

## Small Group Leader & Personal Bible Study

### Memory Verse: Proverbs 24:3-4

*“By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures.”*

**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 24:3-4
- Step #2: Re-write Proverbs 24:3-4 in your own words
- Step #3: Write out something you discover from this passage.

### Daily Bible Meditation: The Book of Ruth

- Day 1 – Ruth 1:1-22
- Day 2 – Ruth 2:1-23
- Day 3 – Ruth 3:1-18
- Day 4 – Ruth 4:1-12
- Day 5 – Ruth 4:13-22

### Lesson: Wisdom in our homes

Read and meditate on the word of God found in Proverbs 17:6 *“Children’s children are a crown to the aged, and parents are the pride of their children.”*

1. What is God saying to you about family in this verse?

I believe this passage makes it clear that family is important to God. That even as a grandparent, I take great joy in my children and grandchildren. I know I personally have experienced this first hand. As a father, and now a grandfather I feel a great sense of joy and fulfillment in my family. God has created the family to help us understand his love and satisfaction in his own children. Continuing in this verse I also see that God is telling us that we should revere our parents and feel great pride in the lives and commitment they have dedicated to us. As I reflect on the love of my parents I understand better how God wants me to reflect on the love of my heavenly Father.

2. What is one thing that your parents did that has most positively impacted your life?

I am blessed to have parents who stayed together and loved one another until my father’s death. The commitment to a loving relationship as husband and wife has greatly affected me and always will.

3. What is one thing that you wish your parents would have done (or not done) with or for you that would have impacted you greatly?

I was blessed to have parents who believed and took me to church, however I do not remember my parents spending time to personally teaching me about God or pray with me other than formal family prayers at the dinner table. It wasn’t until my father lay on his death bed that I was able to hear him speak intimately to me about his trust in Jesus.

4. How can your own answers to these first two questions help you as a parent with your own children?

For me, this reminds me of the importance of leaving my children with a clear legacy of being in a love relationship with Christ. It reminds me to speak clearly about my personal relationship and teach my children and pray with them even now as adults.

5. Being a parent is both a joy and heartache. What are you experiencing as a parent right now?

Allow people to share personally what they are going through in their families. Also allow them to celebrate what God is doing in their family. Use these comments to move into a time of prayer. I find great joy in how God has directed Sherry and my own life as adults. I pray that God will continue to strengthen my daughters who are all followers of Christ and use them to minister to their own families.

*Take time to pray together about the hope you have for the lives of your children.*