



LIFELINE Discussion Guide

Week of November 3, 2025

1. What true story could you tell about a foolish driver you encountered on the road? How about a foolish employee or co-worker? A foolish classmate or teammate? How did this person violate wise thinking or common sense? Tell your story to the group.
2. **Read Proverbs 26:1-12** aloud. What kind of literature is the Book of Proverbs? What is a proverb? Who was the primary author and collector of this book of Scripture?
3. Someone may be college educated, have high SAT scores, own a business, or have a charismatic personality— and still be a fool. What is the basic definition of a fool according to the Bible? Read these verses aloud for a basic summary of the biblical “fool”.

a. Psalm 14:1 b. Proverbs 1:7 c. Proverbs 18:2 d. Proverbs 12:15 e. Proverbs 13:16
4. Have you ever seen the wrong person put into a position of leadership, authority, or oversight? What does verse 1 and verse 8 say about the results of extending “honor” and privilege to a foolish person? Explain your answer.
5. How would you explain the meaning of verse 8? How does God’s Word and biblical wisdom keep a person from being subjected to “the school of hard knocks”? Give a real-life example of someone you know who always has to learn “the hard way.”
6. Some people become confused by verses 5 and 6 because at first read, they seem to be a contradiction. But how are these verses actually *complementary* to one another? What do these verses teach about using *discernment* in answering foolish people and their bad ideas? (What did Jesus say about the wise vs. foolish in Matthew 7:24-27?)
7. Proverbs 26:11 might be one of the most disgusting proverbs ever. What does it mean? How does this proverb apply to everyday life?
8. What critical warnings does the Bible extend to you in Proverbs 13:20 and Proverbs 14:7 as it relates to your Christian life and your association with foolish people? How do you know where to draw the line in everyday life? Discuss your answers.

The biggest fools turn down God’s voice while turning up their own.