

## Bible Chat w/s 24 10 21

Read Job chapter 28

- What do we learn about wisdom from this chapter? (Consider: how easy it is to find, how common or rare it is, how we can acquire it etc.)
- Verse 28 expresses a common thought. Discuss what 'the Fear of the Lord' might be? Is this a relevant concept for us today? Do we sometimes take God too casually?
- Explore how the Fear of the Lord might be the beginning of wisdom.

Read Matthew 11:25.

- Discuss how it might be that children may be wise, or appear to be wise. What can we learn from children?
- Explore how it is that adults lose their childlike wisdom.
- Do you think suffering can stimulate the growth of wisdom?
- What is wisdom, do you think? You might like to read through David's suggestions about the beginning of wisdom, copied in italics below.
- As a worked example, discuss how God's wisdom might help us to approach a young person unsure about their gender.

*David suggested wisdom begins with attitudes like these:*

- *It's the **poise** to sit still in a situation without fully understanding it.*
- *It's the **peace** to calmly accept another person before we make any judgments about who's right and who's wrong.*
- *It's the **strength** to look an opponent in the eye and not reach for a weapon or turn away.*
- *It's the **respect** for another's humanity, even when we don't agree with them.*
- *It's the **self-control** not to make a snap judgement, not to flinch or lunge or react.*
- *It's the **ability** to suspend judgement. To live with uncertainty. To love with mystery. To live with pain. To say Yes to life in a changing and uncertain world.*
- *It's the **ability** to see with what's sometimes called the Third Eye - the eye beyond our other eyes of assessment and judgement, to the deeper realities of a situation*