

AUGUST 31, 2025

WISDOM OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PROVERBS 1; 3-4

CHRIST CONNECTION

Solomon's proverbs encourage God's people to trust in the Lord. Jesus trusted in God His Father throughout His life on earth, all the way to His death on the cross for our sins. Jesus rose again and continues to lead us to love and trust God the Father.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

What does God know? God knows everything.

MEMORY VERSE

Proverbs 3:7

PREPARE

Take time to reflect on today's lesson.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

God's gift of wisdom to King Solomon did not end with Solomon; he shared this wisdom through his proverbs. Solomon wrote in Proverbs 1:2 that these words were for learning wisdom and discipline, understanding insightful sayings, receiving instruction, and teaching the inexperienced. Through all the insight he gained as the wisest man on earth, he came back to this truth: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge" (Proverbs 1:7).

What does it mean to fear the Lord? How can we know that we have true wisdom?

Fearing the Lord means honoring Him as holy and revering Him as God alone. Solomon recognized the folly of a life lived in his own strength and wisdom. He knew that pursuing the Lord through genuine trust and obedience is the only way to live a life that matters. He beckoned readers to trust in the Lord with all their heart and not depend on their own understanding. The proverbs reveal to us that wisdom is not a mere intellectual exercise. Wisdom is a Person, Jesus, and by trusting in Him we find salvation.

Many proverbs offer practical guidance for interacting with the world: avoiding peer pressure, pursuing the path of peace, and treating others fairly. However, all of the practical guidance is grounded in following God's wisdom above any earthly knowledge. Solomon wrote of the favor God's people experience when they cling to His ways above all else.

Consider your relationship to godly wisdom. Reflect on the seasons of life that have led you closest to the Lord and in obedience to Him. Remember God's generosity and kindness toward His followers: "Now if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God—who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly—and it will be given to him" (James 1:5).

Invite kids to see the beauty of pursuing God's ways and trusting Him, both for the promise of His presence and the wisdom He provides in our everyday lives. Life everlasting begins when we come to faith in Him!

WELCOME

Engage and connect with kids as they arrive.

OPENING ACTIVITIES

Kids are free to be in the game room, hang out in the balcony area, or chill in the Large Group room. Leaders should walk around the different areas interacting with kids. Engage with them, talk with them, encourage those who seem a bit shy, etc.

The game room and balcony area will be "closed" once Large Group starts and until small groups are done.

MEMORY VERSE

Proverbs 3:7, ESV

Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil.

NEXT BIBLE BUCKS DAY: **SEPTEMBER 28**

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Review what we're learning in Large Group.

WISDOM OF GOD'S PEOPLE

King Solomon wrote many proverbs. Proverbs are short sayings that give wisdom and help people live in ways that are right and good. By following these proverbs, people can gain knowledge and wisdom and receive guidance for life.

The book of Proverbs is filled with many of King Solomon's wise sayings. King Solomon taught people to fear the Lord and trust in Him. He said fearing God was the beginning of knowledge. He also wrote that it is foolish to hate wisdom and discipline.

Solomon said it is wise to keep God's commandments, for they will bring a long, full life. He taught about the importance of being loyal and faithful, and how this will give you a good reputation with God and people.

Another proverb Solomon wrote was, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not depend on your own understanding." Solomon said you should look to God in everything you do, and He will guide you. "Don't think of yourself as wise," Solomon wrote. "Instead fear the Lord and turn away from evil."

Solomon also said, "Honor the Lord with everything you own and with the first produce of your entire harvest; then you will experience great blessing."

Some of Solomon's proverbs were warnings, such as "Do not hate the Lord's instruction, and do not hate His discipline. The Lord disciplines the one He loves, just as a father disciplines the son he loves."

Solomon's proverbs show there are two ways to live: with God's wisdom or without God's wisdom. He wrote, "I am teaching you the way of wisdom; hold on to God's commands and don't let go for they are your life. Don't walk in the path of the wicked. Turn away from it for the wicked love violence, and their path is dark. But stay on the path of the righteous where light always shines brighter and brighter."

CHRIST CONNECTION

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SMALL GROUP

Dive deeper with your group through relational discipleship.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Is there something new you learned today about Proverbs?
- 2. Does following Proverbs perfectly guarantee success or happiness?
- 3. What does it mean that God is the source of wisdom?
- 4. Why shouldn't we lean on our own understanding? (Proverbs 3:5-6)
- 5. What's one thing this week you will do to grow in wisdom?

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY

On the TV in your room, pull up the folder labeled "Proverb or Yoda?".

As a group or in smaller teams, kids must decide if the quote on the screen is a proverb from the Bible or a quote from Yoda.

Optional: Get every small group together to play in the Large Group room, with each group playing as its own team.

CLOSING

Continue to engage kids before pick-up.

CLOSING & PICK-UP

After small group time, kids are free to go in the game room, hang out in the balcony area, or chill in the Large Group room until service is over. Once parents begin to arrive, small groups should return to their room for pick-up.

Reminder: Parents must present a security code that matches the one on their child's name tag to pick them up! Once the code and tag are matched, take them and dispose of them. If the code or tag are missing when a parent comes to pick their child up, call Taylor or a hall captain for assistance.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING!

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