

PROVERBS

Lesson 1

Wisdom: How to Get It and Why It's Worth It

Proverbs 1:1-7; 2:1-15; 4:20-27; 26:1-12

1. Complete the sentence: Wisdom is _____.

Read 1:1-7

2. Over the course of your life, whatever wisdom you have gained, where did the wisdom come from and how did you get it?

3. Use the following verses to describe the wise and the fool, respectively.

- a. 2:1-15

- b. 26:1-12

4. How has wisdom improved your life? Some benefits of wisdom are outlined in 4:20-27. Use this and your personal experience to answer.

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Lesson 2

Two Women of Proverbs

Proverbs 7:1-27; 8:1-36; 9:1-6, 13-18

1. You are introduced to two women and you want to set your son up on a date with one of them. The first is smart, successful, and stable, and the second is attractive, affectionate, and generous. Which do you encourage your son to date?
2. A young man falls prey to the enticements of Folly, the adulterous woman. Read 7:1-27. What drew him in?
3. Imagine the speech from Wisdom (8:1-36) is a sales pitch. What would convince you of the value of wisdom?
4. Both Wisdom and Folly are calling for us (9:1-6, 13-18). While sitting in church, it is easy to say, "Of course Wisdom is better," but glimpses in our life can often tell a different story. How would you describe the ways that wisdom and folly compete for your attention throughout a normal day?

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Lesson 3

Wisdom in Temptation

Proverbs 6:16-35

1. When was a time in which you saw playing with fire go badly?

2. Solomon uses carrying fire and walking on coals as an illustration for temptation (6:27-28). What analogy would you use to describe temptation?

3. Where does temptation come from and why is it so powerful?

4. The principles to for avoiding the adulteress can be applied to other temptations. Glean from 6:20-35 a list of strategies for addressing temptation.

5. Solomon describes the anatomy of a sinner (6:16-19). What would this look like in reverse? Use the same parts to describe the anatomy of the righteous.
 - a. Eyes
 - b. Tongue
 - c. Hands
 - d. Heart
 - e. Feet
 - f. Breath

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Lesson 5

Wise Speech

Proverbs 12:17-23; 15:28; 17:27-28; 18:21

1. “Death and life are in the power of the tongue,” says Proverbs 18:21. How have you seen the tongue used to inflict death or to bring life?
2. It is wise to slow down and consider our words (15:28) or even to say nothing at all (17:27-28). But there are times in which Christians must speak. How can we tell when and where it is necessary to speak up?
3. Use Proverbs 12:17-23 to compile a list of positive ways to speak and negative ways to speak.

Positive

Negative

4. The most powerful way a Christian can bring life (18:21) through words is to share the good news about Jesus. Paul instructs Christians, “Walk in wisdom toward outsiders... let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer each person” (Colossians 4:5-6). What should a Christian do to develop speech “seasoned with salt” when answering for faith?

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Lesson 6

Wise Money Principles

Proverbs 13:7, 11; 14:23; 22:7; 28:6; 30:7-9

1. Complete the following sentence: Money without morality is _____.
(See Proverbs 28:6).

2. What is the best strategy for gaining wealth? Use Proverbs 13:11 and 14:23 to answer the question.

3. Glean from Proverbs 13:7, 22:7, and 30:7-9 three principles to change your financial trajectory.
 - a.

 - b.

 - c.

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Lesson 7

Wise Money Practices

Proverbs 6:5; 13:22; 19:17; 21:7, 20

Use the Proverbs listed to compile a list of five wise money practices.

21:7

6:5

21:20

19:17

13:22

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Lesson 8

Planning for the Future

Proverbs 14:12; 15:21-22; 16:1-3, 25; 19:2; 20:18; 21:5, 30-31; 22:3; 27:1

1. Imagine that you are begin considered for a position at your job. You must consider your future and how this position might fit in to that plan. Use the proverbs listed below to identify important steps in your planning process.
 - a. 16:1-3
 - b. 19:2
 - c. 20:18
 - d. 22:3
 - e. 15:21-22
 - f. 21:5
2. “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death,” warns Proverbs (14:12; 16:25). What is the difference between a seemingly good idea and a godly idea?
3. The merchants in James 4:13-17 made a lot of plans for their future, but they were rebuked. What mistake did they make in the planning process? (See also Proverbs 27:1)
4. How do you react when your plans fail?
5. Ultimately God’s plans will always succeed (21:30-31). How does that help us understand and appreciate the victories and successes in our lives?

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Lesson 10

The Proverbs 31 Woman

Proverbs 31:10-31

1. After reading the text, list the attributes and actions of the modern Proverbs 31 woman.
2. The section ends declaring great praise for the woman (31:28-31). Why is she so worthy of praise?
3. What other woman in the Bible best compares to the woman described in Proverbs 31?
4. The Jewish tradition of this section is for men to memorize the contents and sing it every Friday evening at the beginning of the Sabbath meal. Their aim is to honor the mother or matriarch of the family. List five ways Christian homes can honor the women in our families.