



LIFE Group Discussion Guide

August 16, 2026

Proverbs 29:18

CONVERSATION STARTERS

- What are some highs or lows you experienced this past week?
- What Scripture has been shaping you recently?
- Where have you seen God moving in your life this week?
- What did you hear in today's sermon OR read in today's passage that you would like to discuss?
- What did you learn about yourself in today's sermon/passage?
- What did you learn about God in today's sermon/passage?
- What convicted you as you listened to today's sermon OR read in today's passage?

OPENING

Have you ever gotten lost because you didn't follow directions or didn't know where you were going? What happened?

Nobody likes being lost. Whether it's driving somewhere, playing a game, or planning for the future, we need direction. Proverbs 29:18 teaches us that the same is true spiritually. When we ignore God's guidance, we drift. When we follow His truth, we find the path He wants us to take.

Today we'll learn that God's Word gives us the direction we need to live wisely and follow Him faithfully.

SCRIPTURE

Read Proverbs 29:18 together.

Ask students to listen for:

- The problem in the verse
- The solution in the verse
- The result of following God's direction

PASSAGE SUMMARY

Many people think this verse is mainly about having goals or dreams. While goals are important, Solomon is talking about something bigger.

The word "vision" or "revelation" refers to God's truth and guidance.

Without God's direction:

- People drift
- They make choices based only on feelings
- They lose sight of what matters most

With God's direction:

- People find wisdom
- They make better choices
- They experience God's blessing

The main point is you were not meant to figure out life on your own. God wants to guide you through His Word.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What do you think "vision" or "revelation" means in this verse?

God's guidance, truth, and direction for our lives.

What does it mean that people "cast off restraint" or "run wild" when there is no vision?

They stop following healthy boundaries and begin doing whatever feels right to them.

Why do you think people often want to make their own rules instead of following God's?

Because we want control, independence, and sometimes believe our way will be easier or more fun.

What are some ways students can drift away from God's direction?

- Ignoring Scripture
- Following peer pressure
- Prioritizing popularity over obedience
- Making decisions based only on feelings

How does God's Word help us make wise decisions?

It teaches us what is right, helps us understand God's character, and gives guidance for everyday life.

What are some areas where teenagers especially need God's direction?

Friendships, dating relationships, social media, future plans, school choices, and personal character.

Why do you think following God's direction leads to blessing?

Because God knows what is best for us and His wisdom protects and guides us.

APPLICATION**What is one area of your life where you need God's direction right now?**

Examples:

- Friendships
- Family relationships
- School decisions
- Future plans
- Spiritual growth

Are there any areas where you are relying more on your own feelings than on God's truth?

Encourage honest reflection.

What is one practical step you can take this week to seek God's direction more intentionally?

Examples:

- Read Scripture daily
- Pray before making decisions
- Ask a trusted Christian adult for advice
- Memorize a Bible verse

DIG DEEPER

Why is it dangerous to make decisions based only on feelings?

How can you tell the difference between God's wisdom and cultural pressure?

What role do parents, leaders, and Christian friends play in helping us follow God's direction?

How does spending time in God's Word shape the decisions we make?

CLOSING THOUGHT

Everyone follows something. Some people follow their feelings. Some follow their friends. Some follow whatever seems popular.

God invites us to follow Him. His Word provides the direction we need when life feels confusing or uncertain.

Challenge students this week, before making an important decision, ask:
"What does God's Word say about this?"

LOOKING AHEAD

Next week we will discuss **Matthew 5:13-15** as we begin a new series, *The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached: The Sermon on the Mount*.

PRAYER FOCUS

Pray together:

- Thank God for giving us His Word to guide our lives.
- Ask Him to help students seek His wisdom before making decisions.
- Pray for courage to follow God's direction even when it is difficult.
- Pray for students who are facing important choices and need God's guidance.
- Pray specifically for the invitation portion of our worship services—that hearts will be open, the Spirit will move powerfully, and people will respond in obedience to Christ.

COMMENTARY

Proverbs 29:18

"Without Revelation": The Hebrew word for revelation is *chazown*, which typically refers to prophetic or divine vision. In the context of the CSB, this refers to the inspired word of God—His direct communication. It highlights that humanity needs divine truth to know how to live.

"People Run Wild": Unlike the KJV phrase *"the people perish,"* the CSB translates the Hebrew verb *para* to mean letting loose, acting without restraint, or running wild. This parallels Exodus 32:25, where the Israelites threw off moral boundaries when left without divine instruction. When society lacks God's revealed truth, moral chaos ensues.

"Listen to Instruction": The second half of the proverb highlights the solution. Listening to and heeding divine instruction aligns a person with God's plan.

"Will Be Happy": True blessing and happiness (flourishing) are found strictly within the boundaries of God's wisdom.

Applying the Text

Commentators note that this proverb teaches there is a direct correlation between a society's or individual's moral state and their submission to God's Word. Rather than functioning as a mandate for casting entrepreneurial or corporate vision, it is a warning that humanity requires moral boundaries established by God to avoid moral decay.