

GOD IS THE SOURCE OF ALL WISDOM

FOUNDATION: GOD IS KNOWN - GOD GIVES WISDOM

BIG TRUTH: GOD IS THE SOURCE OF ALL WISDOM

1 Kings 4:29-34; Job 12:13; Psalm 19:7-11, 119:97-102; Proverbs 3:5-8, 2:6-8; Romans 4:17; Ephesians 3:7-10; James 1:5

BIBLE VERSE: PROVERBS 2:6

"For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding."

BIG IDEAS

- Wisdom is living in obedience to God's Word for His glory.
- Wisdom comes from God.
- Wisdom is more valuable than possessions.
- God wants us to pursue wisdom and we get wisdom by pursuing Him.

BIBLE STORY: 2 CHRONICLES 1:7-13

Solomon is at the beginning of his reign when we see him in this passage. He is continuing the work that his father, David, began. His obedience to God is apparent when God appears to Solomon in a dream. God tells Solomon to ask for anything and God will give it to him. Solomon's understanding of who God is and the task that is at hand is evident in his request. He asks, not for wealth or fame, but for wisdom that he might govern God's people rightly. God blesses Solomon with wisdom and then later also gives him wealth, honor, and fame.

FOUNDATION: GOD IS KNOWN—GOD GIVES WISDOM

God does not hide His existence from humanity. Although sin has broken our relationship with God, He still reveals Himself to us in many ways. He reveals Himself through His creation, through His Word, the Bible, and through Jesus His Son coming to earth as a man. Jesus is the image of the invisible God, and He lived on earth as a man, experiencing the world just like we do. Not only is God known by us, but He gives us wisdom to know Him. Wisdom is taking truths about God's Word and applying them in our daily lives. Because God has revealed Himself, we can know who He is, who we are, how creation reflects His glory, and how we are to live for Him.

BIG AIMS



Every child should know that:

- We can know God through reading the Bible.
- Wisdom is good and comes from God.



Every child should feel:

- Awe of the God who makes Himself known to mankind and makes wisdom available to those who seek to obey and glorify Him.



Every child should be able to:

- Spend time hearing God's Word read at home and ask, "Is what I am about to do wise?"



Every child should want:

- To know more about God's Word and walk in awe of God who leads in wisdom.

FAMILY DEVOTION: PURSUE WISDOM ABOVE ALL ELSE

Wisdom is from God and is more valuable than any possession or treasure we could own. It is eternal and God wants us to pursue it above all else. Because wisdom is from God, when we pursue it, we are actually pursuing God. When we pursue God, we are guaranteed to grow in wisdom and understanding of the Creator of all things.

BIBLE VERSE: PROVERBS 2:6

“For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding.”

Wisdom comes from the Lord.

- God is the creator and originator of all things.
- Wisdom originates with God. He is the wisest being of all.
- Wisdom that is true and brings knowledge and understanding comes from God.
- All that God does is wise and good.

Wisdom is good.

- Wisdom is a treasure and should be valued above all else.
- Solomon understood this truth and sought wisdom above all else.
- As Solomon writes in the book of Proverbs, wisdom is more valuable than riches or fame.
- It is good to have wisdom because wisdom enables us to glorify God.

Wisdom births understanding and knowledge.

- We grow in understanding when we pursue wisdom.
- When we pursue wisdom, we are pursuing God, which leads to knowledge.
- God freely gives wisdom to those who ask Him for it.
- When we have wisdom, we understand how to please God and how to live for Him so that He receives glory and honor.

BIBLE STORY: 2 CHRONICLES 1:7-13*Wisdom Comes From God*

Supporting Scripture: Proverbs 2:6; Proverbs 4:7; Proverbs 3:13; James 1:5

Teacher Introduction:

Solomon begins his reign by taking over after his father, King David. Solomon takes to heart the advice his father had given him, which was to seek wisdom and obey God. Solomon is given the opportunity to ask God for anything in the world he wants. He does not ask for wealth, celebrity, or possessions. He asks for wisdom that he might govern God's people wisely and rightly.

Solomon is known as one of the wisest men to have ever lived. We see in this lesson that He understood that in order to rightly please God, he had to gain wisdom. He knew that wisdom comes from God. God is the wisest of all beings; therefore, Solomon asked for wisdom and God granted his request.

Teaching Guide:

The guide below is provided to help you teach the truth: *God Is The Source Of All Wisdom*. The four points are the Big Ideas that should guide your lesson as you share from 2 Chronicles and teach the truth: *God Is The Source Of All Wisdom*. Footnotes are provided for further study of the text and God's interaction with His people. Throughout the lesson, questions are placed to help you guide the preschoolers to think about and process the truth: *God Is The Source Of All Wisdom*.

Opening Illustration:

Divide the room in half with tape or a boundary line. Label one side as "Yes" and one side as "No". Next make a series of statements and ask them to choose a side to show whether they think the statements are wise or unwise. If they think it is wise to do the action you state, they should move to the "Yes" side and vice versa.

- Go outside without shoes on when it's really cold.
- Listen to my parents always.
- Hit my sibling.
- Only eat ice cream and never eat vegetables.
- God's wisdom helps us know the right way to live. Without it, we will make unwise choices that aren't good for us.

BIG IDEA: WISDOM IS LIVING IN OBEDIENCE TO GOD'S WORD FOR HIS GLORY.**Wisdom is obeying God and seeking His glory.¹**

- Solomon understood this truth; he knew that glorifying God held greater eternal value than obtaining money or possessions.
- Solomon sought to gain wisdom from God rather than receive wealth and fame.
- We show that we have wisdom when we obey God's Word.

Wisdom is knowing that obeying God is the most important thing we can do.

- Solomon understood that he needed wisdom in order to govern God's people rightly.
- He did not try to rule the people in his own power, but sought to receive God's wisdom that he might obey God in all things.
- When we seek to obey God's Word so that God receives glory, we reveal that we, too, have wisdom.

Wisdom means seeking God's glory above all else.²

- Solomon was the king of God's people. God's people were more numerous than the dust.
- Solomon could have easily become arrogant and prideful, but he obeyed God's Word.
- Solomon sought God's glory and not his own when he asked God for wisdom instead of wealth and possessions.
- Wisdom is setting aside our own wants and desires in order to submit to God and His Word.

Whom do we obey when we are wise? (We obey God and His Word.)



Gather the children together and play a game of "Simon Says." Choose actions for them that exhibit the fruit of the Spirit, such as being helpful to someone, or showing love to someone else. Make the actions that aren't from Simon things that do not exhibit the fruit of the Spirit. Tell them that we show we are wise when we obey God's Word.

1. James 3:13: Wisdom is seeking to glorify God above anything else. It is a life that is lived in humility and full of good deeds that glorify God.

2. Proverbs 18:2: Wisdom is not relying upon our own futile understanding, but it is realizing that true wisdom and understanding come from God.

BIG IDEA: WISDOM COMES FROM GOD.**God is the giver of all good things, including wisdom.³**

- Wisdom originates with God because He is the creator of all things.
- God is wise and full of understanding.
- God is the giver of wisdom and understanding.
- Solomon saw the steadfastness of God as He worked in his father, King David's, life.
- Solomon asked the God who is the creator and giver of all things for wisdom.

God is wiser than any other being.

- Solomon saw this truth played out in the life of his father, King David.
- Solomon watched his father seek wisdom from God and saw that God was faithful to guide him throughout his reign.
- Solomon understood that God is the wisest being of all and he sought to be like God, asking for wisdom, the greatest treasure.



To help the children understand that wisdom has a source and its source is God, show them a glass of milk. Ask them where the milk comes from. Next, show them a picture of a cow and tell them that the cow is the source of the milk we drink. No one can get real milk anywhere else other than from a cow. God is our source of wisdom. We can find wisdom in His Word.

God's work in the lives of His children reveals that wisdom comes from Him.

- No one works in the lives of His people like God.
- Even when mankind tries to do something that seems wise, they fail in comparison to God.⁴
- Solomon could have asked God for all the riches in the world and received them, but he understood that seeking to be like God is better than gaining the entire world.

From whom does wisdom come? (Wisdom comes from God.)

Who is wiser than any other being? (God is wiser than anyone or thing.)

3. James 1:17: God is the giver of every good and perfect gift, including wisdom. He is the originator of wisdom and man receives wisdom from God, who gives it freely.

4. Proverbs 14:12: Man often thinks his way is best, but man's way leads to death and destruction. True wisdom is from God. He is the wisest of all beings.

BIG IDEA: WISDOM IS MORE VALUABLE THAN THINGS OR POSSESSIONS.**God values our pursuit of wisdom over our pursuit of possessions.**

- God does not desire us to seek after material things.
- Repeatedly in His Word, He tells His people to seek Him above all things.
- When we seek God, we receive wisdom because God is wise and He imparts His wisdom to those who seek Him.
- Solomon didn't ask for material things. He didn't ask for possessions.
- He asked for wisdom because he wanted to obey God by governing God's people wisely.



Sing "The Wise Man Built His House" with the children. Lead them in a discussion of how we should treasure wisdom because it is very valuable and it helps us know how to please God.

Wisdom is more valuable than possessions because it gives life.⁵

- Wisdom brings life that is blessed by God. These blessings aren't necessarily earthly treasures.
- God blessed Solomon's request for wisdom by giving him great wisdom. Solomon led the Israelites with great wisdom, discernment and obedience to God.
- When we seek God's wisdom, our lives will be blessed because they will please God.
- Having God's wisdom gives us understanding and helps us obey Him which leads to true life in Christ.

Wisdom is a gift, a treasure.

- God freely gives wisdom to those who ask for it.⁶
- Wisdom is a treasure, a gift that we should value above anything else.⁷
- Solomon grasped that God's wisdom was a treasure. He knew that it was of greater value than even having all the money and material things that God could give him.

What is more valuable than possessions? (Wisdom is more valuable than any material thing we have.)

5. Ecclesiastes 7:12: Wisdom can protect a person like money, yet wisdom is more valuable because only it can preserve a life. Wisdom brings life to the one who seeks it, not life on earth, but eternal life.

6. James 1:5: Those who ask for wisdom receive it.

7. Proverbs 2:3-4: Those who seek wisdom as if they were seeking silver or gold will be blessed. They will find a great treasure.

BIG IDEA: GOD WANTS US TO PURSUE WISDOM AND WE GET WISDOM BY PURSUING HIM. (PROVERBS 4:7, 3:13; JAMES 1:5)

Wisdom is something to be pursued.

- We are not naturally wise or full of discernment.
- We must seek wisdom and pursue it as the valuable treasure that it is.
- We do not naturally make wise or good choices. Our hearts are set on our sinful ways.⁸
- Solomon pursued wisdom above all else.
- He did not presume to know the best way to govern God's people.
- He sought wisdom from the source of wisdom.



Read Proverbs 4:7 to the children. Lead them in a discussion of what it means to get or receive something. Show them a prize box that is full of inexpensive toys, such as stickers, etc. Then show them a ticket that they can use to get a prize from the box. Tell them in order to receive the ticket all they have to do is ask you for it, but they have to ask like they really mean it. When they do, give them the ticket and allow them to get a sticker.

Wisdom is gained by knowing God.

- Wisdom is something to be gained and we are told in God's Word to seek wisdom.⁹
- When we seek wisdom, we are seeking something that is eternal.
- We also grow in knowledge and understanding of God when we seek wisdom because we become more like Him.

When we pursue God, we gain wisdom.

- Pursuing God results in gaining wisdom because we grow in our knowledge of Him.
- We become more like Him when we seek Him and seek to know Him.
- Wisdom is given generously to those who seek God and seek to know Him more personally.
- God delights in giving wisdom to those who seek Him. He delights in giving understanding to His people.

What does God want us to pursue? (He wants us to pursue wisdom and to pursue Him.)

8. Jeremiah 17:9: Our hearts are deceitful and wicked above all else. We do not naturally seek to do good and pleasing things for the Lord.

9. James 1:5; Proverbs 4:7: When we seek wisdom, we get wisdom. God gives it freely and generously to those who seek it.

HOOKS

**Seek Wisdom Above All Else**

Lead the children on a treasure hunt to find a Bible that you've hidden in the classroom. You can create a simple picture map that leads the children to the Bible. Lead them in a discussion of how God's Word is a treasure to us because it is how we find wisdom and how we learn about God.



- What helped us on our treasure hunt? (Our map helped us find the treasure.)
- What was the treasure we found? (The Bible is the treasure.)
- Why should we treasure God's Word? (It is our source for wisdom and knowing about God.)
- God's Word is a valuable treasure because it contains His wisdom. We should value it and hide it in our hearts.

**Sweeter Than Honey**

Bring in a jar of honey. Allow each child to taste the honey. (Any sweet substance will work for this illustration.) Lead them in a discussion of how God's Word, which is our source for wisdom is sweeter than honey. It is a good thing for us.



- What did the honey taste like? (It is very, very sweet.)
- Do you know what is sweeter than honey? (God's Word is sweeter than honey.)
- We should value God's Word because it is sweeter or better than honey or anything else that is good.

Value Wisdom Above All Else

Give each child a small bag with several items in them. The items can be a pencil, a coin, a piece of candy, and a piece of paper. Ask them to remove their items from the bag and then choose the one item they would most like to keep and place it back in the bag. Tell them that they must keep their item safe so they can take it home with them. Lead them in a discussion of what it means to value the wisdom that comes from God.

- God's wisdom is a very valuable thing. When we receive it, we must value it, which means we think of it as really important and we take care of it.
- Will you take care of your valuable item in your bag? (Yes, because if they want to take it home and keep it, they must value it.)
- We should value God's wisdom and make sure that we have it so we can best know how to please God.