- 1) Begin your time by briefly praying and asking the Holy Spirit to help you as you discuss and study.
- 2) Read Proverbs 3:5-8 together.
- 3) What stuck out to you as you read? Is there anything you don't understand? Is there anything you'd like to discuss?
- 4) Respond to this quote by Warren Wiersbe:
 - "If we really trust God, we will obey Him. We may think that our own wisdom is sufficient, but it is not; we need the wisdom of God. Verse 5 does not teach that Christians should fail to think and consider facts when making decisions, because God expects us to use our brains. Rather, it means that we should not *trust* our own ideas or wisdom; we must ask God to direct us (James 1:5). A willingness to obey is the first step toward knowing God's will (John 7:17)." ¹
- 5) In what ways do you personally struggle to trust God?
- 6) Read Proverbs 12:9 and Proverbs 13:7. What would you say is the combined message of these passages?
- 7) On your deathbed, money & wealth will likely not be the things on your mind. Instead, you will likely be thinking about the things that matter most. What are those things for you?
- 8) What does a biblical work/life balance look like? i.e. How can we invest our lives in the things that matter most, while also being responsible to do all the things we have to do to live?
- 9) Read Proverbs 14:21 and Proverbs 22:22-23. What would you say is the combined message of these passages?
- 10) What are the ways in which the poor are taken advantage of in our society?
- 11) How does God call us to use our money & wealth to bless the poor and disadvantaged in our society?

- 12) Read Proverbs 3:9-10.
- 13) What does it mean to honor the Lord with the firstfruits of our wealth?
- 14) Respond to this quote by Warren Wiersbe:
 - "If we don't faithfully give to the Lord, we don't really trust the Lord. Of course, our tithes and offerings aren't "payment" for His blessings; rather, they're evidence of our faith and obedience. Christian industrialist R.G. LeTourneau used to say, "If you give because it pays, it won't pay." Giving is heart preparation for what God wants to say to us and do for us. "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matt. 6:21, NKJV)." ²
- 15) End your time in prayer. Ask God to help you apply the things you've discussed and learned during this time of study.

- ¹ Warren W. Wiersbe, <u>Wiersbe's Expository Outlines on the Old Testament</u> (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1993), Pr 3.
- ² Warren W. Wiersbe, <u>Be Skillful</u>, "Be" Commentary Series (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1996), 39