



Small Group Sermon Response Questions – Week of 5/4/14

Proverbs 1 – “Listen Like Your Life Depends On It”

(All people must intentionally pursue being wise listeners because the stakes are nothing short of eternal.)

1. Give some examples of when you have been like the communications officer of the *Titanic*, who ignored words of life-and-death significance in favor of other seemingly important messages. What noise of this world is drowning out the voice of "Lady Wisdom" in your life?
2. Consider verses 2-4 and 29-33. "Everything that we do in life is either a slap in the face of the Creator Who gave us life, or is an anthem of praise lifted up to this God Whose image we bear." What moments of life do you most often think of as insignificant/meaningless and therefore approach "simply."
3. Consider verse 7. From what sources are you most likely to hear God-fearing wisdom. Are you intentional about listening receptively? "It is a distinctive of Christianity that we recognize our need for the truth to be revealed to us from outside, not discovered from within;" therefore, "teachability is perhaps the fundamental Christian virtue."
4. With what commands of God for change do you foolishly tend to argue?
5. Read Hebrews 4:11-13. As you/we study through Proverbs, how should you respond if Proverbs exposes a need for heart change in you in a given area? (Hebrews 4:14-16, James 1:5-6, 1 Peter 1:22-2:5, 1 Timothy 4:4-5)
6. "The fear of the LORD is what makes wise living come naturally." Relate this to the new birth (ex. – 1 John 3:9-10). Does this mean that wise living will always be easy for the regenerate?
7. Revisit Colossians 3:23 and 1 Corinthians 1:18-24, and discuss the necessity of reading Proverbs primarily for the purpose of Christlikeness.
8. Responding to verses 10-19, how are you prone toward building your kingdom on top of other people?
9. According to verses 23 and 28-31, what is the essence of this chapter's blessings and curses?

10. What other reflections, questions, or evaluation do you have regarding the sermon? What have you seen of God, yourself, the gospel, and/or the life of faith?

11. What has God been teaching you in your own personal study lately?