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Sometimes being “street smart” isn’t enough, especially when we are talking about how we relate to God. Street Smarts is a series that will take us through the book of Proverbs. Over the course of this series we will find practical wisdom for real living. Join us over the next several weeks as we look to the Proverbs to shed light on topics like: marriage, educating our children, wealth, compassion, and friendships.

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**Icebreaker:** Share with the group one of your favorite quotes. If you need some help you can look at your facebook page! Why is this a favorite quote? Would you choose to live your life following its advice? Why or why not.

1. What is something you personally would like to get out of our series in the Proverbs? Explain.
2. Read Proverbs 1:1-6 and answer the following questions:
  - a. Who wrote the book of Proverbs? Should this knowledge affect the way that you study and read the Proverbs? Why?
  - b. After reading this passage, what can one expect to learn from a study through the Proverbs?
  - c. Do you find any one of those first six verses more exciting than the others?
3. Read 1:7; this verse is commonly referenced to as being the theme verse of Proverbs. What do you think is meant by fearing God? How can fear lead to wisdom or knowledge?
4. Read Proverbs 25:11-16; this passage is a classic passage describing the lifestyle of those who are wise. Is there one particular thing that stands out to you from this passage?
  - a. What about that verse do you like?
  - b. How does controlling one’s tongue display wisdom?
  - c. The wise are seen as people who value criticism. Do you find it hard to criticize other people? Is there an area for you that is more difficult than others to receive criticism?
  - d. Other descriptions of the wise are that they are faithful in the little things, don’t make empty promises, live calmly, and value moderation. Pick one area this week to work on and share it with your group? Why did you choose this area?

Close in Prayer: (If in a group close by taking time to pray for the needs of those in the group.)

Challenge: Join others in the church in the Proverbial Challenge (read through Proverbs 2 times by Easter)

Prep for next week: Study the idea of foolishness as described in Proverbs.