

4

SERIES: PROVERBS FOR KIDS

Wisdom is a Friend

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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. In the book of Proverbs, Solomon actually refers to Wisdom like it's a person. The adult word for that is Solomon personified wisdom. He did that to remind us that wisdom is like a good friend. Wisdom protects us and keeps us out of trouble. And, Wisdom keeps us on the right track. Don't those things sound like qualities of a good friend? As we've been learning in this series, wisdom helps us to live a life that honors God. So, we should listen to the wisdom of our parents and the wise words we find in the Bible so that we can make God happy and stay on the right path.

Classroom Agenda

1. (5 min) **PLAY: Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
2. (5 min) **WARM UP: List some of the important qualities a good friend should have. Do you have those qualities in your life?** (Tip: A good friend is loyal, kind, forgiving and helpful. We need to possess these same qualities so that we can be a good friend to others.)
3. (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).
4. (20 min) **LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
5. (2 min) **RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
6. (3 min) **KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **Wisdom keeps us out of trouble and on the right path.** Think about the good friends in your life. They are helpful, protective and point you in the right direction. This is what God's wisdom does for us, too. Wisdom reminds us of what honors God, protects us from bad choices and helps us to stay on the right path. Without wisdom, we will end up on the wrong path, hanging out with the wrong kind of friends, making bad choices that only leads to trouble.)
 - **Bonus Questions:** How does wisdom help us? Why is it important to stay on the right path? **4-5th:** What is likely to happen if we hang out with bad friends? What is likely to happen if we don't seek God's wisdom?
7. (5 min) **EXPLORE: Read Matthew 6:33. Who should be first in our lives? How should we live? What does God promise to give us if we stay on his path?** (Answer: God should always be first in our lives. We should seek his wisdom and follow his plan. To live righteously means that we live to honor God in every area. It means we live out God's wisdom in our lives. And, when we live for God, he promises to give us what we need. Remember, God already has a plan for our lives. So, when we follow his path, he will give us what we need to accomplish his plan)
8. (10 min) **PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
9. (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*Wisdom is a good friend.***Key Question***Why do we need wisdom?***Memory Verse***Proverbs 4:6 | Don't turn your back on wisdom, for she will protect you. Love her and she will guard you.*

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: MEMORY VERSE GAME

Instructions:

- Divide the class into teams of 4.
- Give each team a set of Memory verse words (page 5) and have them put them face down on the floor.
- Have teams race to get the words in the correct order to say the memory verse. First team to do it correctly wins.

Supplies needed:

Memory verse words (pg. 5, precut, 1 set per team)

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 Proverbs.
3. The ____ (Bible) is full of God's wisdom.

OPTION 2: ERASE THE VERSE GAME

Instructions:

- Write the memory verse on the whiteboard big enough for kids to read and with some space between each word. Read it together as a class.
- Then, one by one, start erasing a word or two and see if the kids can still say the verse each time a word is removed. Continue until all the words are erased then see if the kids can say it totally by memory.

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 Proverbs. (F)
3. The Bible is full of God's wisdom. (T)

4

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Hey kids! In today's lesson we are going to be talking a little more about wisdom. In **Proverbs 4**, the author does a really funny thing. He talks about wisdom like it's a person. The adult word for this is he "personifies" wisdom. There's a pretty important reason that he did this so let's take a look!

Wisdom can be your friend

Did you ever think about that? Wisdom is a thing, right? Wisdom is the good advice we use to make good choices. So, think of wisdom like your best friend who walks beside you at school, always there ready to help. This is what our memory verse says!

Proverbs 4:6 *Don't turn your back on wisdom, for she will protect you. Love her, and she will guard you.*

Your parents can introduce you to Wisdom

They've already met her. They know her pretty well, and their job is to make Wisdom your friend, too.

Proverbs 4:10 *My child, listen to me and do as I say, and you will have a long, good life. I will teach you wisdom's ways and lead you in straight paths.*

Wisdom will keep you on the right path

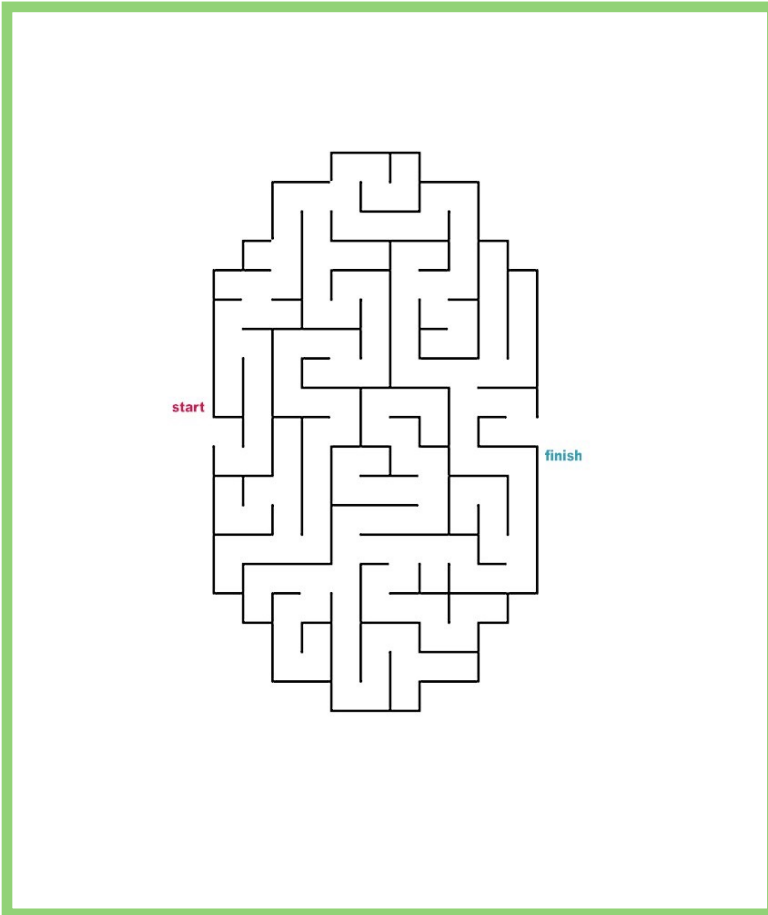
Just like your best friend, Wisdom doesn't want to see you sad or in trouble. They want only the best for you life. And, they want to steer you away from danger.

Proverbs 4:14-15 *Don't do as the wicked do, and don't follow the path of evildoers. Don't even think about it; don't go that way. Turn away and keep moving.*

Questions:

1. *What was your favorite part of the video? What is one thing you learned from the video?*
2. *List some of the important qualities a good friend should have. Do you have those qualities in your life?*
3. *What is wisdom? How does it help us?*
4. *What are some wise things your parents have taught you?*
5. *How do you know if you're on the right path? How do you know if you're on the wrong path?*
6. *Read **Matthew 6:33**. Who should be first in our lives? How should we live? What does God promise to give us if we stay on his path?*

Instructions: Complete the puzzles.



Big Idea

Wisdom is a good friend.

Key Question

Why do we need wisdom?

Memory Verse

Proverbs 4:6 | Don't turn

_____ back on _____,

for she will _____ you.

_____ her and she will

guard you.

The Lord's Prayer

T A R D S Y D K H D
 E E O E R I I X A K
 V T M O H N M E L R
 I E L P G T R S L E
 L G J D T B A X O W
 B Q O O Y A V F W O
 R M Q L Q I T M E P
 E V I G R O F I D Q
 X A X W I L L K O G
 D L J G F H B A J N

FATHER
 HALLOWED
 KINGDOM
 WILL

DAILY BREAD
 FORGIVE
 SINS
 TEMPTATION

EVIL
 GLORY
 POWER

4

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PursueGOD.org**DON'T****YOU****TURN****LOVE****YOUR****HER****BACK****AND****ON****SHE****WISDOM****WILL****FOR****GUARD****SHE****YOU****WILL****PROVERBS****PROTECT****4:6**