



# FOOLPROOF

## THE WISDOM OF PROVERBS

### CONNECT

What is the scariest movie you've ever watched? How did it make you feel afterwards?

### WORD

“The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel: 2 for gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight; 3 for receiving instruction in prudent behavior, doing what is right and just and fair; 4 for giving prudence to those who are simple, knowledge and discretion to the young 5 let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance 6 for understanding proverbs and parables, the sayings and riddles of the wise. 7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

### THOUGHT

In this first study of selected themes from Proverbs we will consider the main emphasis of the book: The Fear of the Lord. We come across this phrase, or variations of it, over and over again in Proverbs and throughout scripture. In our key-verse, two classes of people are mentioned – those who fear the Lord and the foolish ones who do not. In New Testament language the contrast is between the believer and the unbeliever, the saved and the lost. The fear of the Lord is the foundation piece for right thinking.

### DISCUSSION

1. Does God want us to fear Him? (Deuteronomy 5:29)
2. Do you think it's true, that fearing God will always be for our good? (Deuteronomy 6:24)
3. It is possible to fear the Lord all the time? (Proverbs 23:17)
4. Is obedience seen as the proof of fearing the Lord? (Genesis 22:12)

## DISCUSSION CONTINUED...

5. Should the church fear the Lord? How do you know that a church fears the Lord? (Acts 9:31)
6. Do you think those who fear the Lord are rewarded? (Proverbs 13:13 KJV)
7. What blessings might our lives gain by walking out the fear of the Lord being the beginning of all wisdom? (Psalm 112:1)

## PERSONAL APPLICATION

What does it look like for you to fear the Lord? Spend time this week reading the Bible and learning about how all the people that God used to make His name known, feared Him. What did it look like for Moses, Joseph, Abraham, David, and John the Baptist, or Paul?

## PRAYER

- Pray asking God to give you the wisdom and understanding that He gave so many people in the Bible. Pray that just like them, the beginning of wisdom would be the fear of the Lord for you.
- Pray for someone you know that doesn't know the Lord. Pray that they would begin a relationship with the One who made them. If they know the Lord, pray that they too would seek to know and understand more of Him by fearing Him.