



# Proverbs

WEEK 3 ♦ AUGUST 6

## Leading Wisely

### Introduction

Welcome to week three of our *Proverbs* series! This week, Pastor John unpacked several proverbs of leadership he's worked to incorporate over the years. Together, let's keep digging into the leadership wisdom of Proverbs and its application for our lives.

### Discussion

1. **Revisit and read Proverbs 25:11-13.** Share an example of a particularly meaningful moment of verbal encouragement from a leader you trusted and its impact on your life.
2. **Revisit and read Proverbs 25:28.** Take a moment to evaluate your self-control with your speech. Can you identify any specific patterns, triggers, or principles you have when speaking with others? Share where you are and the typical impact on your relationships.
3. Who in your Little Iowa – your circle of friends, family, co-workers, and neighbors – needs words of healing and hope right now? Consider and share what impact your words may have on them and what's most likely to keep you from taking that step.
4. **Revisit and read Matthew 7:6.** When you find yourself leading someone who's repeatedly resistant to wise correction and counsel, you need to be able to release yourself from feeling responsible for them and trust God's plan for them. Process how you can (or have) balance(d) the love and respect you have for others while letting them go from your responsibility.
5. Share a few instances when you faced criticism or rejection in a leadership role. Have you let them off your hook? If so, how? What opportunities and challenges does this wisdom from Proverbs and Pastor John present to you?

### Application

Spend time reflecting on these truths this week:

- **These leadership wisdoms aren't about "them"; they're about you.** You can't control or lead others where they aren't willing to go, but you can always lead yourself.
- **Trust God** with others' development, to defend you, and take care of your enemies.
- **Words heal.** All leadership involves communication. You have the power and opportunity to bring healing in your Little Iowa when led by self-awareness, compassion, and self-control.