

# Group Questions- *Working Faith: Week 3*

06/25/23 – Pastor Kirby

## *Getting to Know Me Questions:*

- What did you name your first car? Does your current car have a name? What is it?
- If you could do anything in the world as your career, what would you do?

## *Into the Bible Questions:*

- What's something from this week's teaching that you learned, that stood out, interesting etc?
- **READ:** James 1:5-8
- Pastor Kirby asked us to think of a current decision/choice we need to make. If you're willing, share that with the group.
- How would you define wisdom? What's the difference between wisdom and intelligence?
- Pastor Kirby gave 3 ways to get wisdom:
  - Put God first in my life
  - Practice God's word in my life
  - Get some Godly people in my life
- Which one is the one that is hardest for you? Which one do you feel you are good at?
- What are some practical ways you can put God first, practice God's word or get some godly people into your life?
- When we make a decision in good faith and trust in God, but it still ends poorly, how does that make you feel? What does it do for you and your next big decision?
- When you make a tough choice, or after it's over, how do you second guess yourself?
- **Read:** John 17:25-26
- Meditate on this prayer of Jesus for us. What do you feel and think about this prayer?

## *Application Questions:*

- How will you put these ideas into practice in your decision?
- How can you trust God more today?
- How can we help each other with it?

## Week 3: Working Faith

6/25/23

**Series Question:** 'How do we have a working faith when life doesn't work?'

### **7 reactions to a crisis**

- 1 DENIAL: "It's not my problem. It may not even be real."
- 2 DISMISSAL: "It's real, but no big deal. It'll end fast & won't last!"
- 3 DEFIANCE: "I refuse to let this limit my preferences!"
- 4 DELAYED ACCEPTANCE: "OK, it IS a big deal & it WILL affect me."
- 5 DISRUPTION: "My life just turned upside down & I must make some tough choices!"
- 6 DISTRESS: "It's going to last a long and change everything."
- 7 DETERMINATION: "With God's grace we'll get through this together!"

A tough choice you got to make soon in your life?

### **How will trusting God make that decision easier?**

#### **1. When I trust, God give me wisdom**

Proverbs 3:13-18

- <sup>13</sup> Blessed are those who find wisdom,  
those who gain understanding,  
<sup>14</sup> for she is more profitable than silver  
and yields better returns than gold.  
<sup>15</sup> She is more precious than rubies;  
nothing you desire can compare with her.  
<sup>16</sup> Long life is in her right hand;  
in her left hand are riches and honor.  
<sup>17</sup> Her ways are pleasant ways,  
and all her paths are peace.  
<sup>18</sup> She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her;  
those who hold her fast will be blessed.

Proverbs 4:7

- <sup>7</sup> The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom.  
Though it cost all you have, get understanding.

Proverbs 24:14

- <sup>14</sup> Know also that wisdom is like honey for you:  
If you find it, there is a future hope for you,  
and your hope will not be cut off.

### **How do I get the Godly wisdom I need?**

#### **1. Put God first in my life**

Psalms 111:10

<sup>10</sup> The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;  
all who follow his precepts have good understanding.  
To him belongs eternal praise.

Proverbs 15:33

<sup>33</sup> Wisdom's instruction is to fear the Lord,  
and humility comes before honor.

2. Practice God's word in my life

John 13:17

Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

James 1:22-25

<sup>22</sup> Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. <sup>23</sup> Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror <sup>24</sup> and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. <sup>25</sup> But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

3. Get some Godly people into my life.

Proverbs 13:20

<sup>20</sup> Walk with the wise and become wise,  
for a companion of fools suffers harm.

**How will trusting God make that decision easier? (Continued)**

2. God frees me from second guessing

Proverbs 17:24

<sup>24</sup> A discerning person keeps wisdom in view,  
but a fool's eyes wander to the ends of the earth.

Proverbs 3:5-6

<sup>5</sup> Trust in the Lord with all your heart  
and lean not on your own understanding;  
<sup>6</sup> in all your ways submit to him,  
and he will make your paths straight

James 1:6-8

<sup>6</sup> But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. <sup>7</sup> That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. <sup>8</sup> Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

3. God uses my mistakes

John 17:25-26

<sup>25</sup> “Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. <sup>26</sup> I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”

Recap:

When I trust...

1. God gives wisdom.

I pursue Godly wisdom by:

- Putting God first in my life
- Practicing God’s word in my life
- Get Godly people in my life

When I trust...

2. God frees me from second guessing
3. God uses my mistakes