
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.

Icebreaker: Talk about a time that you got to help build something. What did you build? What was the hardest part about the project? What was the best part of the project?

1. Read Proverbs 24:3-4; What three things seem to be essentials when building a home? What do you think that these 3 things really mean?
2. Think of one couple that you really look up to as having a great marriage. What things do you admire about their marriage? How do you think they got to where they are in their marriage?
3. Read Genesis 2:24 and Ephesians 5:30-31; Based on these verses, what seems to be the end goal of marriage?
 - a. What kinds of things creep into a marriage and seemingly disrupt the process of becoming “one flesh.”
4. For those that are married, name two qualities in your spouse that adds to the strength of your marriage bond.
 - a. For those that are single, name two qualities that you look for in a person that you know will add to the strength of your relationship or future marriage.
5. On Sunday we talked about 4 things that will help cultivate a healthy marriage.
 - a. Learn to communicate strengths and weaknesses
 - b. Set Ground Rules for your marriage
 - c. Dream together
 - d. Keep Short Accounts (Value Forgiveness)
 - i. Discuss why these four things are critical in marriage. How do you cultivate each of these four areas? Is there one specific area that is harder for you than another to cultivate? Why?

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 truths in Proverbs on what it means to be a parent.