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## THE WISDOM CHALLENGE

Life-Changing Principles and Lessons from Proverbs and the Life of King Solomon



(Minneapolis, MN): Our culture prioritizes wealth and fame but undervalues the pursuit of wisdom. When we possess and apply wisdom to our lives, not only can we achieve so much more for God, others, and ourselves, but we also yield greater impact with our accomplishments, goals, and lessons.

Solomon was one of the greatest men in the Bible. He was the son of King David, who took the throne at nineteen years old and ruled until he died at the age of fifty-nine. God offered Solomon whatever he wanted, and rather than choosing wealth, fame, or possessions, Solomon asked for wisdom, which we find in the book of Proverbs.

In The Wisdom Challenge: Experience the Life-Changing Power of

**Proverbs** (BroadStreet Publishing), authors **Dan Britton** and **Ron Forseth** share simple, effective strategy for "pursuing wisdom," "partnering in the pursuit," (with a Proverbs partner) and "passing it on." The authors guide readers on the subjects of faith, relationships, money, and leadership, specifically on:

- **Wisdom's Promise:** Nothing compares to wisdom. God is eager to give us wisdom if we seek Him. If you believe in wisdom's promise, apply the promise, and live the promise, then your life will be marked with mission and meaning (see Proverbs 8:11).
- **Wisdom's Invitation:** We gain wisdom by asking for it and understanding the fear of the Lord and His nature (holy and love). The fear of the Lord keeps us from offending Him and protects us from sin, turning us toward God and motivating us to love and obey Him (see Psalm 111:10: James 1:5).
- **Wisdom's Tree:** As we gather wisdom, we are to share it and encourage others to pass it along. We don't realize that sharing wisdom from God can have expontential impact on others who become part of your wisdom tree, which continues beyond our lifetime (see Proverbs 11:30).
- **Wisdom's Legacy:** Our decisions determine our present, our future, and our legacy. Nothing lasts forever, but those with wisdom understand that we can still leave an impact on Earth and in heaven. When we make God's wisdom our priority, we impact those around us (Proverbs 2:4–5).

The authors remind us in *The Wisdom Challenge* that wisdom is best learned and shared when walking with others. Wisdom is gained through relationships—first with God and then with others: "Walking with the wise leads to wisdom, but walking without the wise leads to trouble" (see Proverbs 13:20). Develop a deep hunger for wisdom as you engage in the book of Proverbs with your Proverbs Partner. Demonstrate a life-long pursuit of wisdom while you impact others to do the same.

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## **About the Authors:**



**DAN BRITTON** serves as the Chief Field Officer with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) where he has been on staff since 1990. He has coauthored six books, *One Word, One Word for Kids, Life Word, Wisdom Walks, True Competitor,* and *Called to Greatness.* Dan played professional lacrosse with the Baltimore Thunder, earning a spot on the All-Star team. He still plays and coaches lacrosse. Dan and his wife, Dawn, reside in Overland Park, Kansas, and have three adult children and two sons-in-law. @fcadan www.fca.org



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## **Suggested Interview Questions:**

- 1. What made you decide to write a book on the life of Solomon and the teachings of Proverbs?
- 2. How would you sum up the life of Solomon as reflected in his prayer for wisdom above anything else?
- 3. Can you explain the importance of the three Wisdom Challenge elements: pursue, partner, and pass it on?
- 4. Why does God put such great value on wisdom? How can we obtain wisdom? Do we ever gain a complete understanding of wisdom?
- 5. It seems that many people overlook the lasting impact of wisdom. Why is gaining wisdom counter-cultural?
- 6. In addition to praying for wisdom, you write that having a healthy fear of the Lord can also lead to wisdom. Can you clarify what a healthy fear of the Lord is and how it helps us?
- 7. What is a "wisdom tree"? How can it leave an impact beyond our lifetime and reach people we don't know?
- 8. What is the benefit of living The Wisdom Challenge with a partner? What qualities should we look for in that partner?
- 9. Where can we learn more about The Wisdom Challenge? (www.wisdomchallenge.com)