

## Introduction:

1. **Confusion** – 1) to mix up, jumble together, put in disorder, 2) an inability to distinguish between things, bewilderment, 3) a lack of coherent, orderly thinking in the midst of complex problems, relationships, and decision making opportunities.

2. **Synonyms** – disorder, disarray, chaos, muddled

- **The problem with confusion** = It immobilizes, paralyzes, demotivates, and neutralizes individual and corporate progress and effectiveness.
- **The cure for confusion** = A lesson from master teachers:
  - Reduce complexity = K.I.S.S.
  - Increase clarity = G.B.T.T.B.

## Getting back to the basics:

1. God is \_\_\_\_\_ - Perspective

2. Life is \_\_\_\_\_ - Priority

3. Sin is \_\_\_\_\_ - Purity

4. Wisdom is \_\_\_\_\_ - Purpose

5. Mercy is \_\_\_\_\_ - Prayer

6. Success is \_\_\_\_\_ - Productivity

*<sup>1</sup>Lord, You have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. <sup>2</sup>Before the mountains were born or You brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God.*

*<sup>3</sup>You turn men back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, O sons of men." <sup>4</sup>For a thousand years in Your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night. <sup>5</sup>You sweep men away in the sleep of death; they are like the new grass of the morning - <sup>6</sup>though in the morning it springs up new, by evening it is dry and withered.*

*<sup>7</sup>We are consumed by Your anger and terrified by Your indignation. <sup>8</sup>You have set our iniquities before You, our secret sins in the light of Your presence. <sup>9</sup>All our days pass away under Your wrath; we finish our years with a moan. <sup>10</sup>The length of our days is seventy years - or eighty, if we have the strength; yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away.*

*<sup>11</sup>Who knows the power of Your anger? For Your wrath is as great as the fear that is due You. <sup>12</sup>Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.*

*<sup>13</sup>Relent, O LORD! How long will it be? Have compassion on Your servants. <sup>14</sup>Satisfy us in the morning with Your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days. <sup>15</sup>Make us glad for as many days as You have afflicted us, for as many years as we have seen trouble.*

*<sup>16</sup>May Your deeds be shown to Your servants, Your splendor to their children. <sup>17</sup>May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us--yes, establish the work of our hands.*

Psalm 90 (NIV 1984)

**Six questions to ask when you're confused:**

1. Am I rightly \_\_\_\_\_ to God?
2. Am I \_\_\_\_\_ to die?
3. Am I \_\_\_\_\_ sin seriously?
4. Am I \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ my life?
5. Am I \_\_\_\_\_ the joy of the Lord?
6. Am I \_\_\_\_\_ my world for good?

**Life Application Questions:**

1. In what area of your life are you experiencing the most confusion?
  - Spiritual?
  - Relational?
  - Vocational?
  - Emotional?
  - Future Plans?
2. Place an asterisk next to the section of Psalm 90 (on page 2 of this handout) which spoke most powerfully to you. Share with your group (or write privately) why you think this section of the Psalm impacted you.
3. How does asking "the big questions" of life help us move from confusion to clarity? Which of the six questions helped bring clarity or a need for re-evaluation in your life?
4. What one action step would demonstrate that you are serious about "numbering your days to gain a heart of wisdom?" Who will hold you accountable and encourage you for the next 45 days?