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Grounders:

Last week we learned about wise behavior. Our illustration was William Wallace who was born in Scotland in 1267. The king of Scotland had died without an heir appointed to the throne. King Edward the Longshanks of England seized the opportunity to pillage Scotland, claiming it as his own. Wallace's wife was murdered. What followed is now legend as one man armed only with *wise behavior* took on an entire country.

Proverbs tells us that wise behavior has four characteristics. First it is *convincing* (Prov. 16:23). Second it includes *common sense* (Prov. 10:5; 19:11). Third wise behavior is *courageous* (Prov. 21:11-12). Fourth wise behavior is *credible* (Prov. 12:8). William Wallace's life was characterized and known by these four traits.

To be *convincing* with our words, we must first have wisdom in our heart (Prov. 16:23). William Wallace employed his own chaplain in order to get the word in his heart. This week, memorize a verse or passage from Proverbs.

To have *common sense*, we must apply the verse or passage to our lives. This week look at your calendar with your memorized words of wisdom in mind. Ask God how you can apply the wisdom to your everyday life. This is how William Wallace was able to rally the common men of Scotland with common sense.

To be *courageous*, we must be willing to share our experience of the verse with another person. This is big. William Wallace persuaded his reluctant nobleman friend, Robert the Bruce with the words, "Men don't follow titles. They follow courage." This week, share with someone your experience of applying the verse to your life. That person will be honored that you are courageous enough to share your experience with God's wisdom.

To be *credible*, we must give credit to God for the experience. This week, when people ask more about your experience, give the credit to God. That's what William Wallace did. Wallace had been betrayed by his friend Robert the Bruce who had chosen the wealth and title of fighting for England over the credibility of defending Scotland. Wallace met up with England's most formidable, masked opponent on the battlefield only to learn the identity was none other than Robert the Bruce. Wallace had the credibility to spare his friend's life. This haunted Robert the Bruce until he repented and later led Scotland to *freedom*, the last word prayerfully screamed by William Wallace as he died for the cause.

Hopefully, our friends will also be drawn to repentance toward God through our wise behavior of convincing words, common sense, courage, and credibility.