
D-GROUP LEADERS GUIDE

OUR TEXT: Proverbs 3:5-8 - *“...lean not on your own understanding...”*

GOAL FOR THE NIGHT: As it has been from the beginning of this series, the goal of this teaching is to meet with God’s people in the middle of the week to encourage and strengthen them in the middle of truly challenging times.

Tonight, our whole goal as leaders is to encourage God’s people to get their eyes off of everything going on around them... the virus, the economy, the election and subsequent results, and get them “fixed” upon Jesus.

I don’t know if I have ever seen a more difficult time to keep our focus than in today’s world! A pandemic... an election that has gone nasty... economic pressures and insecurity... isolation... closed churches... Man, what a perfect storm to draw our eyes away from Him!

HELP TO GET THINGS GOING: After watching tonight’s devotional together, here are some questions you can ask your group to get things going. Don’t be afraid to call on people to answer, that way the quiet ones get a chance to engage, and the talkative ones don’t get the chance to dominate.

Q: Today, right now, ask each person what is the hardest thing for them to **“trust in the Lord”** for. Is it the economy, the virus, the social disorder, the political future? Or is it something different than all of this and personal to them? What “one thing” really challenges their faith today? Then, after all have shared, pair them up, or at the most create groups of three, and have them spend a considerable time praying with each other in regard to what they shared.

Q: The third thing we are exhorted to do in our text, **Proverbs 3:5-8** is to **“acknowledge Him in all our ways”**. What are some of the attributes and characteristics of Him that we should be acknowledging every day right now?

Q: James 3:17 tells us that the wisdom that is from above is not like the wisdom from below. The wisdom from above is *“...pure, peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy”*. With all of that in mind, how should the Christian be responding to the results of this election?

CHALLENGE: Split your group up into small groups of three or four. Have them read and re-read **Jeremiah 17:5-9** and bring the groups back together to discuss how believers can guard against becoming like a *“shrub in the desert, not seeing when good comes, inhabiting a parched and dry place in the wilderness”*. What can believers do to remain as a *“tree planted by the water, with evergreen leaves and roots that go deep”*?