

# Wisdom is finding out what you should do and doing it.



## DAY 1

### Read Luke 2:52

This month is all about wisdom which is finding out what you should do and doing it. Did you catch that? Wise people know how to make good decisions! And who wouldn't want that ability?

Wisdom is needed anytime you have a choice to make with real consequences.

#### Choices like:

- Should I play soccer this year?
- Should I invite the new kid to my birthday party?
- Should I spend 20 more minutes studying?

Every day, as you're growing physically, you also have the opportunity to grow in wisdom. And as today's verse reminds us, the same was true of Jesus. Jesus not only grew physically, but he grew mentally! Jesus understood that wisdom was worth searching for.

Make a growth chart at home. Write down your height, today's date, and Luke 2:52 next to the line. Recheck your height in six months to see how you've grown. Thank God for the truth that you are growing in wisdom and stature just like Jesus!

## DAY 2

### Read Proverbs 8:11

Have you ever searched for treasure or created a treasure map just for fun? It's exciting to think about uncovering some buried treasure hidden away, just waiting to be discovered!

What if we thought about wisdom this way? We dig for treasure because those pieces of gold or jewels we might find are valuable. But the Bible teaches us that wisdom is more precious, more valuable than rubies!

Think about it. **Making wise decisions protects you. Good choices keep you from hurting yourself and others.** That's why searching for wisdom is so important. Thankfully, God has given us His word to guide us. And He sent Jesus to show us how to live and treat others.

Create a treasure hunt for your family. "Bury" your Bible somewhere in your home (under a bed, in the back of your closet, under a pile of clothes) and then send your family on a scavenger hunt with clues to find it or create a treasure map to lead them to your hiding spot. Once you find it, read Proverbs 8:11 together and talk about why wisdom is more valuable than any hidden treasure!

DAY 3

### Read Proverbs 4:5

We all forget things sometimes. But wisdom is something worth holding on to. As we follow Jesus each day, it will be easier and easier to make wise choices as we gain more knowledge and understanding.

After all, no one wants to end up asking questions like . . .

“Why did I say that hurtful thing?

“Why did I do that hurtful thing?

“Why did I cheat or lie or try to cover up my mistake?”

#### **Wisdom protects us from making the kind of choices that can hurt us and others!**

That’s why it’s important to learn what God says. God made you, He loves you, and His way is best.

Write out the words of today’s verse on a piece of paper. Draw a box around the words wisdom and understanding. Mark an “X” over the word “forget.” Then draw a circular arrow around the word turn. Place your verse in a spot where your family can see it every day. Ask God to help you listen to His word and follow Him as you make decisions this week.

DAY 4

### Read Proverbs 19:27

Have you ever lost something really important?

When you lose something valuable to you, what do you do? Do you cry? Do you say, “Oh well, I guess it’s gone forever?” NO way! You search! When something important is lost, you’ll tear a room apart, looking everywhere until you find it.

**Wisdom is the same way. It’s worth searching for.** Why? Because we all need the wisdom to make choices that protect us and honor others. The great news is, we know where to find it because wisdom comes from God. When we read the Bible, when we memorize it, when we listen to God and look at the way Jesus lived, we’ll find wisdom every time! Wisdom is worth searching for.

Spend some time praying today. Thank God for the wisdom He gives. Ask God to help you listen and then trust that’s God’s way is best.

Wisdom is worth  
searching for.



## Wisdom is finding out what you should do and doing it.

### DAY 1

#### Read James 1:5

Last week, we learned that wisdom is worth searching for! So where does wisdom come from?

God is the source of all wisdom! We know that because all things were made by God. There isn't any question He can't answer or problem He can't solve. And what's even better, when you ask Him, God will give you wisdom freely and without finding fault. He is ready and willing to guide us when we need help.

Fill in the missing vowels in today's verse below. Read the verse aloud and then thank God for the wisdom He gives freely.

..... f ..... ny ..... f y ..... l ..... ck s  
 w ..... s d ..... m y ..... sh ..... l d  
 ..... sk G ..... d f ..... r ..... t. H .....  
 w ..... ll g ..... v ..... t t ..... y .....  
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 ..... n d d ..... sn't f ..... n d  
 f ..... l t." J ..... m ..... s 1:5

### DAY 2

#### Read Matthew 7:24

Have you ever built a sandcastle at the beach or in a sandbox? What happens to your beautiful creation when the tide rolls in or a big rainstorm hits the playground? Yep, it's destroyed! Jesus told this story about two builders. The foolish man built his house on the sand. When the rains came and flood waters rose, his home was destroyed. The other built his house on solid rock. And you can probably guess what happened when the storms hit his home. It was safe and protected because its foundation was strong.

**When we look at the life of Jesus, at how He treated people, the things that He said and the way that He lived, we find wisdom at every turn.** Jesus showed us how to live wisely. When we follow Jesus' example, it's like a building a house on a strong foundation.

DAY 3

### Read Psalm 107:43

How do you know that your parent or caregiver loves you? How can you feel their love for you? How do you show love to others? Do they feel your love for them? Love requires action. It's more than simply saying, "I love you." God loves you. You can feel His love when you stop to think about all His loving deeds.

Name some things God has done for you by filling the blanks below.

God has given me .....

God sent His only Son, ....., so I can have a relationship with him now and always.

God made .....

When you know someone loves you, it's easy to trust them. God loves you, always. He proved that love when He sent Jesus, His only Son, for you. He knows what's best in every situation. You can trust God to give you wisdom.

## Trust God to give you wisdom.



DAY 4

### Read Proverbs 2:6

Have you ever asked a friend for help and they gave you bad advice?

**You:** "I forgot to study for our test today. What am I going to do?"

**Unwise friend:** "Stick the notes under your paper. The teacher won't notice, and then you can look up your answers."

**You:** "Should I go talk to the new kid? He's sitting over there all by himself."

**Unwise friend:** "Nah, he doesn't look like he wants to play anyway."

**You:** "My mom says I'm supposed to ask about video games before I play them."

**Unwise friend:** "This game is totally fine. I play it all the time."

While our friends might sometimes give us bad advice, God never will! He is the source of all wisdom. God will guide us to do what's right, always. You can trust God to give you wisdom.

Is there a decision you need to make that you're struggling with? Do you need some advice? Have you prayed about it? Read this verse aloud and then talk to God about what's going on. Ask God to help you see what you should do and to give you the confidence to follow through.



# Wisdom is finding out what you should do and doing it.



## DAY 1

### Read Proverbs 22:3

Do you love to go to the movies? One thing that can make a good movie great is the soundtrack. The music in a movie provides clues to tell you what's about to happen. If you turned the sound to mute, the viewing experience just wouldn't be the same.

Wouldn't it be awesome if right before something bad was about to happen, there was music playing to tip us off? While we don't have automatic soundtracks playing in our heads, we can watch for clues that danger is ahead. That's why we have to pay attention, listen, and observe. And when it looks like you're heading towards a situation where you might do or say something that's unwise, stop! Don't go any further. If you want to be wise, stop and think before you act.

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**Ask an adult** if you can watch a scene or two from your favorite action movie. As you watch the action on screen, push the mute button every once and awhile. How does it change your viewing experience? Read today's verse and then pray together. Ask God to help you pay attention and think before you act so you can be wise.

## DAY 2

### Read Proverbs 10:19

Have you ever done something wrong and tried to cover it up with a made up story to avoid getting caught? Sometimes one lie can lead to another lie which leads to another lie and so on and so on. And before you know, you've created such a tall tale that even you can't remember what you said.

Words can definitely get you into trouble! It's better to stop yourself before you let that story fly from your lips. Because adding more and more words won't help the situation. Only the truth can do that. That's why we should stop and think before we speak.

Gather with your family and look up this verse. Discuss the questions below. Then challenge each person around the table to stick out their tongue, hold it between their thumb and index finger and try to recite the verse!

#### Questions:

- ➔ How can more words lead to more trouble?
- ➔ Why do you think it's important to think before you speak?
- ➔ What happens when we aren't careful with our words?

DAY 3

## Read Psalm 94:8-9

### Did you know?

- The human eye can see approximately 10 million different colors.
- The hardest bone in your body is the temporal bone in your inner ear.
- The eye muscles are the fastest muscles in your body.
- The smallest bones in your body are located in your ears.
- The pupil of the human eye expands as much as 45 percent when you look at someone you love.

Our eyes and our ears are amazing parts of our bodies! God gave us our eyes and ears that we could hear and see the world around us. They help us spot if danger ahead. When you see something dangerous, when you hear trouble coming, a wise person pays attention!

God doesn't want us to live like foolish people. He wants us to be wise! The same God who gave you those blue or brown eyes and those ears that stick out from your head is the source of all wisdom. He gave you a mind to think to avoid making choices that harm you or those around you. Remember this week to use those eyes and ears to pay attention, to stop and think before you act.

DAY 4

## Read Proverbs 4:25

Raise your hand if you like to ride a bike? You can put your hand down now.

When you ride a bike, where's your focus? On your feet as you pump the pedals? On your friend riding next to you? No way! To safely ride your bike, you must keep your eyes forward. Keeping your eyes on the road helps you avoid any dangers ahead.

When it comes to living wisely, we have to pay attention to what's ahead of us. Just as you would turn your bike to avoid a pothole in the road, keeping our eyes focused on what's ahead can help us move or adjust when we see danger coming. When we pay attention with our eyes forward, when we think before we act, we can avoid saying or doing something unwise.

Grab a white crayon and an index card. Write the words EYES FORWARD in big letters on the front of the card. Color over the white crayon with a marker to reveal the words you've written. Write "Proverbs 4:25" on the back. Place this card inside your bike helmet as a reminder to pay attention to what's ahead so you can make wise choices.

Think before  
you act.



# Wisdom is finding out what you should do and doing it.



## DAY 1

### Read Proverbs 13:20

Who is your best friend?

Friends are really important. Friends have the potential to lead us in the right or the wrong direction. If you choose friends who are wise, friends who listen to and follow God, then you will be wise. But if you choose to spend most of your time with friends who don't follow God, who don't listen to their parents or follow the rules, you will suffer harm.

Should you be kind to everyone? Of course. Should you let everyone into your close circle of friends? Maybe not. If you want to grow wise, hang out with wise people. Choose your friends carefully and you'll be protected from harm.

**Grab some paper, markers, and a stamp pad if you have one.** Press your finger on the stamp pad or color your fingertip with a marker and press it onto the paper. Repeat to create several fingerprints, spread out along the bottom of the page. Turn these fingerprints into people by adding arms and legs, hair and facial features. Across the top of the page, write today's verse!

## DAY 2

### Read Proverbs 14:7

Do you know what the word "foolish" means? A fool is an unintelligent, silly or reckless person. No one wakes up in the morning and thinks, "Man, I hope someone calls me foolish today!"

Today's verse reminds us to watch out for foolish people. A fool won't give you good advice. A thoughtless or unintelligent person won't lead you where you want to go. God wants you to make wise choices that honor Him and those around you. When you choose friends who listen to God, you'll grow in wisdom just by hanging out with them! And as you grow in wisdom, you'll be the kind of friend that helps others make wise choices too.

Write out today's verse in the space below in your own words. Then pray and ask God to help you choose friends who are wise instead of foolish.

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.....



### DAY 3

## Read Proverbs 10:14

Have you ever watched a squirrel in the park or your backyard preparing for winter? Squirrels hoard food placing it in shallow holes and covering it up. They do this to prepare for the cold winter. They'll have access to food. They store the food so they won't starve later on.

Did you know that you can hoard or store up wisdom? It's true! You can stack it up, adding more knowledge and understanding as you learn and grow and follow God each day. All that wisdom will help you make decisions that lead you in the right direction.

One way to protect all that knowledge is to hang out with wise people! After all, if the people you spend the most time with are storing up their knowledge and understanding, it just makes sense that all that wisdom will rub off on you too.

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Grab an acorn or berry sprig from your backyard or local park. Set it on your bedside table as a reminder to store up knowledge and hang out with wise people who do the same thing.

### DAY 4

## Read Job 12:12

Think about your grandparents. Or maybe an older teacher at school or church. Do you ever wonder what life was like for them 20 or 30 years ago? Can you imagine a world without cell phones, or internet, or WIFI?

Older people who've lived longer than you have more wisdom than you. Why? Because more years means more experience. Older people can look back on their lives and see how God has guided them through good and bad days. Hanging out with someone like your grandparents allows you to learn some the lessons they've learned, to hear about the things they've already experienced.

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Interview a grandparent or older person in your church or neighborhood who follows God. Use the questions below or come up with questions of your own.

- ➔ What was life like when you were my age? How is it the same? How is it different?
- ➔ Did you ever get in trouble when you were younger? What happened and what did you learn from that experience?
- ➔ How has your faith (what you believe) changed your life?
- ➔ What is your favorite verse from the Bible? Why?

Hang out with  
wise people.



## Wisdom is finding out what you should do and doing it.

### DAY 1

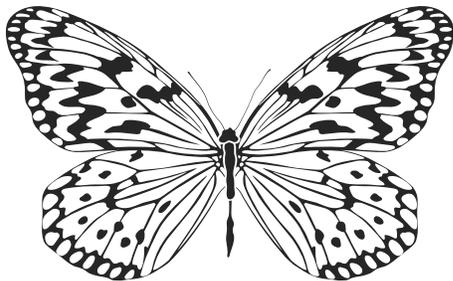
#### Read Romans 12:2

Have you ever studied how a caterpillar turns into a butterfly? It's a process called metamorphosis. Just like that beautiful butterfly, when we become followers of Jesus, we are completely changed on the inside! You are a new creation.

As Jesus followers, God doesn't want us to think and act like the world around us. God wants us to grow in wisdom so we can live differently. And when we do, what does our verse say we will learn? What is right; God's good, pleasing and perfect plan! As you follow Jesus each day, instead of following what the world says is right, you'll understand what God says is right. You'll begin to change your mind as you grow in wisdom.



Color in the butterfly below. Thank God for the opportunity He gives to grow in wisdom and become more and more like Jesus!



### DAY 2

#### Read Proverbs 1:5

When it comes to wisdom, you should never stop looking for it. You should never stop asking God to give you more. You should never stop learning and growing. Wise people pay attention so they never stop gaining wisdom. Wise people look for other wise people hoping some of that wisdom rubs off on them.

Who are the wisest people you know? Think about the people in your life that follow Jesus, that read their Bibles, or that pray and talk to God. Maybe it's your parent or caregiver. Perhaps it's your small group leader at church.

**Spend some time thanking God for the wise people in your life.** Ask Him to help you keep growing in wisdom. Who knows, maybe one day, someone else will name you as a wise person to learn from too.



DAY 3

### Read Ecclesiastes 7:12

Do you know what a bank is for? People deposit their money in a bank to keep it safe. Your parents don't keep all the money from their jobs in a shoebox in your closet or under your mattress. A thief could steal it at any time and all that safety you feel would be gone for good.

Wisdom is like having a large bank account protected at your local bank. Actually, wisdom is even better than that. Why? Because the wisdom you gain cannot be stolen away. You can't lose the wisdom you gain unless you refuse to put what you've learned into practice. The more you learn, the longer you follow God and live the way that he wants you to live, the better off you'll be! That's why you should never stop growing in wisdom.

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**Write out today's verse on a card and tape it to the front of your piggy bank.** Each time you add money to your bank, read the verse and ask yourself: What wise thing have I learned today? Am I following God and putting it into practice so I'll be protected?

Never stop growing  
in wisdom.



DAY 4

### Read Proverbs 9:9

Did you know that there are three parts of your body that never stop growing? Write your guesses in the blanks below.

- 1. ....
- 2. ....
- 3. ....

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Your ears and nose are made of soft tissue and cartilage. Some scientists believe those cells are able to keep multiplying. Others suspect that gravity plays a role. Whatever the reason, your ears and nose will keep growing long after the rest of your body has stopped.

Just like your ears and nose keep growing, we should never stop growing in wisdom! That's why you see adults at church reading their Bibles, taking notes, praying, or talking to others about God. They're growing in wisdom because they know there is always something new to learn. Growing in wisdom is like enjoying a never-ending bottomless ice cream sundae except you won't get a tummy ache.

Ask your parents if you can have an ice cream sundae party this weekend! As you make your sundae, share your favorite verse about wisdom from this month (you can talk about today's verse if you want). Before you enjoy your treat, ask God to help you grow in wisdom.