ecclesiastes = old age, Song of Solomon = youth).

Key Concepts: Wisdom, Fear of the Lord, Suffering, Sovereignty of God, Worship

- **Wisdom** is the knowledge and understanding we can apply to our own lives, and it gives us a sense of God's own heart.
- **Fear of the Lord** is a reverence, humility and submission to God. It is the beginning of wisdom, which comes from obedience to God and the acknowledgement that God's ways lead to life and freedom.
- **Suffering** No one is exempt and we don't have control over it, but we can choose how to face it when we turn to God.
- **Sovereignty of God** means that God is involved in all things and for His divine purpose which is good. This brings us peace knowing God is sovereign, in control, and can be trusted in all things.
- **Worship** means worthy of reverence, helps point us to God, is an act of giving and sacrifice, and a weapon against evil.

Bible Study Guide:

- 1. Watch the video for session 2.
- 2. Discuss the review questions on page 69 with your group or as personal review.
- 3. Personal study: Complete the reading and reflection in the workbook for each day.

Personal Study Questions Old Testament Writings

Day 1: Wisdom from Job.

One of Satan's main goals is to get God's children to doubt His love and power. But God is sovereign in all areas of our lives, so we can trust Him and rest in His everlasting love. God always wants to bring us into a more personal and meaningful relationship with Him.

How has God spoken to you personally during times of suffering?

Day 2: Wisdom from Psalms.

The Psalms have always brought healing, help, and hope to people struggling under the difficulties of life.

What are some of your favorite Psalms in times of trouble, and how have they helped you?

Day 3: Wisdom from Proverbs.

Proverbs deals with our relationship with God and man. They are short, practical sayings that give us the wisdom we need to have healthy relationships with others and God, and cover all areas of our life.

What specific wisdom has God taught you from the Proverbs that has helped you to overcome a battle or fear in your life?

<u>Day 4: Wisdom from Ecclesiastes.</u>

Ecclesiastes is a philosophical book about man's search for a life of meaning or purpose, and concludes that only a life with God is meaningful.

What are the things in your life you consider most meaningful, and what are those things you need to stop chasing that have no lasting satisfaction?

<u>Day 5: Wisdom from Song of Solomon.</u>

God values faithfulness, and marital love is a gift from God. When troubles come, God is ready to forgive and restore our relationships through the power of His invincible love.

How has God restored His love to relationships in your life?

Battle Plan for Prayer: Session 2

For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding. He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk in integrity. (Proverbs 2:6-7)

Thank you, Lord, for providing for me. You are my comfort in times of suffering, the giver of wisdom for my daily life, the source of meaning and joy, and my shield of protection. I want to obey You so that I might have your wisdom and understanding to guide me in all areas of my life.