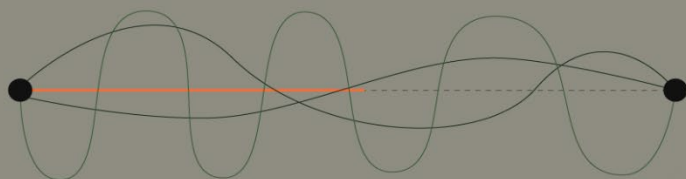


The Way of Wisdom



Life's complicated. **Faith** shouldn't be.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome	4
How to Facilitate a Group	5
Week of October 5: There is More	8
Week of October 12: More Than Pies & Promises	9
Week of October 19: Wisdom in the Wilderness	10
Week of October 26: Wisdom that Welcomes	11
Week of November 2: Wisdom with Words	12
Week of November 9: Wisdom from Above	13
Week of November 16: Wisdom Over Ego	14
Week of November 23: Wisdom in Business	15

WELCOME!

Walking in community with others as we engage in The Word is so important for our Spiritual formation. In the book of Hebrews, believers are encouraged to keep meeting together! *“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the day drawing near.”* Hebrews 10:24-25. When we gather together to study the Word and walk in relationship with others, we are living out the Gospel as we do life together. We are being formed and shaped in our discipleship journey as we gather with one another and seek to place Jesus at the center of our lives. Biblical community with one another is so important!

We have created this group guide to help provide resources as you lead your small group during our sermon series, *Way of Wisdom*, which is a series that focuses on lessons from the book of James. In this study guide, you will find Bible passages that help guide us with what real faith looks like in real life, in addition to the Sermon’s passages in our sermon series. The Discovery Bible Study Method (DBS) is a simple, structured way of opening the Bible with someone so that they encounter God directly through His Living Word. The aim is to allow participants to discover God’s truth for themselves, rather than relying on a leader. As the leader, you are there to empower them to pray, not to have all the answers. This guide will help you to facilitate your group as you engage in the Bible with one another.

Praying that you encounter Father, Son and Spirit in significant ways as you engage in this series.



Pam Loepky
Groups & Connections Pastor

HOW TO FACILITATE A GROUP

Thank you for serving Jesus and His church as a small group leader during the *Way of Wisdom* series!

Small Groups are groups where friends/family come together to see for themselves what the Bible says and how it can affect their lives. For the *Way of Wisdom* series, we will be using the Discovery Bible Study method to guide our Small Group gatherings. Anyone can facilitate a group! Just gather some friends/family and follow the outline and ask the questions below:

Connect

Ask a regular group member to pray and begin your group time by connecting with God. Then use one or more of the following questions to connect as a group:

- What are you thankful for?
- What's a challenge you are facing?
- How did you do with your last 'I Will' statement?
- Did you share what we talked about with anyone?

Discover

Read the scripture passage and then have someone put the passage in their own words.

- What stands out to you?
- What does this text say about God?
- What does this text say about people?

The three questions listed above will be the standard questions used in the Discover section each week. An additional question may be provided from time to time in the Discover section to connect the passage with that week's sermon.

GO

The goal of this section is for each person to create "I will____" statements that move group members from thinking and processing to action. Encourage members to share their "I will" statements with the group or to email them to the group within 48 hours so that the entire group can pray for them and encourage them as they apply what was discussed to their lives. Use the following questions to guide you through this section:

- How can you live this out in the next few days? (Create an 'I Will' statement)
- Who are you going to tell about what you discovered?

Pray

Ask one or more members of the group to pray for any of the challenges identified during the connect time and for each member, that they will carry through with their "I will" statements.

Tips for Facilitating

1. Ask Questions, Don't Teach (let scriptures teach, not you)
2. Focus on Obedience, not just Knowledge (knowledge best flows from obedience, not the opposite)
3. Pass off Leadership (don't let it be dependent on you)
4. Stay in the passage (puts everyone on the same page)
5. Always model easy reproducibility (don't complicate the process too much)

Principles to Remember:

Discovery Bible Studies are about:

1. *Discovery Learning (not Proclamational Teaching)*
 - Discovery Groups allow people to not just consume information, but instead to actively pursue truth.
 2. *Obedience-Focused Discipleship*
 - Learning information doesn't change lives. DBS's focus on applying what Jesus tells us, and it's in that step of obedience we experience something way more powerful than mere knowledge.
 3. *Immediate Sharing & Multiplication*
 - Changed lives make others notice. When people share what's happening, it tends to go viral...
- Adapted from <https://www.dbsgroups.com>

WEEK OF OCTOBER 5, 2025

There is More

Connect

What are you thankful for?

If someone were to meet you for the first time, what would be the defining or identifying marks of your life?

Discover – John 16: 1-8

What stands out to you?

What does this passage reveal about God?

What does this passage tell you about people and say about you?

GO

What will you do? I will _____

Who will you tell about what you discovered? _____

Pray

WEEK OF OCTOBER 12, 2025

More Than Pies & Promises

Connect

What are you thankful for?

What is a challenge you are facing?

Discover – Deuteronomy 8: 6-18

What stands out to you?

What does this passage reveal about God?

What does this passage tell you about people and say about you?

GO

What will you do? I will _____

Who will you tell about what you discovered? _____

Pray

Wisdom in the Wilderness

Connect

What's a challenge you are currently facing?

What, if anything, is keeping you from deeper intimacy with God?

Discover – James 1: 1-11

What stands out to you?

What does this passage reveal about God?

What does this passage tell you about people or say about you?

GO

What will you do? I will _____

Who will you tell about what you discovered? _____

Pray

WEEK OF OCTOBER 26, 2025

Wisdom that Welcomes

Connect

What was the best part of the past week?

How did you do with your last 'I Will' statement?

Discover – James 2: 1-13

What stands out to you?

What does this passage reveal about God?

What does this passage tell you about people or say about you?

GO

What will you do? I will _____

Who will you tell about what you discovered? _____

Pray

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 2, 2025

Wisdom with Words

Connect

What is causing you stress?

What is bringing you joy?

Discover – James 3: 1-12

What stands out to you?

What does this passage reveal about God?

What does this passage tell you about people or say about you?

How does the way you live intentionally reveal the love and light of God?

GO

What will you do? I will _____

Who will you tell about what you discovered? _____

Pray

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 9, 2025

Wisdom from Above

Connect

What did Jesus help you with this week?

Did you share what you have learned with anyone?

Discover – James 3: 13-18

What stands out to you?

What does this passage reveal about God?

What does this passage tell you about people or say about you?

GO

What will you do? I will _____

Who will you tell about what you discovered? _____

Pray

Wisdom Over Ego

Connect

What are you thankful for?

What's a challenge you are facing?

Discover – James 4: 1-12

What stands out to you?

What does this passage reveal about God?

What does this passage tell you about people or say about you?

GO

What will you do? I will _____

Who will you tell about what you discovered? _____

Pray

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23, 2025

Wisdom in Business

Connect

How did you do with your last "I Will" statement?

Did you share what we talked about with anyone?

Discover – James 4: 13 – 5:6

What stands out to you?

What does this passage reveal about God?

What does this passage tell you about people or say about you?

GO

What will you do? I will _____

Who will you tell about what you discovered? _____

Pray

NOTES

This image shows a full page of blank, lined paper. It features approximately 20 evenly spaced horizontal grey lines running across the width of the page, providing a guide for handwriting or typing. The background is a solid off-white color.

NOTES

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

NOTES

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

