

SABBATH SCHOOL

Preteen Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

Level 5 • Unit 6 • Week 4

SOLOMON ASKS FOR WISDOM

OBJECTIVE:

To give understanding that all wisdom comes from God. To help develop wisdom by increasing the knowledge and understanding of right and wrong, teaching how to discern the difference and explaining why one should choose right over wrong.

ATTENTION GETTER:

Do: On a poster board print the following in two columns. Underneath, print the definition of wisdom:

A

*A Balanced Meal – Salad, meat, vegetables,
bread, fruit, milk*

School

Go to bed on time

B

Junk Food – hamburgers, fries, soft drink

No School

Stay up, watch TV and play video games

WISDOM is: To have the knowledge and understanding of good and evil, truth and error, right and wrong; discerning the difference and choosing good over evil, truth over error, and right over wrong.

Say: We are going to play a game called "CHOOSE." Let's pretend that you have the responsibility of making your own decisions. You have to "choose" whether to eat balanced meals or junk food, whether to go to school or not and when to go to bed. Raise your right hand if you choose column A, and raise your left hand if you choose column B.

Ask: Which column is the best for you? [When they say column A (most will), comment "I see, you do KNOW what is best for you."]

Ask: Why is Column A best for you? [After a few right answers, comment "And, you do UNDERSTAND why column A is best for you."] [Add a few good reasons of your own why column A is best.]

Since you KNOW what is right and you UNDERSTAND why it is right, why didn't all of you choose column A? [Encourage them to answer.]

Say: Let's read out loud the sentence at the bottom of the poster board.

Ask: Would it be wiser to choose column A which is good for you or Column B which has only temporary pleasures?

Say: How can we get wisdom? Turn to Proverbs 2:6. [Select a child to read from his/her Bible.] For the Lord grants wisdom! His every word is a treasure of knowledge and understanding.

BIBLE LESSON:

Do: Make a copy of the lesson "Solomon Asks for Wisdom" for each child.

Say: Today's lesson is about a king who lived about 3,000 years ago, and even to this day he is known for his wisdom. His wisdom had such depth and insight that many rulers from other lands came to hear him speak.

Turn to 2 Chronicles 9:23. [Ask a child to read the verse.] "And all the kings of the earth sought the presence of Solomon to hear his wisdom, which God had put in his heart." We will be using our Bibles for today's lesson. [Give each child a turn to read.]

SOLOMON ASKS FOR WISDOM

Say: Solomon was the son of King David and Bathsheba and the Bible says that when he was born, God loved him.

Ask: King David desired to build the temple but who did God choose to build it and why?

Say: Let's read 1 Chronicles 28:2-3, 6 and 20.

Ask: What did King David do to make sure that Solomon would become king?

Say: Let's read 1 King 1:32-35.

Though Solomon was quite young (about 20 years old) when he became ruler of all Israel, he showed good judgment and took on the many responsibilities of a ruler.

Ask: King David gave his son Solomon some very good fatherly and kingly advice. What was it?

Say: Turn to 1 Kings 2:1-4.

Ask: What happened in Gibeon when Solomon went there to sacrifice a thousand burnt offerings on the altar?

Say: Read 1 Kings 3:3-5.

Ask: What was Solomon's answer?

Say: Read 1 Kings 3:6-9.

Ask: What did God say and do?

Say: Read 1 Kings 3:10-14.

When Solomon awoke, he realized that God had spoken to him in a dream. Upon his arrival in Jerusalem, he went to the tent where the Ark of the Covenant was and sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. Then he gave a feast for all his court.

One of the king's duties was to listen to the grievances people brought against one another and administer justice. It so happened on this particular day that two women of low character came to the king and stood before him.

Ask: Let's read about one of the grievances that Solomon had to judge.

Say: Turn to 1 Kings 3:17-22.

Ask: This was one person's word against the other person's word—there were no witnesses. How did King Solomon get to the truth?

Say: Read 1 Kings 3:23-25.

Ask: How did the two women respond?

Say: Read verse 26.

Ask: What did King Solomon do?

Say: Read verse 27.

Ask: How did the people react to this when they heard of the judgment?

Say: Read verse 28.

Say: Let's read 1 Kings 4:29-30 and 34 to see just how great was Solomon's God-given wisdom.

The Queen of Sheba was one of the many rulers that traveled to Jerusalem to learn from Solomon. Open your Bibles to 1 Kings 10 and read verses 1-9.

God continued to bless Solomon and his wisdom continued to grow. He spoke with authority on many subjects. Solomon gave serious thought to the relationship of God and man and concluded that the whole duty of man is to fear God and keep His commandments.

LESSON APPLICATION:

Do: On the other side of the poster board print the following:

A PROVERB IS A SHORT SAYING THAT
EXPRESSES EFFECTIVELY A TRUTH OR USEFUL THOUGHT.

LISTEN TO CORRECTION
WISE ADVICE
CHOOSING FRIENDS
PRIDE
DILIGENCE AND WORK
QUICK ANGER
PATIENCE
DISCRETION
TEMPERANCE
LYING

Write out the proverbs below on a separate pieces of paper, then fold them. Put them in a container and let each child take one as his turn comes around. Each child reads his proverb and then explains what it means. If he/she can't, let the class take turns until they get it right. (Some proverbs may be a little difficult to understand. Give help when needed.) The child who read the proverb then selects the category to which it belongs. If the answer is correct, write his/her name alongside the category. If not, the other children will have a chance to earn extra points if they have the correct answer. Then let the next child draw a proverb from the container and repeat the process until everyone has the same number of turns.

Say: Though King Solomon wrote over 3,000 proverbs and some were put in the book of Proverbs, the wisdom was not his. It was God's wisdom. In the book of Proverbs, God inspired Solomon to write on many subjects, giving us a treasure of knowledge on how to live a happy, productive life.

Each one of you will have a turn to pick a proverb from this container. Read the proverb, explain what it says, and then tell in which category it belongs. Giving the correct explanation

is worth 5 points and the correct category is worth five points. If the reader can't explain the proverb or in which category it belongs, you will then have a chance to earn extra points. I'll call on the one who has their hand up first. Whoever gets the most points wins.

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| 1. Listen to correction | Proverbs 13:13 and 15: 5 |
| 2. Wise advice | Proverbs 3:5 and 10: 8 |
| 3. Choosing friends | Proverbs 13:20 and 17:17 |
| 4. Pride | Proverbs 27:2 and 16:18 |
| 5. Work | Proverbs 6:6-8 and 14:23 |
| 6. Quick anger | Proverbs 22:24-25 and 24:21-22 |
| 7. Patience | Proverbs 19:11 and 16:32 |
| 8. Discretion [to be careful what you say and do] | Proverbs 11:13 and 17:9 |
| 9. Temperance [self-restraint in conduct] | Proverbs 16:7 and 20:3 |
| 10. Lying | Proverbs 21:6 and 26:28 |

MUSIC:

Teacher's choice from the United Church of God hymnal.

MEMORY VERSE:

Proverbs 9: 10 "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."

family activity

THE POINT:

This week's lesson has been about wisdom—God's wisdom. God codified His laws into the Ten Commandments and, in a sense, He codified His wisdom in the book of Proverbs. By memorizing His proverbs (God's wisdom), we can have quick access to the best way to handle each situation.

FAMILY TOGETHER TIME:

Read and discuss with your child the following proverbs on wisdom:

- Proverbs 1:1-7 (the purpose of Proverbs)
- Proverbs 1:20-33 and Proverbs 2:1-22 (wisdom personified)

Help your child memorize some of the verses from the book of Proverbs.

WORDS OF WISDOM

Proverbs 4:6-13 "Do not forsake [wisdom], and she will preserve you; love her, and she will keep you. Wisdom is principal thing; therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding. Exalt her, and she will promote you; she will bring you honor when you embrace her. She will place on your head an ornament of grace; a crown of glory she will deliver to you. Hear, my son, and receive my sayings, and the years of your life will be many. I have taught you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in right paths. When you walk, your steps will not be hindered, and when you run, you will not stumble. Take firm hold of instruction, do not let go; keep her, for she is your life.

MEMORY VERSE:

Proverbs 9: 10 "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."