

LENT Devotional Journey

.....a journey to follow Jesus through the book of wisdom



The book of Proverbs was originally written to a young man by his elder in an attempt to pass down both godly wisdom and instruction. In this six part series, we will explore the book's themes of wisdom and folly, and you are invited to live with wisdom and in the fear of the Lord in order to experience the good life. The culture we live in today desperately needs to see and experience wisdom. So this series is not only for churchgoers, but it is for the people we will interact with on a daily basis. Join us as we learn how to fool-proof our lives.

Corporate Worship & Prayer Space

Ash Wednesday Service
6 Mar, 7-9pm, SOC Main Hall

Tuesday Worship & Prayer Room
12, 19 & 26 Mar, 2 & 9 Apr Free to come and go between 7-9pm, SOC Main Hall

Lovingly Present; Lovingly Disruptive | Re:Work
30 Mar, 10am-4pm, London Institute of Contemporary Christianity

Good Friday Prayer and Reflection Space
19 Apr, SOC, free to come and go between 10am-6pm

Personal Devotional Journey

In your own quiet room

This devotional journal takes you on a journey through worship & prayer where you can come into God's presence; build a relationship with Jesus; and be ministered in the Holy Spirit.....

Journal

Posture of your soul

come into Your presence
what am I willing to surrender? _____

wait & listen, what is God saying to me?

what is the status of my heart? _____

← Status of your heart

what kind of things are you focusing on right now? _____

do you believe that God loves you?

Thinking in your mind

what does the Bible say



encouragement through His words _____

Strength to serve



calls to action _____

prayers _____

As You Begin.....

DAY 4 | 9 MARCH Sat..
Scripture Reading : Proverbs 4

1Listen, my sons, to a father's instruction; pay attention and gain understanding. 2I give you sound learning, so do not forsake my teaching. 3For I too was a son to my father, still tender, and cherished by my mother. 4Then he taught me, and he said to me, "Take hold of my words with all your heart; keep my commands, and you will live. 5Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my words or turn away from them. 6Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you; love her, and she will watch over you. 7The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding. 8Cherish her, and she will exalt you; embrace her, and she will honor you. 9She will give you a garland to grace your head and present you with a glorious crown."

10Listen, my son, accept what I say, and the years of your life will be many. 11I instruct you in the way of wisdom and lead you along straight paths. 12When you walk, your steps will not be hampered; when you run, you will not stumble. 13Hold on to instruction, do not let it go; guard it well, for it is your life. 14Do not set foot on the path of the wicked or walk in the way of evildoers. 15Avoid it, do not travel on it; turn from it and go on your way. 16For they cannot rest until they do evil; they are robbed of sleep till they make someone stumble. 17They eat the bread of wickedness and drink the wine of violence. 18The path of the righteous is like the morning sun, shining ever brighter till the full light of day. 19But the way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know what makes them stumble.

20My son, pay attention to what I say; turn your ear to my words. 21Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart; 22for they are life to those who find them and health to one's whole body. 23Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. 24Keep your mouth free of perversity; keep corrupt talk far from your lips. 25Let your eyes look straight ahead; fix your gaze directly before you. 26Give careful thought to the paths for your feet and be steadfast in all your ways. 27Do not turn to the right or the left; keep your foot from evil.

Prayer:

O God, how wonderful and marvellous you are, as you are wisdom, light and life. You constantly call us to come to you, seek you and follow you, so that we might not fall into darkness, lose our lives and be engulfed by deception and evil. O Lord, who sustain the world with wisdom, when violence, wickedness, selfishness, greed and darkness surround us, help us to love your wisdom because from her it comes purity, justice, mercy and self-denial. In the season of Lent, may we continue to live out a life with Wisdom through knowing You. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

What does worship mean to me? Is my worship God centred and pleasing to Him? Have I personally encountered with God during worship? Does God really listen and answer my prayers?

As we considered these questions, let us consider what Jesus said in Luke 10... 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind.'

In fact He is calling us to: 'COME, worship me with your whole life, and you will experience transformation in your soul, your heart, your mind and your strength....'

This is Whole Life Worship....

We encounter with God in the journey of our life. Whether we gather in our church, in our home or work place, in our small groups, or in our personal quiet time, we seek the presence of our Father God, we build a relationship with Jesus and ready to be ministered by the Holy Spirit. In fact each of our 'Daily Walk' with God forms the basis in shaping our corporate worship culture.

Hence the church would like to invite you to walk this worship & prayer journey together. This devotional journal takes you on a path which helps you focus on God. Feel free to use this in your personal quiet time, or you can come along to the 'Corporate Worship Space', which takes place in SOC every week during Lent, and journey with other brothers & sisters in our church.

The Corporate Worship Spaces are not events to attend - hence feel free to come and leave anytime between the set time. When you come inside you are free to pray, meditate, reflect at your own pace, share your thoughts with others, and minister to each other with prayers.

The only agenda is to encounter with God.....

Journal

Posture of your soul

come into Your presence
what am I willing to surrender? _____

wait & listen, what is God saying to me?

what is the status of my heart? _____

Status of your heart

what kind of things are you focusing on right now? _____

do you believe that God loves you?

Thinking in your mind

what does the Bible say



encouragement through His words _____

Strength to serve

calls to action _____

prayers _____

Journey Guide

DAY 3 | 8 MARCH Fri.
Scripture Reading : Proverbs 3

1My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, 2for they will prolong your life many years and bring you peace and prosperity. 3Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. 4Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man. 5Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. 7Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil. 8This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones. 9Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; 10then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine. 11My son, do not despise the Lord’s discipline, and do not resent his rebuke, 12because the Lord disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in. 13Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding, 14for she is more profitable than silver and yields better returns than gold. 15She is more precious than rubies; nothing you desire can compare with her. 16Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor. 17Her ways are pleasant ways, and all her paths are peace. 18She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her; those who hold her fast will be blessed. 19By wisdom the Lord laid the earth’s foundations, by understanding he set the heavens in place; 20by his knowledge the watery depths were divided, and the clouds let drop the dew. 21My son, do not let wisdom and understanding out of your sight, preserve sound judgment and discretion; 22they will be life for you, an ornament to grace your neck. 23Then you will go on your way in safety, and your foot will not stumble. 24When you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet. 25Have no fear of sudden disaster or of the ruin that overtakes the wicked, 26for the Lord will be at your side and will keep your foot from being snared. 27Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act. 28Do not say to your neighbor, “Come back tomorrow and I’ll give it to you”— when you already have it with you. 29Do not plot harm against your neighbor, who lives trustfully near you. 30Do not accuse anyone for no reason— when they have done you no harm. 31Do not envy the violent or choose any of their ways. 32For the Lord detests the perverse but takes the upright into his confidence. 33The Lord’s curse is on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the home of the righteous. 34He mocks proud mockers but shows favor to the humble and oppressed. 35The wise inherit honor, but fools get only shame.

Prayer:

Our God, your teaching is kind and your commands bring life. Kindness, faithfulness and justice are from you. Being your people, however, we always replace love with hostility, faithfulness with hypocrisy, justice with deception, and we build kingdoms for our own names. O Lord, help us, in your unlimited love, we may continue to discover the desire for justice and the power of acting kindness. In the season of Lent, may we continue to live out a life with Wisdom through knowing You. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

When we spend time with God alone in worship and prayer, He welcomes us into a personal friendship that grows deeper over time. In this friendship we not only sense His presence and speak to Him as we journey through our daily lives, but also learn to hear His voice.

Therefore seek His presence in your life every day. If your walk with Him is close, expect Him to draw you closer. Our God is always ready to meet us where we are and bring us further with Him. You will experience life in all of its fullness.

The following is a simple guide in your journey to explore and experience our God in the different spaces of our whole being – your SOUL, your HEART, your MIND, your STRENGTH

WORSHIP – engage in God’s presence
REFLECT – engage with His Word
PRAYER - engage in conversation with

Try this journal format to record your journey

Posture of your soul

surrender your everything
 come into His presence to adore & praise Him
 wait - listen - meditate

Status of your heart

open your heart
 allow Him to search inside out
 confess - forgive - heal

Thinking in your mind

consider your life situations at present
 hold tight to His words & truth
 read - reflect - ask

Strength to serve

commit your life to serve Him
 move with the Holy Spirit
 response - minister - supplicate

Journal

Posture of your soul

come into Your presence
what am I willing to surrender? _____

wait & listen, what is God saying to me?

what is the status of my heart? _____

← Status of your heart

what kind of things are you focusing on right now? _____

do you believe that God loves you? _____

Thinking in your mind

what does the Bible say

encouragement through His words _____

Strength to serve

calls to action _____

prayers _____

Week 1 Overview.....

DAY 2 | 7 MARCH Thurs.
Scripture Reading : Proverbs 2

¹My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, ²turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding— ³indeed, if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, ⁴and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, ⁵then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God. ⁶For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. ⁷He holds success in store for the upright, he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless, ⁸for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones.

⁹Then you will understand what is right and just and fair—every good path. ¹⁰For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul. ¹¹Discretion will protect you, and understanding will guard you. ¹²Wisdom will save you from the ways of wicked men, from men whose words are perverse, ¹³who have left the straight paths to walk in dark ways, ¹⁴who delight in doing wrong and rejoice in the perverseness of evil, ¹⁵whose paths are crooked and who are devious in their ways.

¹⁶Wisdom will save you also from the adulterous woman, from the wayward woman with her seductive words, ¹⁷who has left the partner of her youth and ignored the covenant she made before God. ¹⁸ Surely her house leads down to death and her paths to the spirits of the dead. ¹⁹None who go to her return or attain the paths of life. ²⁰Thus you will walk in the ways of the good and keep to the paths of the righteous. ²¹For the upright will live in the land, and the blameless will remain in it; ²²but the wicked will be cut off from the land, and the unfaithful will be torn from it.

Prayer:

O Lord, have mercy on us! We are such a foolish people that we always admire and rely on man's scheme, believing that they would bring us to prosperity and success. May your Holy Spirit lead us to call out for insight and cry loud for understanding, look for it as for silver and search for it for hidden treasure. Help us to fear God truly, because only the Wisdom of God may save us from the wicked men, so that we may not leave the straight paths to walk in dark ways and ignore the covenant we made before God. In the season of Lent, may we continue to live out a life with Wisdom through knowing You. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

**A LORD
TO
HONOUR**

How should I live my life?

Who is at the centre of my life?

How do I fool proof my life?

Where do we find true wisdom?

How can wisdom impact in my current life situations?

DAY 1 | 6 MARCH Wed.
Scripture Reading : Proverbs 1

1The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel: 2for gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight; 3for receiving instruction in prudent behaviour, doing what is right and just and fair; 4for giving prudence to those who are simple, knowledge and discretion to the young—5let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance— 6for understanding proverbs and parables, the sayings and riddles of the wise.

7The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction. 8Listen, my son, to your father’s instruction and do not forsake your mother’s teaching. 9They are a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck.10My son, if sinful men entice you, do not give in to them.11If they say, “Come along with us; let’s lie in wait for innocent blood, let’s ambush some harmless soul; 12let’s swallow them alive, like the grave, and whole, like those who go down to the pit; 13we will get all sorts of valuable things and fill our houses with plunder; 14cast lots with us; we will all share the loot”— 15my son, do not go along with them, do not set foot on their paths; 16for their feet rush into evil, they are swift to shed blood. 17How useless to spread a net where every bird can see it!18These men lie in wait for their own blood; they ambush only themselves! 19Such are the paths of all who go after ill-gotten gain; it takes away the life of those who get it.

20Out in the open wisdom calls aloud, she raises her voice in the public square; 21on top of the wall she cries out, at the city gate she makes her speech: 22“How long will you who are simple love your simple ways? How long will mockers delight in mockery and fools hate knowledge? 23Repent at my rebuke! Then I will pour out my thoughts to you, I will make known to you my teachings. 24But since you refuse to listen when I call and no one pays attention when I stretch out my hand, 25since you disregard all my advice and do not accept my rebuke, 26I in turn will laugh when disaster strikes you; I will mock when calamity overtakes you— 27when calamity overtakes you like a storm, when disaster sweeps over you like a whirlwind, when distress and trouble overwhelm you.

28“Then they will call to me but I will not answer; they will look for me but will not find me, 29since they hated knowledge and did not choose to fear the Lord. 30Since they would not accept my advice and spurned my rebuke, 31they will eat the fruit of their ways and be filled with the fruit of their schemes. 32For the waywardness of the simple will kill them, and the complacency of fools will destroy them; 33but whoever listens to me will live in safety and be at ease, without fear of harm.”

Prayer:

O God our Lord, we live in a day where wisdom is most needed, but very often neglected. Now we humbly come to you, acknowledge and praise you as you are the source of all wisdoms. We come to you and repent, as we have always neglected Wisdom and forgotten you, and our pride and self-righteousness gradually lead us into perish. Only if we obey to the rebuke of your Spirit, return to your kind Word, worship the Incarnated Jesus Christ, listen to your gracious holy word, we may live in safety and be at ease in this chaotic world. In the season of Lent, may we continue to live out a life with Wisdom through knowing You. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Journal

Posture of your soul

come into Your presence
what am I willing to surrender? _____

wait & listen, what is God saying to me?

Status of your heart

what is the status of my heart? _____

what kind of things are you focusing on right now? _____

do you believe that God loves you?

Thinking in your mind

What does the Bible say _____

encouragement through His words _____

Strength to serve

calls to action _____

prayers _____

