INTRODUCTION
Solomon, the third king of Israel, wrote more about wisdom than any other biblical writer. He was
considered by some to be the wisest man who ever lived. In his writing, he laid out three kinds of
people who lack wisdom: the simple lack experience; fools know the difference between right and
wrong, but don’t care; and mockers not only know the difference between right and wrong but are
critical of those who choose to do right.

Eventually, people in each of these categories need wisdom . . . but they may not find it.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
1. If you could go back in time ten years and tell your younger self one thing, what would it be?
2. In what ways have you seen simple or foolish behavior in people around you? How did those
   people’s choices affect your life or influence your choices?
3. What do you think is the relationship between knowledge and wisdom? How are they similar and
   how are they different?
4. Read Proverbs 1:20–33. Does this passage bother or offend you in any way? If so, how?
5. Talk about a time when you traded what you wanted most for what you wanted in the moment.
   What did you learn from that experience?
6. What is an area of your life where you tend to behave like a simple person, a fool, or a mocker?
   What is one thing you can do this week to change your behavior in that area? How can this group
   support you?

MOVING FORWARD
The path of wisdom offers a way to live in safety, peace, and without fear of harm. But to leverage all
that wisdom offers, you have to ask it: In light of my past experience, current circumstances, and future
hopes and dreams, what is the wise thing for me to do?

CHANGING YOUR MIND
For the waywardness of the simple will kill them,
   and the complacency of fools will destroy them;
but whoever listens to me will live in safety
   and be at ease, without fear of harm.”
Proverbs 1:32–33