CONNECT

Describe a time when you got lost. How did you find your way to where you were going?

WORD

In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

Proverbs 16:9

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5-6

THOUGHT

Researchers say adults can make close to 35,000 decisions in their daily lives. These decisions can have minimal consequences or affect many others, depending on the type of decision being made. Some decisions only affect us. We can label those "micro-decisions". Others can have consequences that reach our circle of influence and possibly beyond. These are "macro-decisions".

While consequential outcomes vary between the type of decisions we're making, as Christians we should reflect on what it means in Proverbs 3:6 to submit in all our ways. In fact, walking "in the Spirit" (Galatians 5:25) means relying on God's direction in both the large and small decisions of life.

This continual trusting may be what Paul meant when he encouraged the Thessalonians to "pray without ceasing". (1 Thess. 5:17) Someone who is constantly communicating with God, submitting their plans to Him, and trusting Him to guide their steps is truly living

THE WISDOM OF PROVERBS

THOUGHT CONTINUED...

wisely because they are trusting the One who knows the end from the beginning and who is bigger and stronger than any circumstance or situation.

DISCUSSION

- 1. In order to trust God, one must know God first. Do you know God? If yes, how did this happen?
- 2. How do you get answers to difficult problems? Why is it important not to lean on your own understanding?
- 3. Why is submitting to God in all your ways important? How can you do this in a practical way?
- 4. Has God directed you in a major situation? How did it make you feel?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

• Choose one area of your life this week to focus on surrendering to God. Pray, journal, and meditate on this area and ask for discernment from God.

PRAYER

"Lord God, You know all things. You know the end from the beginning and also know each one of us personally. Thank you for the wisdom you freely offer when we ask. Please help us surrender our lives and decisions fully to You, trusting that You will guide our steps and meet us in our circumstances."