

Lesson 88

Wisdom from God

Proverbs contains advice to help us make wise choices.

Studying God's Word

Lesson Time

Don't forget! Review the Optional Supplements and determine where you can use them.

Have the students assemble in a circle away from the tables—either on the floor or in their chairs.

Bring your stuffed animal, Bible, Flip Chart, and any items you prepared for this lesson.

Prayer

This prayer time is designed to help the students begin to understand some simple concepts about prayer and to encourage them to pray.

We start our Bible lesson with prayer. Turn to the Flip Chart Prayer Page. Briefly review the different types of prayer presented there.

Today let's say prayers of supplication and ask God for something.

I'll start. Dear God, would you please . . . (insert personal prayer here).

Pass a special stuffed animal—prayer bear—around the circle, giving all the students an opportunity to pray, or choose a volunteer to stand beside you and pray.

Very good! Now let's put our stuffed animal away, and we'll answer our Bible Truth questions.

I love you prayers—Adoration
I'm sorry prayers—Confession
I'm thankful prayers—Thanksgiving
Please prayers—Supplication

Bible Truths

These four questions will be repeated each week to help the students learn foundational truths.

Who is in control of all things, even when we have to wait a long time? God.
What word means God is in control of everything? Sovereign.
When we know we've sinned, what should we do? Confess our sins.
What is the beginning of wisdom? The fear of the Lord.

Bible Treasure Hunt

Before Bible Treasure Hunt, place a sticky note in your Bible to mark the first passage to be read.

Each week before class, hide your Bible somewhere in the room. Use different methods each week to keep the students excited about finding the Bible. For example, you might set a timer, play music while the students search, tell students when they are getting warmer and colder, or choose a student to hide the Bible and let you or classmates find it.

We are going to start out today by looking into God's Word, the Bible. God's Word is true, and we can always trust what it says. It's like a great treasure that tells us about who God is and what he has done for us. But where is this treasure? You will have to help me with that. We're going to go on a Bible Treasure Hunt. Somewhere in this room, I've hidden the Bible. When I say "Go," you will need to look for it. Whoever finds the Bible must bring it back to their seat and hold it very carefully until it is time to look in it. When it is time to read, you can bring it to me, and we'll open it to see what we are going to talk about today! Explain the method you chose for today. Ready? Set! Go!

Be sure to pray with your students and take requests if time allows.

Pre-K Lesson

K-1st Lesson

Pre-K Lesson

Review

Before class, prepare for the Treasure Hunt (see printed instructions).

Refer to Lesson 87 Flip Chart. In our last lesson, what building did we talk about that was a special place for people to come and worship God?

The temple.

Who built the temple? King Solomon.

Right. Solomon became king after his father, David, and he built the temple in Jerusalem.

When Solomon first became king, he asked God for wisdom so he could lead the people well. Solomon became the wisest man who ever lived, and he wrote down some of the wisdom God gave him in the book of Proverbs.

Refer to the Books of the Bible Poster. The book of Proverbs is part of the Old Testament in the Bible.

A proverb is a short saying that reminds us of how things usually happen in everyday life. Many people have made up their own proverbs. Listen to these and see if you can tell me what they mean.

What does it mean when I say, "better safe than sorry"? Allow discussion. It's better to follow the rules to be safe. When we break rules, we might get hurt.

How about this one? "Practice makes perfect." Allow discussion. If we want to be good at something and do it perfectly, we have to do it over and over and over.

What does this mean? "An apple a day keeps the doctor away." Allow discussion. Eating good things like apples will help us stay healthy, so we won't get sick as much and need a doctor.

These are proverbs, or sayings, that people have made up. But the proverbs in the Bible are different because they are from God. We know that God is wise. He knows right from wrong and does everything without mistakes. God's proverbs don't just explain things to us, they also give us wisdom so we can make good choices that please God.

Seeking Wisdom

King Solomon wrote most of the book of Proverbs to teach his son how to be wise. When we read these proverbs, we can learn how to have wisdom, too.

Proverbs 2:4-5

Listen to what Solomon said about wisdom in Proverbs chapter 2. Have the student bring up the Bible and turn to the sticky note. Read Proverbs 2:4-5.

How should we seek for wisdom? Seek for it like silver.

How should we search for wisdom? Search for it like hidden treasures.

That's right! If we knew there was treasure, like silver or gold, hidden nearby, would we ignore it or search really hard until we found it? Search really hard.

Yes! Most of us would search pretty hard for treasure like that. We just read in God's Word that we should search just as hard for wisdom. But how can we do that?

Show the Lesson Flip Chart. See the path here to the treasure? What is the boy using to help him find the treasure of wisdom? The Bible.

The Bible is God's Word; it can help us stay on the right path.

What does staying on the path of wisdom help the boy keep away from? What are all these things you see? Vulture, skull, snake, scorpion, etc. Are they good or bad things? Bad things.

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. Right! These pictures remind us of bad things that we all do. Sins like unkindness, or being mean to others, getting angry, and disobeying. But when we obey what the Bible says, it helps us stay away from those kinds of things, and that's being wise.

Some things in the Bible are hard to understand. But God gives true wisdom and knowledge and helps us understand it. Our memory verse talks about that. Let's say it together. Turn to the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page. Recite the memory verse.

Who should we ask for wisdom? God.

Refer to the Flip Chart. God is the only one who has true wisdom. That's why learning about him is so important. Solomon said wisdom begins with the fear of the Lord. That means we need to start by believing what God says and show him respect and honor. When we do that, then we'll be on the right path to the treasure of wisdom, which will help us make good choices that please God.

Wisdom from Proverbs

The book of Proverbs is like a treasure chest of wise sayings that help us make good choices. Proverbs talks about choosing good friends, listening to our parents, working hard, being careful of our words, and much more!

Treasure Hunt

We're going to go on a treasure hunt to look for wisdom that comes from the book of Proverbs. Follow the Treasure Hunt instructions, reading and discussing the proverbs as you find each card. Lead students to the final treat at the end then continue with the lesson.

Great job hunting for treasure! Remember, these are only a few of the many proverbs found in the Bible. But they are all wise sayings because they are from God's Word. They can help us understand how God wants us to live each day.

Refer to the Flip Chart. As we read God's Word and grow in wisdom, we can find a lot of great advice in the book of Proverbs. Doing what it says can help us keep away from sins like unkindness, anger, and disobedience. We can learn to be a good friend, honor our parents, be kind, and much more.

But here's an important question to think about. If we obey the commands in Proverbs and do good things, does that mean we'll automatically go to heaven when we die? Allow discussion, reminding the students that good works do not save us, only faith in Christ saves us.

We must remember that we are saved by faith in Jesus, not by what we do. Only Jesus can save us by his grace when we turn from our sins and trust in him. We'll become a child of God. Then we'll want to obey him and do what his Word says. God gave us a treasure of wisdom in his Word so we can love and obey him by making good choices every day.

Continue with the Lesson Review Game below.

K-1st Lesson

Review

Before class, prepare for the Treasure Hunt (see printed instructions).

Refer to Lesson 87 Flip Chart. In our last lesson, what building did we talk about that was a special place for people to come and worship God?
The temple.

Who built the temple? King Solomon.

Refer to Lesson 86 Flip Chart. Right. Solomon was the next king after his father, David, and he built the temple in Jerusalem.

When Solomon first became king, he asked God for wisdom so he could lead the people well. Solomon judged the case of the two women and the baby, using wisdom to figure out which woman was the real mother. People were amazed at the great wisdom God had given to Solomon. He was the wisest man who ever lived, and he wrote down some of the wisdom God gave him in the book of Proverbs.

Refer to the Books of the Bible Poster. The book of Proverbs is in the Bible. It is one of the books of poetry in the Old Testament and comes right after Psalms.

A proverb is a short saying that reminds us of how things usually happen in everyday life. Many people have made up their own proverbs. Listen to these and see if you can tell me what they mean.

What does it mean when I say, "better safe than sorry"? Allow discussion. It's better to follow the rules to be safe. When we break rules, we might get hurt. How about this one? "Practice makes perfect." Allow discussion. If we want to be good at something and do it perfectly, we have to practice it many times. What does this mean? "An apple a day keeps the doctor away." Allow discussion. Eating good things like apples will help us stay healthy, so we won't get sick as much and need a doctor.

These are proverbs, or sayings, that people have made up. But the proverbs in the Bible are different because they are from God. We know that God is wise. He knows right from wrong and does everything without mistakes. God's proverbs don't just explain things to us, they also give us wisdom so we can make good choices that please God. This is called godly wisdom.

Seeking Wisdom

King Solomon wrote most of the book of Proverbs to teach his son how to have godly wisdom. When we read these proverbs, we can learn how to have wisdom, too.

Proverbs 2:4-5

Listen to what Solomon said about wisdom in Proverbs chapter 2. Have the student bring up the Bible and turn to the sticky note. Read Proverbs 2:4-5.

How should we seek for wisdom? Seek for it like silver.
How should we search for wisdom? Search for it like hidden treasures.
That's right! If we knew there was treasure like silver or gold hidden nearby, would we ignore it or search really hard until we found it? Search really hard.

Yes! Most of us would search pretty hard for treasure like that. We just read in God's Word that we should search just as hard for wisdom. But how can we do that?

Show the Lesson Flip Chart. See the path here to the treasure? What is the boy using to help him find the treasure of wisdom? The Bible.

The Bible is God's Word; it can help us stay on the right path.

What does staying on the path of wisdom help the boy keep away from? What are all these things you see? Vulture, skull, snake, scorpion, etc. Are they good or bad things? Bad things.

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. Right! These pictures remind us of bad things that we all do, sins like unkindness, or being mean to others, getting angry, and disobeying. But when we obey what the Bible says, it helps us stay away from sin, and that's being wise.

Proverbs 2:6

So, we know that God's Word can help us stay on the path to true wisdom. But some things in the Bible are hard to understand. Who is the one that helps us understand it? Let's see what the next verse says. Read the verse.

Who gives true wisdom and knowledge and helps us understand it? The Lord.

Our memory verse talks about that. Let's say it together. Turn to the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page and recite the verse together.

Wisdom doesn't come from me or you. Who should we ask for wisdom? God.

Refer to the Flip Chart. The Lord God is the only one who has true wisdom. That's why learning about him is so important. Solomon said wisdom begins with the fear of the Lord. That means we need to start by believing what God says and show him respect and honor. When we do that, we'll be on the right path to the treasure of wisdom, which will help us make good choices that please God.

Wisdom from Proverbs

The whole Bible is full of God's truth and wisdom, but the book of Proverbs is like a treasure chest of wise sayings that help us make good choices. Proverbs talks about choosing good friends, listening to our parents, working hard, being careful of our words, and much more!

Treasure Hunt

We're going to go on a treasure hunt to look for wisdom that comes from the book of Proverbs. Follow the Treasure Hunt instructions, reading and discussing the proverbs as you find each card. Lead students to the final treat at the end then continue with the lesson.

Great job hunting for treasure! Remember, these are only a few of the many proverbs found in the Bible. But they are all wise sayings because they are

from God's Word. They can help us understand how God wants us to live each day.

Refer to the Flip Chart. As we read God's Word and grow in wisdom, we can find a lot of great advice in the book of Proverbs. Following this advice and doing what it says can help us keep away from sins like unkindness, anger, and disobedience. We can learn to be a good friend, honor our parents, be kind, and much more.

But here's an important question to think about. If we obey the commands in Proverbs and do these good things, does that mean we'll automatically go to heaven when we die? Allow discussion, reminding the students that good works do not save us, only faith in Christ saves us.

We must remember that we are saved by God, not by what we do. Only Jesus can save us by his grace when we turn from our sins and trust in him. When we do this, we become a child of God, and we'll want to obey him and do what his Word says. God gave us a treasure of wisdom in his Word so we can love and obey him by making good choices every day.

Lesson Review

We all learn best with review and repetition! We encourage you to play a lesson review game.

Limited License to Reproduce

A limited, non-exclusive, non-transferable, nonsublicensable license is hereby granted to a single local church or organization to print copies of the PDF materials in the Teacher Digital Resources if 1) you are the original purchaser; 2) you are using the copies for noncommercial purposes (such as for teaching in class) exclusively within your single local church or organization (multi-campus churches, and national/regional denominations are not covered under this license); and 3) you follow the instructions provided in the curriculum pertaining to the printable materials.

This license is for the specific purchaser of the product and does not include affiliated groups or organizations, or other churches or groups in the same denomination as the purchaser, not identified as the actual purchaser. There is no limit to the number of printed copies for use within the single local church or organization which is the actual purchaser. None of the material in this curriculum may be reproduced for any commercial promotion, advertising, or sale of a product or service, or to share with any other persons, churches, groups, or organizations.

The media (audio/video) portions are copyrighted and duplication is prohibited. This license is for materials in the Teacher Digital Resources only and does NOT include reproduction rights for pre-printed teacher books, student guides, student take home sheets, or posters, except on an emergency basis when purchased quantities are not sufficient for a given week.

Bible Version

Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.