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SERIES: PROVERBS FOR KIDS

Make Good Choices

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Lesson Overview

We've been learning about wisdom from the book of Proverbs. Wisdom helps us to decide right from wrong and helps us to make good decisions. Did you know that God wants you to make good choices? He does. He didn't create us to work like robots who can't think for ourselves. He created us with brains and he wants us to use them. He wants us to learn from every choice we make so we can get better at making the right choices in the future. And, God helps us with our choices in two ways. He gives us parents who have wisdom to share with us that helps us to know the right way to go and he gives us the Bible that tells us what a good choice looks like. Here's a great tip: If it honors God then it's always a good choice.

Classroom Agenda

- (5 min) PLAY: Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
- (5 min) WARM UP: Make a list of wise choices you should make at school. Make a list of wise choices you should make at home.** (Tip: A wise choice is anything that makes God happy. So, at school you should obey your teachers, be kind to friends, and be helpful. At home, you should do your chores when asked, you should share with your siblings, and you should obey your parents)
- (5 min) PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
- (20 min) LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
- (2 min) RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
- (3 min) KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **The wise choice will always honor God.** Here's what wise kids will do. Before they make a choice, they will think about God, first, before doing anything. They will go to the Bible and see what God's opinion is on the matter. So, if you're looking to make a choice that the Bible says is something you SHOULD do, then that's the right choice. But, if you are looking to make a choice that the Bible says NOT to do, then that's a bad choice.)
 - Bonus Questions:** How do we know if a choice is good or bad? How does the Bible help us with our choices?
4-5th: What did you learn about choices today?
- (5 min) EXPLORE: Read Psalm 143:8. Who deserves our trust? What does it mean to give ourselves to God?** (Answer: To trust someone means we can rely on them to follow through on what they say. God deserves our trust because he does follow through and he does keep his promises. He proved his love to us by sending Jesus to die for our sins so we could be in right relationship with him. To give ourselves to God means we say to God, "I want to live my life for you and follow your path over my own." It means that God is first in our lives.)
- (10 min) PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
- (5 min) CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to pursueGOD.org/kids to find this week's lesson video.

Big Idea

God helps you to make wise choices.

Key Question

How do we know if we're making the right choice?

Memory Verse

Proverbs 16:3 | Commit your actions to the Lord, and your plans will succeed.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: MAKE A GOOD CHOICE GAME

Instructions:

- Read a scenario from below to the class. Have the class come up with a wise choice for each scenario.

Scenarios:

1. Your sibling came in and took your favorite toy.
2. Your friend is trying to cheat off your test.
3. You just saw a kid steal something from someone's backpack.
4. Your friend is being bossy and won't play the game you want to play.
5. Your parents told you to take out the trash.
6. Kids are throwing food in the lunch room.

Supplies needed:

None.

Bonus Activity: "True or False"

See who's the quickest to answer correctly.

1. Wisdom helps us to make good choices. (T)
2. David wrote the book of Psalms. (F)
3. The Bible helps us to make good choices. (T)

OPTION 2: BUILD THE VERSE GAME

Instructions:

- Tape two lines on the floor next to each other and put a bucket a few feet away from each line.
- Place a basket filled with the words for the memory verse next to each bucket.
- Divide the class into two teams and have the teams line up behind each line.
- Have the first kid in line throw a paper wad or ball into the bucket. If the kid gets the ball in the bucket, they get to pull a word out of the basket and place it on the floor. If they miss, they go to the back of the line. Continue until teams have pulled out all the words. Then have teams race to put the words in the correct order to say the memory verse.

Supplies needed:

Memory verse words template (pg. 5, precut, 2 sets), 2 balls or paper wads

Bonus Activity: "Fast Facts"

See who's the quickest to answer correctly.

1. ____ (Wisdom) helps us to make good choices.
2. ____ (Solomon) wrote the book of Psalms.
3. The ____ (Bible) helps us to make good choices.

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Did you know that you'll always be making choices throughout your life? And guess what? The older you get, the bigger those choices will become. So, it's really important to get good at making the right choices. The book of Proverbs teaches us all about choices, so let's get started!

God lets you make choices

And the more you make good choices, the better you'll get at it. You'll learn valuable lessons from each choice. A good choice leads to good things. A bad choice leads to bad things. For example, when faced with the choice of asking your sibling nicely to leave you alone or pushing them down, hopefully, you've learned that choosing the "ask nicely" option is the right choice because pushing your sibling gets you in trouble with Mom.

God gives you wisdom for making good choices

Not only does God give us the ability to make choices, he helps us to make the right ones. He gives us wisdom in two different ways. The first way is through your parents. They've been making choices on their own for a lot longer than you have so they know what they're doing! (That means you should obey them.) Plus, they love you and want to help you any way they can.

Philippians 4:8 *And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.*

If it honors God, then it's a good choice

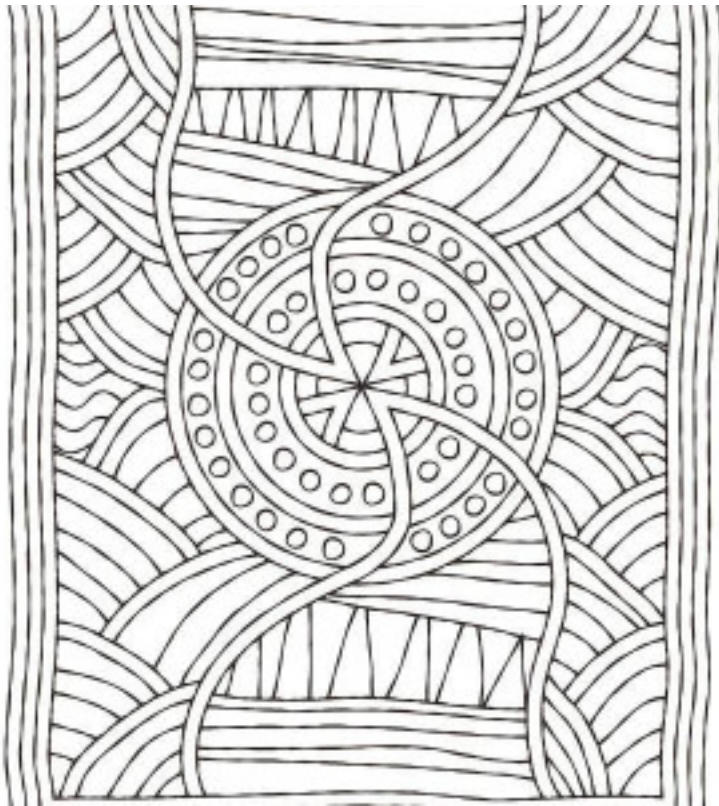
That's the bottom line. As Christian kids, we don't just live however we want and make whatever choices we want. That's a bad way to live! We want to go God's way. We want to do what makes him smile. And when we do that, we end up smiling too! Memory verse!

Proverbs 16:3 *Commit your actions to the LORD, and your plans will succeed.*

Questions:

1. What was your favorite part of the video? What is one thing you learned from the video?
2. Make a list of good choices you should make at school. Make a list of good choices you should make at home.
3. Why do you think God doesn't want us to be robots?
4. How do your parents help you to make good choices?
5. How does the Bible help us to make good choices?
6. Read **Psalm 143:8**. Who deserves our trust? What does it mean to give ourselves to God?
7. How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?

Instructions: Color the picture and complete the maze.



Big Idea

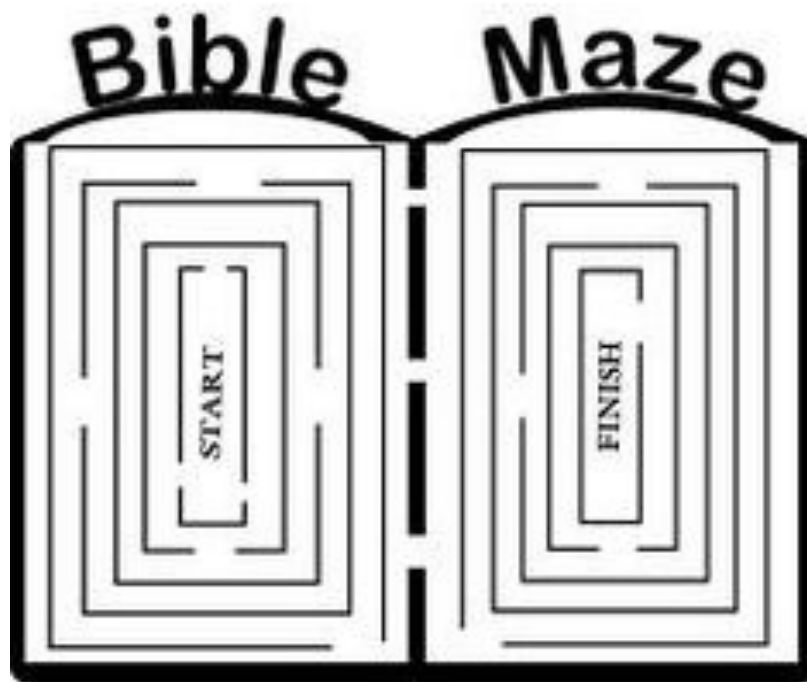
God helps you to make wise choices.

Key Question

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Memory Verse

Proverbs 16:3 | _____
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