



## PLEASE WATCH THE DVD'S "MAIN SESSION"

### INTRODUCTION

2018 is underway and this series gives us an opportunity to start over. Using the book of Proverbs as our guide, we are looking at God's wisdom applied to five areas of life. This week, we gain insight from Kelly Gray as he shares his life experiences and how the Bible impacts our ability to make decisions.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. On a scale of 1-10, with one being, "I make decisions slowly and methodically" and 10 being, "I quickly make a choice and move on", how easily do you make important decisions? How has that served you throughout your life?
2. Think specifically to a time where you made a decision – large or small – where you would like to go back in time and choose a different path. How would you handle this decision differently?
3. In the teaching, Kelly said, "No one plans to mess up their lives, they just don't plan not to." Discuss this statement and how you have seen this reality play out in your life or in the lives of those close to you.
4. **Jeremiah 17:9** says, "The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond all cure. Who can understand it?" Do you surround yourself with other opinions, insights and wisdom before making difficult decisions? Why is this important?
5. **Proverbs 14:11** says, "Without good direction, people lose their way the more wise counsel you follow, the better your chances." We all need people in our lives to help make good decisions. Do you have people to serve this need? How do you determine who is capable of providing wisdom in your life?
6. Psychologist Dr. Henry Cloud says that difficult conversations with others must be steeped in both truth and grace. Grace without truth is an element of cowardice, whereas truth without grace can be mean or destructive. Agree or disagree? How has this looked in your life?
7. On Sunday, Wes shared three principles for decision making. They are: never make a decision in a hurry; seek wise counsel, and seek God's counsel. How do each of these rate in your life currently? Which ones would you like to improve and use more frequently?
8. Read **Proverbs 3:5–6**. Seeking God's counsel is a must if you are in a relationship with Christ. To do this, we need to be investing time in reading the Bible and prayer. Yet, this is a tough thing to do in our fast-paced culture. Have you experienced the struggle of finding regular time with God? How can you overcome it?
9. As we have progressed through the *Starting Over* series, we have been introduced to a variety of topics where the Bible provides wisdom. This can have eye-opening and often difficult revelations for us. As you think back over these past five weeks, what have you learned? How can the group practically support you as you take steps to heed this wisdom? How can the group pray for you this week?

### CHANGING YOUR MINDS

Of every invitation, opportunity, relationship or decisions, ask "What's the wise thing to do?" If you were going to do the wise thing, what would it be? By asking that question, even if you don't follow through, you will discover something about you. You owe it to yourself to know the answer to that question. "So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. Make the most of every opportunity..." (**Ephesians 5:15–16**)

### BE SURE TO PRAY TOGETHER AS A GROUP...

\_\_ What are some things going on in your life that need prayer?