

## Small Group Leader & Personal Bible Study

### Memory Verse: Proverbs 15:16

*“Better a little with the fear of the LORD than great wealth with turmoil.”*

**Discovery Bible Study Exercise:** In your journal or on a piece of paper make three columns and follow these steps:

- Step #1: Write out Proverbs 15:16
- Step #2: Re-write Proverbs 15:16 in your own words
- Step #3: Write out two or three things you discover from this passage?

### Daily Bible Meditation: A Study of Wisdom

- Sunday – Proverbs 13
- Monday – Proverbs 14
- Tuesday – Proverbs 15
- Wednesday – Proverbs 16
- Thursday – Proverbs 17
- Friday – Proverbs 18
- Saturday – Proverbs 19

### Lesson: Wise with Wealth

Proverbs 11:28 says, “Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive like a green leaf.”

1. Why do you think people with great wealth so commonly struggle with their lives being filled with turmoil?

We all know the challenges the rich and famous so often face. It almost seems that you can never have enough and money cannot buy happiness and yet many people try. I think that people mistakenly think that filling their lives with material goods and financial stability will fill the void of their soul but as we know it won't. Only Christ can fill our lives with comfort, strength, protection, and purpose.

2. Reading Proverbs 11:28 and Proverbs 15:16, what should the wise person put their trust in?

When I put my trust in God, I have the only unchanging, perfect, all-powerful foundation. I like how Proverbs 11:38 puts it, if I trust in riches, I will fall. Sooner or later money will let me down. I will lose my job. The stock market will crash. Someone will cheat me or rob me of my wealth. Or if none of those ever happen, someday I will face death and I will realize at that point, my wealth cannot go with me and it can not help me in eternity.

3. Read Matthew 19:16-26, the story of the Rich Young Man. How does this story of the rich young man parallel the teachings from Proverbs we just read?

The rich young man wanted to please God but he had allowed wealth to get between him and his relationship to God. The Lord has taught us to love the Lord your God with all you heart, your mind, your soul and your strength. When we let anything (including wealth or possessions) be above God, we will struggle in our relationship with God and experience turmoil of the soul.

For another warning on wealth and greed read: James 5:1-5

Jesus told us that our heart is wherever our treasure is. Matthew 6:21

4. If you had to summarize what you learned in this teaching, how would you say it in a sentence?

Allow this question to help people learn to use to the discovery learning process. If you are not doing this often, take time tonight to have each person follow the discovery process for Proverbs 15:16

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