February 25 & 26, 2017 Week #1

GUARRAILS

A STUDY IN PROVERBS DISCUSSION GUIDE

Guardrails: Proverbs 1

February 25 & 26

OPENING QUESTIONS

- 1. What are some "proverbs," axioms, slogan, or clichés you use, repeat, or think of that are not in the Bible? (Example "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.") How are they useful or not?
- 2. In American culture today, where do you think most people turn to find wisdom, guidance, advice, and direction? What's good about that? What's scary about that?
- 3. What is one takeaway from Pastor Slack's message about which you would like to know more?

IN THE WORD

- 1. Read Proverbs 1:1-19.
- 2. Answer these questions about verses 1-7:
 - A. Who is the author and what do we know about him?
 - B. How is the purpose of the book described?
 - C. What is the theme for the whole book?
 - D. In what setting does Solomon intend for Proverbs to be used and understood?
- 3. What is "wisdom" according to these verses and how is it described?
- 4. How do verses 10-19 contrast sin's enticement with "wisdom"?
- 5. Allow time for everyone to summarize verses 1-7 and 10-19 (separately) into a couple of brief sentences or phrases. What is most important?

MAKING IT PERSONAL

- 1. Be honest and open what are one or two important areas in life in which you need wisdom?
- 2. To whom or where do you typically turn for wisdom and guidance? How well does this work?
- 3. Consider your family, children, grandchildren or others with whom you have influence. How are you providing them with wise and Godly counsel and advice? What more does God want you to do?
- 4. What specific sources has God provided for gaining wisdom and instruction? How often are you open to these sources?
- Spend some time in prayer (group or smaller groups) praying specifically for guidance and help through this "Guardrails" series. Pray for specific areas where you need help, wisdom and direction.

CONTINUED LEARNING...

- 1. As time allows, read all of Proverbs 1-3 and talk about what else you learn about God, wisdom, foolishness, and sin.
- 2. Quickly flip through the rest of the book of Proverbs. Which subjects will be most useful and relevant for you?
- 3. Commit to reading one chapter of Proverbs a day for the next 31 days (month) in order to read all 31 chapters.

Notes

