



# Street Smart

## Part 1 - Be Teachable

### Discussion Guide

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Everybody has some skill and knowledge. You might be able to clean a carburetor or sew a seam. Maybe you can write programming or appraise a work of art. Even if you're at the top of your field, there is still something new to learn. "Continuing education" is even more important in our spiritual journey. To grow as Jesus followers and gain spiritual "street smarts," we need to be committed to seeking and applying God's wisdom.

#### **Jump Start**

1. Think of a wise person you know. What characteristics do they have that make you see them as wise?
2. **Understand wisdom.** Read [Proverbs 9:10 and Proverbs 3:5-6](#). Where does wisdom originate? What does "fear of the Lord" mean? How do we lean on God's wisdom and not our own?
3. **Desire wisdom.** Read [Proverbs 2:1-11 and Proverbs 8:11-12](#). These verses compare wisdom to great treasures and remind us that no earthly treasure can compare to having wisdom. How does comparing wisdom to jewels and silver remind us to prioritize and seek it? Is there anything you might think is more important than wisdom? What are some practical ways we can seek it?
4. How do we gain wisdom from God? Read [2 Timothy 3:16 and James 1:5](#) for some specific ways we discussed this weekend.
5. **Choose Wisdom.** Read [Colossians 3:16](#). We don't become wise simply by declaring ourselves to be wise. We must actively choose to grow in wisdom. The Bible tells us to let the message of Christ "dwell among you richly..." How can we dwell in the fullness of the message of Christ? How do you personally choose wisdom (or in what ways is the Holy Spirit asking you to choose wisdom right now)?
6. Final Thought: In what area of your life are you doing it your own way? You may not actively do anything wrong, but you are self-dependent, not asking God for His wisdom and direction. What might be holding you back from leaning on God's wisdom? What is your next step?

**Deeper**

7. Read [Proverbs 3:7-8 and Proverbs 26:12](#). What is essential to being teachable?
  
8. Read [James 4:6-10](#). Why is pride a barrier to wisdom? What practical steps are found in this passage?
  
9. How is application and obedience essential parts of wisdom?