

D6 EveryDay™ Parent Page

Date | **February 27, 2022** Family Theme | **Wisdom for Every Day** Study Text | **Proverbs 1:1-33**

Objective: Children learn how to seek out and apply the wisdom found in God's Word.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: The Proverbs were written and compiled during the reign of Solomon which began in 970 BC and the compilation extended to the days of Hezekiah c. 700 BC, according to Proverbs 25:1. These nuggets of God's wisdom apply to all people of both the Old and New Testaments.

Bible Basics: Review the names and order of the first seventeen books of the Old Testament (Genesis through Esther) this week and work with family members to do so as well.

Read the Word: Proverbs 1:1-33

Disciple Your Kids

Help your children and grandchildren understand that they can find wisdom in God's Word for the situations they face.



Key Truth: God Is the Source of Wisdom (Proverbs 1:1-7)

Solomon received great wisdom from God (1 Kings 4:29). He authored and gathered a huge collection of proverbs, which we know as the book of Proverbs. Solomon intended them to help readers gain wisdom and instruction for shaping a life of discipline and prudence, doing what is right. Knowledge refers to having a grasp on the information available to us. Wisdom builds on top of knowledge. It involves skill in living. In verse 7, Solomon pointed out the key to wisdom: the fear of the Lord. Fear in this case is not just being afraid of something. It involves a healthy respect. Those who would build a good life must begin with a healthy respect for God. We find several categories of people the Bible considers unwise, such as the simple, the mocker, and the fool. We find many examples of these as we read through the book of Proverbs.



Key Truth: The Wise Refuse to Participate in Sinful Activities (Proverbs 1:8-19)

Solomon then addressed his son. It was common in wisdom literature from that time period (both the Proverbs and nonbiblical writings) to structure advice in this manner. We can easily imagine ourselves as the recipients of this wise, godly, parental advice. The first piece of advice concerns relationships with those who would lead us astray. These people make plans for evil. They want to entice fools to come along with them, using gain as bait. They have no concern for what happens to their victims, but focus only on the plunder they hope to seize. They promise to share everything. Solomon recognized that sin and bloodshed accompanied such people. He further recognized that their affairs do not end well. Wicked people of this sort are not merely bad associates — they are dangerous! The wise will avoid danger, and the people who spread it.



Key Truth: Rejecting God's Wisdom Results in Ruin (Proverbs 1:20-33)

To personify wisdom is common in wisdom literature, both biblical and secular. Notice where she (Wisdom) calls out to those who need her: in the street, in the public squares, and in the gateways of the city. Wisdom

speaks out to us where we live and work and expects to change how we live and work. Wisdom addressed three kinds of people: the simple, the mockers, and the fools. The simple are ignorant, and contrary to the popular saying, ignorance is not bliss! Mockers, on the other hand may be quite clever. They are defiant, often cynical, proudly denigrating the ways of wisdom and puffing up their own image. Fools are morally insensitive. They act as though their actions have no real consequences. These kinds of people refuse to receive God's wisdom and will suffer the results of their own stupidity, mockery, and foolishness. Yet, God's wisdom enables believers to live in safety, at ease, and with no fear of harm.

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with your kids this week.

- What is wisdom?
- What are some implications of the fact that God is the source of true wisdom?
- Where can believers go to find true wisdom for how to live?
- How can we graciously decline when invited to participate in something sinful?
- What are some of the consequences of rejecting God's wisdom?
- In what area of life do you need wisdom this week?
- **For Elementary:** What is the key to wisdom?
- **For Elementary:** What are some verses from the book of Proverbs that are helping you live in ways that please God?

Everyday Extras

Try writing your own "wise sayings" by completing the first part of a proverb. (For instance, have your child complete this idea from Proverbs 22:1. "A good name is . . .") Compare your children's answers with the Scripture and find the similarities in their ideas. God's wisdom is never changing and always best. Here are some verses that might be "starters" for your children's proverbs, but you can add others — especially if you want to emphasize a theme from the book of Proverbs: Proverbs 10:1; 12:11; 13:3; 13:20; 17:28; 21:23; 22:1; 26:17. To remind your children of Proverbs 24:13–14, find (or bake) the best bread you can, and serve it warm with a spoonful of honey to your family. That's how wisdom tastes. It is a sweet reward for those who accept God's good instructions.

Preschool Highlights for &

Today your child learned Elijah not only built an altar and placed a bull on it, but also dug a ditch around it and poured lots of water on the altar and the bull. Elijah prayed to God and asked Him to set fire to his altar. God heard and answered Elijah's prayer. Just like God heard Elijah when he prayed, **God Hears When I Pray.**