

Review:

Lesson 1: The Beginning of Wisdom

Lesson 2: The Purpose of Wisdom

Lesson 3: Surrender, Pt. 1

Lesson 4: Surrender, Pt. 2

Lesson 5: Surrender, Pt. 3

Lesson 6: Two Different Paths

Lesson 7: Wise Discipline

Wise Nations Proverbs 14:34

The benefits of wisdom are as available to groups as they are to individuals, but righteousness always _____ with _____ and works its way out through groups, never the other way around.

Discussion 1. While any form of hypocrisy is ugly, who do you suppose it is especially distasteful for me to shame my country for being ungodly when my own life choices are so very ungodly? Why is it important that I see righteousness of my nation as beginning with me?

Success in God's creation, both for an individual and for a nation, begins with a heart devoted to God. If we think we can get our nation to _____ its way to righteousness, then we have missed God's message completely.

Discussion 2. Why do you suppose we often try to make our family or our country great by addressing its outward behavior rather than by addressing its heart? If we were to succeed and our entire country began acting as if it were devoted to God but was not in fact devoted to God, have we succeeded? Why or why not?

If my solution to national sin is for "those people" to look and act more like me, then I don't really understand sin. Our plumb line for a _____ is never yours or mine, but only God's.

Discussion 3. It is always easier to see someone else's sin with more clarity than I see my own. When thinking about a family or a community or a nation, how can you avoid that trap? What might it sound like for you to confess sin on behalf of your family or your community or your nation WITHOUT sounding like you are judging others?

When it comes to national greatness, God's measure is radically different from any of the world's measures of greatness. It is not about the nation's size, nor its economy, nor its military, nor its system of government, nor its policies. It is about an _____ of God which leads to genuine devotion.

Discussion 4. How were you taught in school to measure the greatness of your country? How is that different from measuring greatness in terms of Godliness?