

**Sermon Discussion Guide- Week of Oct 19, 2020**  
**Spiced Wine and Stolen Water: Eating with Wisdom & Folly**  
Dr. Cyndi Parker, 10:30am, see [www.Christchurchsl.org/sermons](http://www.Christchurchsl.org/sermons)

**Getting Started- Life Updates, Prayer Requests & Opening Question (15 min)**

- Anything to share about personal events or faith experiences since you last met?
- Are there any joys or concerns that you would like to share with the group for the closing prayer time or for group members to hold in prayer during the week? (please note them below for later)

**Opening Discussion Question:** The group is invited to share often repeated phrases of wisdom shared by family members across the years (or generations).

**Review the Sermon (15 min)**

Please read aloud the scriptures from this week's sermon message (see [www.christchurchsl.org/sermons](http://www.christchurchsl.org/sermons)) and then discuss the questions which follow as time allows.

**Proverbs 9**

**Wisdom has built her house; she has set up its seven pillars. <sup>2</sup> She has prepared her meat and mixed her wine; she has also set her table. <sup>3</sup> She has sent out her servants, and she calls from the highest point of the city, <sup>4</sup> "Let all who are simple come to my house! To those who have no sense she says, <sup>5</sup> "Come, eat my food and drink the wine I have mixed. <sup>6</sup> Leave your simple ways and you will live; walk in the way of insight."**

**<sup>7</sup> Whoever corrects a mocker invites insults; whoever rebukes the wicked incurs abuse. <sup>8</sup> Do not rebuke mockers or they will hate you; rebuke the wise and they will love you. <sup>9</sup> Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still; teach the righteous and they will add to their learning.**

**<sup>10</sup> The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. <sup>11</sup> For through wisdom your days will be many, and years will be added to your life. <sup>12</sup> If you are wise, your wisdom will reward you; if you are a mocker, you alone will suffer.**

**<sup>13</sup> Folly is an unruly woman; she is simple and knows nothing. <sup>14</sup> She sits at the door of her house, on a seat at the highest point of the city, <sup>15</sup> calling out to those who pass by, who go straight on their way, <sup>16</sup> "Let all who are simple come to my house!" To those who have no sense she says, <sup>17</sup> "Stolen water is sweet; food eaten in secret is delicious!" <sup>18</sup> But little do they know that the dead are there, that her guests are deep in the realm of the dead.**

- If you had to give a one-minute summary of the sermon message this week, what would you say?
- What were some of the elements of contrasts presented when wisdom and folly were compared?

- What did the two have in common in the way they are presented here?
- What do you think the seven pillars means in verse 1?
- How does the setting of a home, a meal and an invitation provide meaning to the nature of wisdom and folly? How about the menu of each?
- What are the ends of each path? How do they apply on an individual level and community level?

### **Other Related Readings (10 min)**

- Would a volunteer please read aloud Deuteronomy 30:11-20.
- Where do you see parallels from this passage and Proverbs 9?
  - How the invitation is given?
  - The end results of the chosen paths?
- How is the idolatry mentioned in 30:17-18 like folly?
- How does Proverbs 9:10 confront this particular sin?
- What does the fear of the Lord mean?
- How do the practices of individuals (toward wisdom or folly) influence the collective direction of a people or nation (such as Israel)? Why?

### **Personalizing and Applying The Message (10 min)**

- As you reflect upon the sermon and the scripture readings above, what are points of encouragement or challenge for you personally?
- Which invitation are you going to pursue?
- How can you tell when you have pursued it or are pursuing it? What actions would it involve?
- If wisdom applies to God's general teachings put into practice, what particular teachings will we be feasting on this week?

### **Witness and Closing (5 minutes)**

- How may we help offer others the path of wisdom this week? How might doing so require a sacrifice on our part?
- A volunteer may conclude by leading the group in prayer about the joys and concerns shared earlier in the meeting