

# I Declare: Wisdom

## Week 2

### Discussion Guide



## Icebreaker

Complete this sentence honestly:

"When I need advice or wisdom, my first instinct is to \_\_\_\_\_."

## Read

Take turns reading Genesis 4:1-12

## Discuss

Genesis 4 begins with Cain's comparison and disappointment. Both brothers bring offerings, but Cain's response to rejection reveals something deeper happening in his heart. Instead of processing his emotions with God or another person, Cain internalizes them. He becomes friends with his jealous anger. Isolation often begins long before we pull away physically, it starts emotionally.

- **What does Cain's reaction reveal about the difference between reacting emotionally and responding wisely?**
- **How does isolation distort our perspective and decision-making?**
- **What warning signs might tell us we're starting to drift toward isolation like Cain?**

Before Cain murders Abel, God speaks. God doesn't shame Cain, He warns him and invites him to choose differently (v. 6-7). Wisdom is accessible to Cain, but he does not seek it.

- **How might things have been different if Cain had sought guidance from God or from others?**
- **What keeps you from seeking wisdom when you know you need it?**
- **In what areas of your life right now might God be inviting you to slow down and seek wisdom rather than react?**

Even after Cain's sin, God pursues him with a question. Not because God lacks information, but because He invites honesty, responsibility, and repentance, but Cain lies (v. 9). Cain's response shows how isolation hardens the heart, he distances himself even further. This moment reminds us that wisdom grows where we allow ourselves to be known by God and by others.

- **How does deflection or avoidance keep us from growth?**
- **How does allowing wise Godly people to truly know us shape our character over time?**
- **Where might God be inviting you to step into greater honesty—either with Him or with trusted people?**

## Application

Cain's story is a warning, but it is also an invitation. Cain didn't fall in a moment—he drifted in isolation. Wisdom often isn't about knowing more; it's about walking with the right people (Proverbs 13:20). God never intended us to face life alone (Genesis 2:18).

- **Who are the people you spend the most time with right now?**
- **Are they helping you move toward God or away from Him?**
- **When you're angry, discouraged or confused who do you talk to first?**
- **Identify a relationship you need to lean into for Godly counsel and one area where you have been isolating and intentionally invite their counsel into it.**

## Prayer

Spend time in prayer thanking God for the Godly counsel you have in your life and for the courage to seek it and not isolate or turn toward foolish counsel.