

A circular logo with the words "ASK IT" in a bold, sans-serif font. The logo is centered on a dark blue sphere that is part of a larger, blurred background of light blue and white bokeh.

PART 5: Hold My Hand

INTRODUCTION

You always have something working against you when making personal decisions: you. Personal decisions are emotional, yet emotionally charged environments aren't ideal for decision-making. Your emotions make the obvious less obvious. This is why you're probably better at managing someone else's money than your own. It's why you know exactly what your neighbor needs to do about his marriage, but have no clue how to improve your own. It's why your kids baffle you, while a complete stranger's kids just need a good spanking.

When it comes to making decisions, we have a real problem: it's next to impossible to hear the voice of wisdom when emotions are raging.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you tend to be decisive or indecisive? How has that served you throughout your life? How has it let you down?
2. Talk about a time when you witnessed someone make a decision you knew was unwise. What prevented you from offering that person your wisdom?
3. Read Proverbs 13:10. In what ways has pride—yours or others'—created strife in your life?
4. Talk about a decision you've made—large or small—about which you'd like to go back in time and take a do-over. How do you think your life would be different now if you'd sought wise counsel before making that decision?
5. To whom do you look for wisdom? What qualities do those people possess that cause you to trust their advice?
6. What is one area of your life where you need to pause and seek wise counsel before making a decision? Whose advice should you seek? What can this group do to help you follow through?

MOVING FORWARD

Wise people seek counsel. That's why they are wise. Wise people know they don't know all they need to know. So, they find people who know. Wisdom isn't knowing everything. It's knowing what you don't know and going to those in the know for the input you need.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

*Listen to advice and accept discipline,
and at the end you will be counted among the wise.*

Proverbs 19:20