

House On The Rock Life Group Study outline 2026

September: Divine Elevation – Positioned for Purpose

Outlines for the month

Week 1: Positioned for Elevation

Week 2: Navigating Elevation✓

Week 3: Purposeful Elevation

Instructions

During this study, we will be doing a 'deep dive' into a scriptural passage. It is strongly encouraged that you study the passage and entire chapter ahead of the study. Also be prepared with your research tools, for example Google or your study Bible, as you will need to reference it during the study. Spend time answering and discussing each question with the intention to gain sufficient understanding to help your own private Bible study as you further explore these topics.

Study chapters: Proverbs 10–31

Because this is a large section of Proverbs, the reading should be thematically organised rather than treated as a verse-by-verse survey.

Give particular attention to:

God's direction and our decisions: Proverbs 16:1–9; 19:20–21; 20:24; 21:1–3

Character and integrity: Proverbs 10:9; 11:1–6; 20:7; 22:1–4; 28:6

Words and relationships: Proverbs 12:18; 15:1–4; 17:9, 17; 18:20–24; 27:5–10, 17

Work and diligence: Proverbs 10:4–5; 12:11, 24; 14:23; 22:29

Correction and counsel: Proverbs 12:1, 15; 15:22, 31–33; 19:20; 27:5–6

Timing, restraint and discernment: Proverbs 14:8, 15; 17:27–28; 18:13; 25:8–11; 29:11

These chapters bring wisdom into everyday life. Divine Elevation is not lived only in spectacular moments. It is worked out in conversations, decisions, relationships, responses to correction, attitudes toward work and the choices made when nobody is watching.

Pilot text

Proverbs 16:1-9

1 The preparations of the heart belong to man, But the answer of the tongue is from the Lord.

2 All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, But the Lord weighs the spirits.

3 Commit your works to the Lord, And your thoughts will be established.

4 The Lord has made all for Himself, Yes, even the wicked for the day of doom.

5 Everyone proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord; Though they join forces, none will go unpunished.

6 In mercy and truth Atonement is provided for iniquity; And by the fear of the Lord one departs from evil.

7 When a man's ways please the Lord, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

8 Better is a little with righteousness, Than vast revenues without justice.

9 A man's heart plans his way, But the Lord directs his steps.

Proverbs 19:20-21

20 Listen to counsel and receive instruction, That you may be wise in your latter days.

21 There are many plans in a man's heart, Nevertheless the Lord's counsel—that will stand.

Introduction

Last week we discovered that **Wisdom Positions**. This week we discover that **Wisdom Navigates**. It is one thing to believe that God has a purpose. It is another thing to walk wisely through the process of getting there.

Between promise and fulfilment there are decisions. There are people. There are opportunities that look right but are wrong, and difficulties that look wrong but through which God may be doing something extraordinary. There are doors that open, doors that close, unexpected delays, uncomfortable correction and moments when the next step is anything but obvious. This is where wisdom becomes indispensable.

The wisdom of Proverbs teaches us how to travel the routes of purpose without allowing ambition to corrupt character, pressure to control our words, success to produce pride, disappointment to produce bitterness, or haste to take us somewhere God never intended.

Discussion questions

1. **Where do we see Christ?** Proverbs repeatedly describes the qualities of the wise person: truthfulness, humility, integrity, measured speech, righteousness, compassion, diligence and willingness to receive correction. Yet no human being embodies this wisdom perfectly. Then we encounter Jesus.

Further reading: Luke 2:40, 52; Colossians 2:2–3; 1 Corinthians 1:24, 30; John 8:28–29 and Philippians 2:5–11.

Jesus is the perfect picture of a life directed by the Father. He possessed extraordinary authority but never used it for selfish advancement. He knew when to speak and when to remain silent. He resisted shortcuts to power. He rejected the devil's invitation to obtain kingdoms through compromise. Even approaching the cross, His posture remained one of surrender to the Father. The Wisdom of God did not simply know the right destination. He walked the right path to reach it.

2. **Where do we see salvation foreshadowed?** Proverbs shows repeatedly that human choices have consequences. Pride, dishonesty, destructive speech and foolishness lead toward ruin, while righteousness points toward life. Yet Scripture's larger story reveals that humanity's fundamental problem cannot be solved simply by trying harder to make wise choices. We need rescue.

Further reading: Romans 3:21–24; Ephesians 2:8–10; Titus 3:3–7; Philippians 2:12–13 and Galatians 5:22–25.

Salvation is God's work of grace through Christ. But the grace that saves also begins changing how we walk. God works within us, transforming desires and producing a new way of living through His Spirit. This means Christian wisdom is not an attempt to earn salvation, but the fruit of a life being transformed by salvation.

3. **Where do we see ourselves in this story?** How can believers distinguish between God's redirection and the consequences of their own unwise choices? A closed door may feel like rejection. Correction may feel like opposition. Waiting may feel like stagnation. An unexpected assignment may appear insignificant. Yet wisdom asks us not to judge God's activity solely by whether circumstances match our expectations.

Further reading: James 1:5; Romans 12:1–2; Ephesians 5:15–17; Philippians 1:9–11 and James 3:13–17.

Closing Thoughts

Divine Elevation does not mean that every step of the journey will feel upward. Proverbs reminds us that we make plans, but God directs our steps (Proverbs 16:9). His wisdom is therefore essential not only for discovering purpose, but for navigating the process.

We see this perfectly in Christ. Jesus never confused elevation with self-promotion. When the devil offered Him kingdoms without the cross, He refused the shortcut. He walked in complete dependence upon the Father, ultimately humbling Himself even to death. Yet Philippians 2:9 tells us that God highly exalted Him. Christ shows us that God's route to elevation may look very different from the world's. Divine purpose never requires us to abandon Divine character.

Salvation reinforces this truth. We are not accepted by God because we have navigated life flawlessly. We are saved by grace through Christ (Ephesians 2:8–10). Yet that same grace transforms us. God works within us both to desire and to do what pleases Him (Philippians 2:13). Wisdom becomes part of how a redeemed life learns to walk.

Where are we in this story? Some may be facing decisions. Others may be experiencing delay, correction, disappointment or an unexpected change of direction. The temptation is either to force the original plan or assume that something has gone wrong. But Divine Elevation requires enough humility to let God redraw the route.

Plan carefully. Work diligently. Seek counsel. Guard your integrity. Listen for wisdom. And when God redirects the journey, trust the One who can see what you cannot.

Here is an invitation for you:

Bring the map of your life before God again: the career plan, family expectation, ministry ambition, financial goal, relationship decision or personal timetable.

Ask Him not merely to bless the route already chosen, but to direct the steps.

Where correction is needed, receive it.

Where patience is required, wait wisely.

Where action is required, move courageously.

Where compromise is offered as a shortcut, refuse it.

Trust God's wisdom enough to follow His direction, even when the road bends somewhere unexpected.

Application questions (use scriptures to support your position):

1. A Christian manager has been told privately that a senior position is likely to become available. An influential executive offers to support her application, but expects her to conceal information that would make his department look bad. She believes the promotion could greatly increase her influence and ability to do good. How should Proverbs' teaching on integrity, counsel and God's direction help her evaluate whether this opportunity represents Divine Elevation or an unwise shortcut?
2. A couple have spent two years preparing to relocate for an opportunity they believed was right for their family. Shortly before the move, the opportunity unexpectedly disappears. One spouse immediately wants to pursue another route at any cost, while the other believes they should reconsider the entire plan. Using Proverbs 16:1–9 and 19:20–21, how would you counsel them to respond without confusing either disappointment or passivity with God's direction?
3. A successful Christian leader launches a major initiative and becomes deeply committed to seeing it succeed. Several mature people around him independently raise similar concerns, but he dismisses them as negative and argues that strong faith requires ignoring opposition. Results begin deteriorating, yet changing direction now would be embarrassing. What do Proverbs 12:15, 15:22 and 27:5–6 reveal about counsel, correction and wisdom? How might changing direction actually become part of Divine Elevation rather than evidence of failure?