

LIFE Group Guide

Family Discernment

Pastor Justin Searles

September 28, 2025

Proverbs 19:2, 8



THE ORCHARD

Read: Read Proverbs 19:2, 8

Outline:

Solomons Request 1 Kings 3:9

Wise: listening capacity for deep understanding in order to create obedience and sound judgement.

Discerning: The quality to perceive what is obscure (concealed or below the surface).

What is below the surface can make us unwise?

- False belief and assumption
- Pride and arrogance
- Discomfort avoidance
- Gratification (craving)
- Impatient, hasty reasoning
- Fear, insecurity and shame

Questions to get below the surface and find discernment:

1. What does my Lord say?
2. What do the wise say?
3. How might I be deceived by my sinful flesh?
4. What is the cost and potential reward?
5. Is the offer being made by the world or the Lord?

Discussion Questions

1. What encouraged, nourished, or challenged you from this sermon? The scripture passage?
2. What does it mean to be a discerning person? How do discernment and wisdom go together?
3. How does Solomon's request for wisdom and understanding point us to the how we should pursue God's wisdom?
4. What are some of the motives of your heart that drive your decisions and direction? Which one of those things below the surface drives your decisions most? What do you think the right motive (in Christ) might be that counters your prevailing motive? For example, rather than self-gratification, your look out for the needs of others.
5. What questions can you ask yourself to discern your motives or the motives of others?