

AMO®
TEACHER GUIDE
AND RESOURCES



BOOK OF PROVERBS

Becky Padgett, M.Ed.

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AND RESOURCES
BOOK OF PROVERBS

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Published by Chrysalis International, Inc.
Orlando, Florida

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ISBN: 978-0-9742820-3-9

Published in association with Credo House Publishers,
a division of Credo Communications, LLC,
Grand Rapids, Michigan
www.credohousepublishers.com



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- Vocabulary Cards
- Cookie Recipe and Scripture
- Memory Verse Cards
- Parent Prayer and Blessing Cards
- Sample Student Proverb

Book of Proverbs

Reading for Reasoning Overview

Lesson	Reading	Principle	Vocabulary	Memory Verse	Student Record
1	Psalm 19:7-14	The Bible is the eternal, living and inspired word of God, and its words are sweet to the taste. Serve Jewish honey cookies	Bible	How sweet are Your words to my taste! Yes, sweeter than honey to my mouth. (Psalm 119:103)	The Bible is God's holy and inspired book, written that I may know Him and His Word.
2	John 1:1-14	The Bible contains knowledge and truth and living principles.	The Word		Jesus is the "Logos," the revealed Word of God.
3	Luke 4:14-23	The Gospel is God's "good news" that man can have eternal life through Jesus Christ.	Gospel	Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (Psalm 119:105)	The Gospel is God's "good news" that I can have eternal life through Jesus Christ.
4	Psalm 1	The Scriptures contain the light of God's knowledge and wisdom written for man's daily guidance.	truth		God's Word is life and light. If I read and mediate upon it, I will prosper in every way.
5	Proverbs 1: 1-7	The study of Proverbs will provide wisdom for successful living.	proverb	The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction. (Proverbs 1:7)	A proverb is a wise saying to guide the inexperienced person in successful living.
6	Proverbs 2:1-11	If I seek wisdom and ask God for it, wisdom will enter my heart.	discern		See Completed Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer
7	Proverbs 3:1-12	Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean unto your own understanding.	trust	Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. (Proverbs 3:5)	
8	Proverbs 3:13-20	Wisdom is a source of life. She is to be pursued more than riches.	wisdom		

Book of Proverbs

Reading for Reasoning Overview

(continued)

Lesson	Reading	Principle	Vocabulary	Memory Verse	Student Record
9	Proverbs 4:20-27	Guard your heart with all diligence, for out of it flow the issues of life	deceitful	Guard your heart with all diligence, for out of it flow the issues of life. (Proverbs 4:23)	See Completed Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer
10	Proverbs 6:12-23	Applying the wisdom of God's Word keeps us from sin and destruction.	sin		
11	Proverbs 8:12-22	Jesus Christ personifies wisdom.	prudence	In Christ are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge (Colossians 2:3).	
12	Proverbs 10:1-9	The one who neglects his work and duties will be poor, but the diligent hand will make one rich.	integrity		
13	Proverbs 13: 1-7	The one who guards his mouth preserves his life.	guard	Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but desire fulfilled is a tree of life. (Proverbs 13:12)	
14	Proverbs 13:12-25	Hope deferred makes the heart sick; desire fulfilled is a tree of life.	hope		
15	Proverbs 14:26-35	Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people.	righteousness	May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer. (Psalm 19:14)	
16	Proverbs 15:1-12; 18:21	A soothing tongue is a tree of life.	folly		
17	Proverbs 17:9-22	A friend loves at all times. There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.	friend	A friend loves at all times. (Proverbs 17:17)	
18	Proverbs 18:10-21	Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, but humility goes before honor.	honor		

Lesson	Reading	Principle	Vocabulary	Memory Verse	Student Record
19	Proverbs 20:11-20	The conduct of a young child builds the man.	conduct	It is by his deeds that a youth distinguishes himself if his conduct is pure and right. (Proverbs 20:11)	See Completed <u>Wisdom and Folly</u> Graphic Organizer
20	Proverbs 24:27-34	A Christian work ethic glorifies God and produces success and prosperity.	diligent		
21	Proverbs 29:2-12	A godly leader recognizes and acknowledges God as the supreme authority on all issues of life.	leader	When the godly are in authority, the people rejoice. But when the wicked are in power, they groan. (Proverbs 29:2)	<u>Portrait of a Godly Leader:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is a servant of God • Serves those he leads • Seeks God for governing • Judges the poor and weak fairly • Learns all the facts before making decisions • Invokes God’s blessings and protection
22	Proverbs 31:10-20	The woman who fears the Lord shall be praised. Her children rise up and bless her and her husband also.	character		<u>Portrait of a Godly Woman:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respects her husband and does him good • Makes clothes for family • Works hard and is productive • Gathers food for family • Speaks wisdom and kindness
Lesson	Activities				
23	Have children review themes, student vocabulary words, and recorded phrases recorded in their AMO® binders for the book of Proverbs. Ask them to choose their favorite theme and write their own proverb (older children) or copy their favorite proverb (younger children).				
24	Have children illustrate their proverb or decorate their written proverb with an illuminated letter. Copy or glue onto the scrolls that were made in crafts class.				

Book of Proverbs

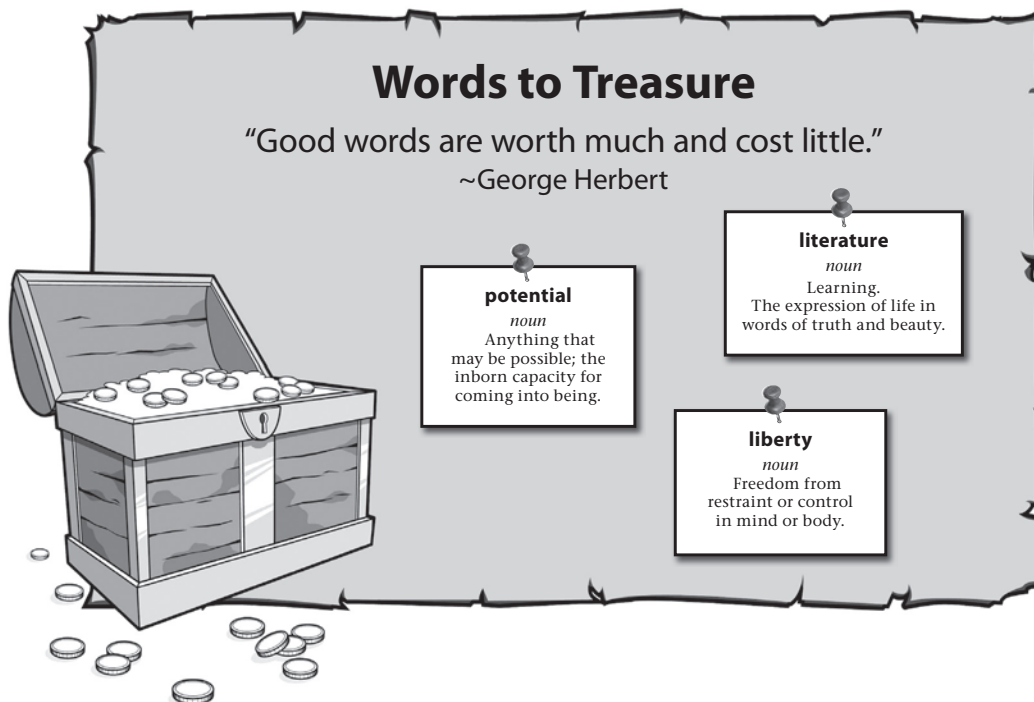
Treasure Chest of Words

Words are the keys that unlock the treasure chest of ideas!



Words are the building blocks of ideas. Man cannot think without words. As Christians, we need a noble and biblical vocabulary that will guide our reasoning and decision making, as well as our ability to communicate in the marketplace and persuade others with our words of faith just as Jesus and the Apostle Paul did in the first century. Words are spirit, Jesus said (John 6:63). Words have the power to create or destroy. (Proverbs 18:21) Through the study of the Word of God, a child's vocabulary is greatly enhanced as you, the teacher or reader, mediate the language and begin using the words to create new realities. (Numbers 14:28).

Following are the Key Student Vocabulary Words from the reading lessons of the book of Proverbs. The definitions are taken from many dictionaries. They are meant to be used in the curriculum by pinning the Key Word, that you have printed for each lesson, onto the Treasure Chest Bulletin Board. Leave all the words out on the bulletin board until the next lesson – the Bible reading word, the literature word, the Christian history word. We have printed ours on card stock, but plain paper works just as well. Use these words throughout the weeks as you teach and reason with the children. Help build the children's thinking and reasoning skills by asking them to include these words in their conversation and as they answer questions.



Words to Treasure

1. **Bible** (n.) God's Eternal Word. The Holy Scriptures. The Book of Life. 66 inspired books that contain the principles of the Christian faith, divided into the Old and New Testaments.
2. **The Word** (n.) The Bible is God's inspired Word, our spiritual 'bread of life.'
3. **Gospel** (n.) 'Good news'; God's joyful message of salvation in Christ.
4. **truth** (n.) The true state of things; conformity to fact or reality.
5. **proverb** (n.) A short, wise, easy-to-learn saying that calls a person to action.
6. **discern** (v.) To see the difference between two or more things such as good and evil.
7. **trust** (v.) To place confidence in, to rely on.
8. **wisdom** (n.) The right use or exercise of knowledge.
9. **deceitful** (adj.) Dishonest; lying; cunning; devious.
10. **sin** (n.) Any violation of God's commands; immoral acts, thoughts, purposes, words, and desires.
11. **prudence** (n.) The practice of wise behavior; caution in decisions.
12. **integrity** (n.) Moral soundness or wholeness that comes from being honest and upright in character.
13. **guard** (v.) To keep watch over; to protect. To take precautions to avoid an unwanted consequence.
14. **hope** (n.) A desire of some good and the belief that it is obtainable.
15. **righteousness** (n.) Purity of heart and an honest, upright life; being in right standing with God.
16. **folly** (n.) Foolish or senseless behavior. 2) The trait of acting stupidly.
17. **friend** (n.) A person you know well and regard with love and trust. One who provides help when you are in trouble.
18. **honor** (n.) A person's name, reputation, self-perception or moral identity.
19. **conduct** (n.) Personal behavior; manner of acting or conducting yourself.
20. **diligent** (adj.) Care and perseverance in performing tasks.
21. **leader** (n.) One who goes before and shows the way; one that leads or guides.
22. **character** (n.) The internal qualities that mark an individual's nature which is formed by his daily choices.

Wisdom and Folly

Graphic Organizer Student Record

Lesson	Reading
1. Searches for wisdom	1. Does not search for wisdom
2. Listens with his inner ear for understanding	2. Is not listening for God's voice
3. Has a shield guarding his heart	3. Is not protected from evil
4. Hides God's Word in his heart	4. Forgets what God said
5. Does not lean on his own understanding	5. Relies on his own understanding
6. Turns from evil	6. Walks with evil
7. Is blessed	7. Misses God's blessings
8. Gains understanding	8. Lacks understanding
9. Is truthful	9. Is deceitful
10. Makes wise decisions	10. Is careless about decisions
11. Binds God's Word around his heart and neck	11. Speaks lies
12. Listens for God's voice speaking through His Word	12. Spreads strife and points out the faults of others
13. Looks for the wisdom that comes from above	13. Trusts the natural, earthly wisdom
14. Makes his father glad	14. Is a grief to his mother
15. Works with a diligent hand	15. Works with a negligent hand
16. Will govern others	16. Will be put to forced labor
17. Accepts his father's discipline	17. Does not listen to rebuke
18. Guards his mouth and preserves his life	18. Opens wide his mouth and comes to ruin
19. Desires those things that agree with God's Word	19. Gets trapped by his selfish desires
20. Has inner peace	20. Lacks God's peace within
21. Obeys God	21. Makes up his own rules
22. Prays for his nation	22. Does not pray for his nation
23. Speaks soothing words to others	23. Speaks harshly and stirs up anger
24. Brings healing with his words	24. Speaks lies that crush the spirit
25. Loves his friend through all his problems	25. Gives up on a friend when he has problems
26. Is careful about how he speaks about his friend	26. Gossips about his friend when he's not around
27. Humbles himself to serve others	27. Exalts himself and his achievements
28. Will receive honor from God and man	28. Will be humbled and brought low
29. Makes choices that are upright	29. Makes foolish choices
30. Diligently works at duties and jobs	30. Foolishly avoids work and is lazy
31. Makes plans to prosper	31. Has no plans to be enterprising

Using the Binder

Overview

The notebook approach,¹ developed by Rosalie Slater co-founder of the Foundation for American Christian Education, employs the four natural or biblical steps of learning: *research, reason, relate* and *record*. This is an old method of reflective study, one used by many of the world's greatest thinkers and writers throughout history. It is as old as God instructing Moses to "write in a book what He was saying to him and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua." (Exodus 17:14) God has always placed great value on the written word and written records, of which there are hundreds of references in the Bible.

The notebook approach is both a biblical tool for teaching and learning, as well as a method for guiding reflection and reasoning with truth. It introduces the teacher and student to the study of the subject through the nature and character of God as the author of that subject, and it lays the foundation for thinking and reasoning with the life and truth of God's Word. It opens the subject through its vocabulary and biblical principles and enlightens the pathway of thinking and reasoning to guide the student toward mastery of the subject. The notebook approach cultivates strong writers, Christian scholarship and character, and a permanent record of learning for teachers, students and parents to evaluate and reference over and over again. The student produces his own "book of remembrance." (Malachi 3:16) Over time, this method liberates the student to become an independent learner who is able to take responsibility for his own education and give an account.

In the AMO Program, both teacher and students need a ringed binder with four dividers marked:

1. Literature
2. History

3. Reading
4. The Arts

A title page is made and filed in the front of the binder, and a title page is made for each component.

Instructions for how to use the Lesson Plan Format follow. They will enable both teacher and student to derive the greatest benefit of the notebook method.

Objectives

1. Introduce the notebook approach and the four steps of natural learning for a permanent record of study in the AMO Program.
2. Develop the lifelong habits of personal study, reflection, recording principles and reasoning in both teacher and children.
3. Build Christian imaginations and consecrated minds for fresh vision, renewed thinking, and biblical reasoning.

AMO's Lesson Plan Components

The top portion of the lesson plan contains the following:




1. **Time:** This component indicates the length of time for the lesson. It is based on AMO's weekly schedule. You can alter this to suit your program.
2. **Reading:** This component relates the reading assignment. In the history and literature components, the teacher reads aloud. In literature, the whole classic is read aloud to the children. Do not let them read it. The teacher should read with animation and know the vocabulary before reading the classic. In the Bible Reading lessons, the children read aloud.
3. **Review:** All good lessons begin by reviewing the principle and the main idea or theme of the last lesson. Ask the children if they can remember the principle from the last lesson. If no one

¹ Slater, R. (1965). *Teaching and learning America's Christian history: The principle approach*. San Francisco, CA: Foundation for American Christian Education.




can remember, ask them to turn in their binders to the record of the last lesson or point to the Key Vocabulary Word for that lesson located on the bulletin board to help them recall.



4. **Goal of the Lesson:** This is the primary target of the lesson and what the children should understand at its conclusion. The student vocabulary word, the principle and Scripture, as well as the reasoning questions are all directed toward the goal of the lesson.
5. **Principle:** Each lesson is governed and guided by a biblical principle, which lays truth as the foundation and provides structure for teaching the whole lesson. This is antithetical to most teaching methods, which either require children to memorize information and parrot back the “right” answer or “entertain” them.
6. **Scripture:** Each principle is undergirded with a biblical reference. The Word of God is alive. (Hebrews 4:12) It not only produces life in the teacher’s spirit and in the lesson plan, but it illumines and guides the children’s thinking, reasoning, and application of the principle to their own lives.

The remainder of the lesson plan is divided into two columns. The left column is for edifying the teacher and the right column is for engaging the students.

1.  **Teacher Vocabulary:** Difficult words and key words are defined biblically for the teacher’s enlightenment and for use with older students and adult literacy programs.
2.  **Preparation to Teach:** These are the instructions for preparation as well as the tools and supplies teachers must gather before entering the classroom to teach.
3.  **Teaching Plan:** This is the subject content of the lesson to build the teacher’s confidence. Generally, everything he or she needs for teaching the lesson is provided and should be reviewed before teaching the lesson. It contains all the elements that he or she will need to teach the lesson to the children. NOTE: Background information and often a great deal of content for the TEACHER’S EDIFICATION are provided. The teacher is NOT to read all of this material to the children. It is there to provide information and enrichment to the teacher, as

he or she works with the principle and the reasoning with the children.

4.  **Key Vocabulary Word:** Every lesson has a student vocabulary word that relates to the principle and the goal of the lesson. This word, which is printed on card stock and pinned to the “Treasury of Words” bulletin board each day, should be emphasized in each lesson. Use this word in your teaching and encourage the children to learn its meaning and use it in their conversation. Remove the vocabulary card from the board in the next class period and store in the Treasure Chest and pin up the new word from the lesson. Many teachers print out a copy of each word and have the children file in their binders. If you are using this in an academic setting, you can have the students put a divider in their binders marked “Vocab” and they can copy the word and the definition into their binders. They can be tested on the vocabulary definitions and are certainly encouraged to use these words in their writing and in their verbal communication.
5.  **Reason Questions:** Reason questions are provided to guide biblical reasoning and oral discussions and to help children relate the principle or theme of the lesson to their own lives. In an academic setting, this can be assigned as written class work or as homework.
6.  **Notebook Record:** Everything the children copy onto their graphic organizers is found in the lesson plan. The teacher writes these phrases on the chalkboard, and the children copy them onto their graphic organizers. In literature the graphic organizers are based on the settings, characterizations and themes in the classic. The phrases are the author’s words, which is why they have quotation marks around them. In other subjects, the notebook record contains the essence of the lesson so the children have a permanent record of what they are learning. For the academic setting, older children can find additional phrases to write on these graphic organizers. These phrases are helpful when assigning composition work. Have the children open their binders to the appropriate graphic organizer so they can use the phrases and vocabulary words to inspire and guide their descriptive or expository writing.

7.  **Oral Work:** This is a summary of the lesson that was taught to the children, that the teacher says and the students repeat out loud before the close of the lesson. It reinforces the principle that undergirds the lesson.
8.  **Memory Verse:** There is one Scripture verse for the children to memorize every two lessons. Post the Memory Verse Card on the bulletin board and drill the verse with the children throughout the day. Keep a record of their ability to memorize each verse and acknowledge and reward those who do a good job at the end of the lessons.

Other components that accompany the Lesson Plan:

1. **Graphic Organizers:** These are designed to organize and limit the amount of writing children must do in an after school, Sunday school or literacy program. Some children are illiterate and unable to write. These children will still have a record of learning with the coloring pages provided. All the children will build their language skills. If you are using this program in an academic setting, you can assign more note taking by writing the content being taught on the chalkboard and having your students copy into their binders.

Graphic organizers for the literature units are designed to record these literary elements:

Characterizations: Four or five of the main characters in the classic are chosen to study in depth. They soon learn that God looks at the internal man (1 Samuel 16:7) and that the internal is causal, it gives rise to the external. *As a man thinks within himself, so he is (Proverbs 23:7).* This helps children examine their own character.

- **Internal:** Record the internal qualities of the heart, mind, soul, attitudes, will, and spirit **using the words of the author.**

- **External:** Record the physical features of the literary character **using the words of the author.**

Setting: The main setting(s) of each classic has been chosen, and if actual geographic settings are in the classic, such as the Swiss Alps and Frankfurt, Germany settings found in *Heidi*, the children complete map work and study the culture of the settings.

Theme: This is the message the author conveys. Each classic is different. *Heidi* has many themes.

2. **Vocabulary Card:** The Key Vocabulary Word, which is defined Biblically, is printed on this card and pinned onto the “Treasury of Words” bulletin board where it remains until the next lesson. All cards are stored in the Treasure Chest of Words, so the children will soon learn that words provide a treasury of wisdom and understanding.
3. **Coloring Pages:** Beautiful coloring pages have been created by talented illustrators for the delight and enrichment of the children. Have the children use colored pencils to color them. Pencils produce beautiful pages for the children to cherish. Many children are visual learners, so they will glean many details of the story from the coloring pages. These become part of their permanent record and are filed in their binders.
4. **Memory Verse Cards:** This card holds the weekly Bible verse from the Bible Reading lesson to be memorized by the children. It is printed and pinned onto the “Treasury of Words” bulletin board.
5. **Parent Prayer and Blessing Cards:** These cards are part of the Bible Reading lesson plans. One set is printed weekly for each child to take home to his parents so they can pray and bless their children every day.

Suggested Assignments for the Academic Setting

1. Write introductory facts and inspiring information from the lesson plans on the chalkboard and have the students copy into their binders on a sheet of paper labeled "Introduction" for each component studied. (i.e.: historic and literary background of the book being studied; author of the book; literary background, genre, and elements of the classic being studied; timeline of key events, key individuals, and key documents in the Christian history units; etc.)
2. Have students create a divider labeled "Vocabulary" and insert in their AMO® binders for each component studied. On a sheet of notebook paper, have them copy the daily "Key Vocabulary Word" and its definition. After they have copied the word, have them write a sentence using the new vocabulary word.
Hold students responsible for the correct spelling of the word, its definition, and the ability to use the word accurately in a sentence on quizzes and on the final examination.
3. Have students create a divider labeled "Principles" and insert in their AMO® binders for each component studied. Have them write out the daily principle and then write a paraphrase as classroom work or as homework. Ask them to apply the principle to their own lives, as well. Be certain to read each one and make comments.
4. Have students create a divider labeled "Memory Verses" in the AMO® Bible reading component and insert in their AMO® binders. On a sheet of notebook paper, have them copy the weekly memory verse. Ask them to paraphrase it and apply its truth to their own lives.
5. Have students create a divider labeled "Reason and Relate" and insert in their AMO® binders for each component studied. Write the "Reason Questions" found on the lesson plan (and any you would like to add) on the chalkboard. Have students copy the questions onto a sheet of notebook paper and write out their answers

in complete sentences either during class or for homework. Correct, grade, and return them to the students to be filed in their binders. Discuss some of the inspired answers.

6. Create writing assignments from the literary phrases and information the students record on their graphic organizers, such as:

Write two paragraphs that describe the Swiss Alps. Use as many of Johanna Spyri's beautiful phrases as possible. You may use your notes from class.

Contrast life in the Swiss mountains with life in the German city, Frankfurt.

Describe the individuality of Switzerland.

Compare and contrast the internal and external characters of Heidi and Peter.

7. Prepare students for all final examinations by seeing that their binders are complete and in order and by reviewing the principles, historic events and individuals, and literary elements of the classic. Take class time to do this collectively.
8. After the final examination, collect and grade each student's binder, and average his binder grade with his other academic assignments. The binder grade reflects the student's character, not his academic achievement.
9. Sample Heidi Final Exam (3rd grade and above/ age 8+): Be certain to write in complete sentences.

Why is the Bible the highest model of language and literature?

Who was the author of Heidi? Write two sentences that describe her individuality.

Write the definition for each of these vocabulary words:

literature	friendship
conscience	providence
individuality	virtue
prudence	principle
repentant	reason (v.)

Label the map of Switzerland using the names found on the legend.

Write a descriptive paragraph about life in the Swiss Alps in the late 1800s. Tell why you would or would not have wanted to live there.

Compare and contrast the internal and external characters of Heidi and Peter.

What were Heidi's most distinctive character qualities? Why did everyone like her? How did Heidi overcome life as an orphan?

Why did the author describe Uncle Alm as the "Prodigal Son?" Tell what happened to him in the story.

Paraphrase this principle from chapter 10: "Being able to read brings great liberty to one's life."

Extra credit: Sketch your favorite scene from the classic Heidi in the space provided.

10. Sample Proverbs Final Exam (3rd grade and above/age 8+):

Using complete sentences, describe four attributes of God's Word, the Bible.

Write the definition for each of these vocabulary words:

gospel	integrity
proverb	honor
discern	character
wisdom	diligent
folly	leader

Who wrote the Book of Proverbs? Tell why this book is so important for a young person to meditate upon.

Contrast the wise child and the foolish child in the following areas of daily life:

- Listening
- The words of one's mouth
- Making friends
- Making decisions
- Work habits

List three qualities of a godly leader.

List three qualities of a godly woman.

Paraphrase the following principle, "The conduct of a young child builds the man or woman."

Extra credit: Write out two of your favorite memory verses from the Book of Proverbs.

As teachers work with our AMO® lesson plans, you will be inspired to create your own reflective writing assignments. **Remember, handling the noble vocabulary of the subject, reasoning with the principles, and daily writing assignments produce mastery of the subject.** The sooner children are taught the rudiments of composition (which should begin in kindergarten/first grade), they should be writing in every subject every day by the third grade.

Remember: You cannot ask children to write a descriptive paragraph if you haven't taught your students the rudiments of writing a descriptive paragraph. The same principle goes with comparing and contrasting two items or characters. The teacher has to teach the rudiments of all the various forms of composition and then have their students practice, practice, practice. Writing is not a gift from God that some are blessed to have and others are not blessed. Writing is a skill best learned as a young child in order to form lifelong manners and habits of excellence in Christian scholarship. Writing This produces Christian thinkers and leaders in every field of endeavor. By employing the notebook method, teachers will eventually become confident to develop and write their own curriculum. This method produces writers and Christian thinkers among teachers, as well.

For additional help, email info@amoprogram.com.



**BIBLE READING FOR
REASONING LESSON PLANS**

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet

And a light unto my path.

~ PSALM 119:105 ~

BOOK OF PROVERBS

1

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: Psalm 19:7-14 (NIV)

Principle: The Bible is the eternal, living, and inspired word of God, and its words are sweet to the taste.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

endure (v.) To last; to continue in the same state without perishing; to remain; to abide forever.

holy (adj.) Whole or perfect in a moral sense. Free from sin. Applied to God.

incarnate (adj.) Invested with a human body; embodied in a human nature and form.

inspire (v.) 1) God-breathed, infused with life. 2) To fill with ideas.

Scripture (n.) The books of the Old and New Testaments. The sacred writings; called sacred or holy as proceeding from God and containing His divine doctrines and precepts.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Begin reading the book of Proverbs. Be certain that you have read it completely before teaching Lesson 5. These first four lessons introduce the children to the Bible, God's Holy Word.
2. The day before this lesson, bake honey cookies and serve as a snack after this lesson. (Recipe follows)
3. For this lesson, read and reflect upon: the teacher background (follows); *The Children's Illustrated Bible* pp. 8-11; and the student reading.
4. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and Overview of the Bible (follows):

Principle: The Bible is the eternal, living and inspired word of God, and its words are sweet to the taste.

STUDENT



Key Word:

Bible (n.) God's Eternal Word. The Holy Scriptures. The Book of Life. Sixty-six inspired books that contain the principles of the Christian faith



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. What is the Bible?
2. Why is the Bible such a unique book?
3. How can you show God how much you treasure His Word? (Answer: By studying and hiding His Word in your heart.)

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart (Heb 4:12).

You have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God (1 Peter 1:23).

The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God endures forever (Isaiah 40:8).

How sweet are Thy words to my taste! Yes, sweeter than honey to my mouth (Psalm 119:103).

5. Gather resources: Bible, *The Children's Illustrated Bible*, Proverbs Title Pages, The Bible Graphic Organizers, Student Vocabulary Card, Memory Verse Card, Parent Cards and honey cookies.



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illumine our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders and Proverbs Title Pages. Have children write their name and color the illustration.
3. Introduce the children to the Bible. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define 'Bible' for the children.
4. Introduce the children to the Bible. Read portions or all of the "Overview of The Bible" (follows).
5. Connect the vocabulary word to the principle.
6. Assign the Bible reading to the children. Have them read silently and then orally together.
7. Serve the honey cookies to the children and have them repeat the verse of Scripture.
8. Ask Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
9. Distribute The Bible Graphic Organizers. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto The Bible Graphic Organizer. Have the children file this and their title page in their binders behind the "Bible" divider.
10. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Pin it on the bulletin board.
11. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.
12. Send Parent Blessing and Prayer Cards home with the children for the week.



Notebook Record:

1. Write your name on your Proverbs Title Page and color the illustration. File in your binder behind the divider "Bible."
2. Record the following on The Bible Graphic Organizer:
 - The Bible is God's holy and inspired word.
 - It is recorded that I may know Him and His eternal Word.



Singing:

"The B-I-B-L-E"

Words can be found:

<http://www.ebibleteacher.com/children>



Memory Verse:

*How sweet are Thy words to my taste!
Yes, sweeter than honey to my mouth.
(Psalm 119:103)*

Enjoy your honey cookie.



Take blessing and prayer cards home to parents.

Overview of the Bible

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

The Greatest Book Ever Written

The Bible is the greatest book in the world because it is God's living and eternal Word. It is the divinely inspired record or story of God's dealings with men and nations from the beginning of time through the planting of the first Christian churches in the Roman Empire. The main theme of the Bible is how people like you and me can come to know God in our everyday lives and worship Him. The Bible contains God's revelations, the principles of the Christian faith and God's rules of practice for everyday living. It is different than any other book ever written.

The word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart (Hebrews 4:12).

"ALL FLESH IS LIKE GRASS, AND ALL ITS GLORY LIKE THE FLOWER OF GRASS. THE GRASS WITHERS, AND THE FLOWER FALLS OFF, BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD ENDURES FOREVER." And this is the word which was preached to you (1 Peter 1:23-25).

Two Great Collections of Books

God is the author of the Bible, and 40 writers, who were inspired by God's Holy Spirit, wrote it down over a period of 1,500 years. Yet, it is a book without contradictions in what it says. It is completely without error and contains the authority of God and the living words of Jesus Christ, His Son, the incarnate Word.

The Bible contains 66 books in two collections called the Old and New Testaments or the Old and New Covenants. The Old Testament was originally

written in Hebrew and Aramaic (Ezra and Daniel), the official language of the Persian Empire. The New Testament was written 2,000 years ago in Greek. Even though the official language of the Roman Empire was Latin, government officials in Rome were the only ones who used it. Most people spoke Greek, and the new Christians wanted their books to be understood by as many people as possible, so they wrote in Greek.

These writings were placed on scrolls made of papyrus or vellum (animal hides). People in Israel often used skins for writing. Rectangles of skin were stitched together to make a long strip that was rolled into a "scroll" and stored in clay pots for safekeeping.

The Old Testament

The Old Testament contains the Hebrew Scriptures. The Old Testament books, of which there are 39, contain the account of creation, God's commandments, the covenants God made with His people, the history of the Jews and the founding of their nation Israel, poetic words of wisdom and prophecies. The Old Testament Scriptures were canonized under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit long before the birth of Christ by the high priest Ezra and the men of the Great Synagogue. Although no original manuscripts of the Old Testament have been found (we have only copies of copies of copies), the Jewish scribes were always aware they were copying a holy text, and took great care not to make mistakes.

In A.D. 1947, Jewish shepherds found some stone jars in caves at Qumran on the Dead Sea. Inside the jars were tightly rolled pieces of parchment and bronze, and in the next few years many more were found in nearby caves. They became known as the "Dead Sea Scrolls," and belonged to the library of a

Jewish religious sect, who lived at Qumran from the second century B.C. to about A.D. 70.

During the period of Israel's history, when kings ruled Israel, each king was required to make a personal copy of the Books of Moses (the Law) for his use in governing himself and the nation:

Now it shall come about when he [the king] sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself a copy of this law on a scroll in the presence of the Levitical priests. It shall be with him and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, by carefully observing all the words of this law and these statutes, that his heart may not be lifted up above his countrymen and that he may not turn aside from the commandment, to the right or the left, so that he and his sons may continue long in his kingdom in the midst of Israel (Deuteronomy 17:18-20).

The New Testament

The Old Testament is the foundation of the Christian faith, whose doctrine is found in the writings of the New Testament. The New Testament (of which there are 27 books) contains the four Gospel accounts of the life of Jesus Christ, the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Acts of the Apostles after Christ's death and resurrection, letters from the Apostles to the New Testament churches and the revelation of Jesus Christ to John. These books were compiled into one large book before A.D. 325, many years after the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words shall not pass away" (Matthew 24:35).

Translating the Bible into Many Languages

Jerome, a learned monk and early Church father, translated the Scriptures from the original languages into Latin by A.D. 405. This text became known as the "Vulgate," which means "the common translation." The Vulgate was the Bible of Europe for over 1,000 years and the one that John Wycliffe used to translate the first English Bible. Many scribes and men of God carefully copied the books and preserved them through the ages so that we might have this precious book today.

The Bible has been translated into more languages than any other book in the world. Through the centuries, many men have been martyred for their faith and determination to translate God's Word into the languages of the thousands of people groups around the world. Today, a portion of the Bible has been translated into more than 2,400 languages of the 6,900 languages. The Bible is available in whole or in part to 98 percent of the world's population in a language in which they are fluent.

The Value of Reading the Bible

It is only as we are able to read and know God's Word, that we can know truth! We have much for which to be thankful when we have a copy of the Bible. To study the Bible is the noblest of all pursuits and to understand it is the highest of all goals. God's Word is nourishment for our inner man, or spirit man. It is as sweet as honey to the taste. At the time of Christ, the teachers in the synagogue schools, which were called the "House of the Book," made honey cakes for the children and often printed the Shema ("Hear O Israel, the Lord thy God is One") from the Book of Deuteronomy on them. They drizzled honey on the top of the cakes and served them to the children. The children memorized the Shema and then ate the honey cakes, as they were reminded that God's Word is as sweet as honey (Psalm 19; Psalm 119; Ezekiel 3). They soon learned that education came to involve the task of causing youth to enjoy the sweetness of studying God's Law or truth.

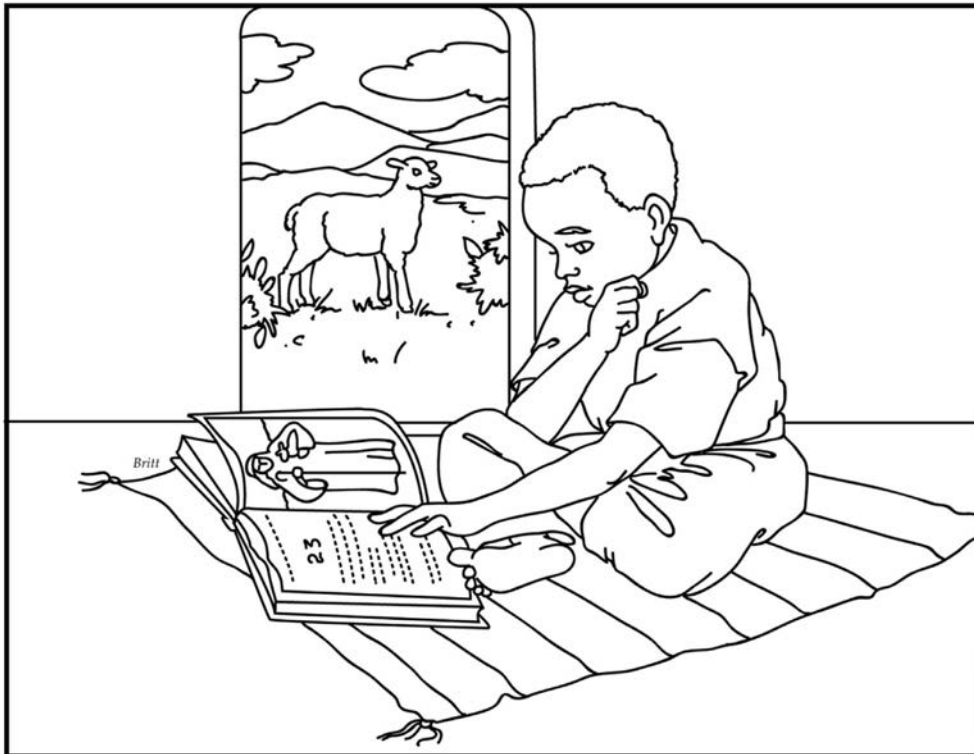
Reading and meditating on God's Word is a noble task. There are many promises in the Bible for those who diligently study the Word and apply its truths to their lives:

*How blessed is the man who does not walk
in the counsel of the wicked,
Nor stand in the path of sinners,
Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!
But his delight is in the law of the Lord,
And in His law he meditates day and night.
He will be like a tree firmly planted by
streams of water,
Which yields its fruit in its season
And its leaf does not wither;
And in whatever he does, he prospers.*

Psalm 1:1-3

The Book of Proverbs

NAME



The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.
— Proverbs 1:7

The Bible



A large rectangular area containing 25 horizontal lines, intended for writing or drawing.

Jewish Honey Cookies

Jewish tradition relates that it was the practice to use honey in a special ceremony on the first day of school. Each six-year old was given a slate upon which the Hebrew alphabet, two verses of Scripture (Leviticus 1:1 and Deuteronomy 33:4) and the following sentence were written: "The Law will be my calling." The teacher read this, and the children repeated it back. Then each slate was coated with honey, which the children licked off. They were reminded of Ezekiel, who said after eating the scroll of God, "I ate it; and it tasted as sweet as honey in my mouth." (Ezekiel 3:3)

After this ceremony, the children were given honey cakes to eat with Bible verses from the Law on them. The study of the Torah was compared to milk and honey. For the Jews, education came to involve the task of causing youth to enjoy the sweetness of studying God's Law or truth. For them, knowing God's Word was their life!¹

¹Marvin R. Wilson, *Our Father Abraham: Jewish Roots of the Christian Faith*

Honey Cookie Recipe:

1 cup butter
½ cup sugar
4 tablespoons honey
2½ cups flour

1. Cream butter, sugar and honey. Add flour and mix well.
2. Chill in refrigerator 2 hours or longer.
3. Roll out and cut with cookie cutter.
4. With a toothpick inscribe Psalm 119:11 on each one.
5. Bake on ungreased cookie sheets at 300 degrees for 25 minutes.
6. When cool, drizzle with honey and serve with a Scripture verse. (To be printed from the PDF file found with the Resources.)

Makes 4 dozen

As the children receive the cookie, have them lick off the honey and say:

"God's Word is as sweet as honey!"

BOOK OF PROVERBS

2

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: John 1:1-14 (NIV)

Review: The Bible is God's living, eternal and inspired Word.

Principle: The Bible contains knowledge, truth and living principles.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

Jesus Christ (n.) The anointed One; Messiah; Son of God; Savior of the world; incarnate Word of God. Jesus has many names such as "Alpha and Omega"; "Bread of life"; "Light of the world"; "the way, the truth, and the life"; "Lamb of God"; "King of kings and Lord of lords."

revelation (n.) 1) The act of disclosing to others what was before unknown. 2) That which is revealed; the sacred truths which God has communicated in the Bible to man for his instruction and direction. 3) The Apocalypse; the last book of the Bible.

truth (n.) Conformity to fact or reality; true state of things.

word (n.) 1) Letters, which represent a sound or combination of sounds. 2) Language; living speech; oral expression. 3) A promise. 4) The Scripture; divine revelation, or any part of it. 5) Christ, the Logos.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and background material about the nature of God.

Principle: The Bible contains knowledge, truth and living principles.

STUDENT



Key Word:

The Word (n.) The Bible is God's Word, our spiritual 'bread of life.'



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. How can we know God?
2. Who is Jesus Christ?
3. Why is Jesus called the 'Bread of Life'?



Notebook Record:

Record the following on The Bible Graphic Organizer:

- Jesus is the "Logos," the revealed Word of God.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men . . . The Word became flesh and dwelt among us . . . (John 1:1-3; 14).

The proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ; and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory (1 Peter 1:7,8).

[Jesus] "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life . . ." (John 5:24).

[Jesus] "I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; . . . the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life" (John 6:51; 63).

The Bible is a book that contains the knowledge of God and truth. God is a spirit.

God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth (John 4:24).

God exists in triune form:

- God the Father (source of truth);
- God the Son (the revelation of truth);
- God the Holy Spirit (interprets and teaches truth).

God chose several ways to reveal truth to man, so that we can know Him, obey His truth and have eternal life:

- Through His creation or the "book of nature" (Genesis 1; Psalm 19:1-2; Romans 1:20)
- Through our conscience (Job 32:8; Romans 2:14-16)
- Through the Scriptures (Hebrews 1:1,2; Psalm 119:105, 130)
- Through believing on His Son, Jesus Christ. (Colossians 2:3,9; John 14:9; John 8:12)

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is the second person of the Godhead. The Son was with God the Father at creation when He spoke all things into being. (Genesis 1) Jesus is the "Logos," a Greek word that means "the revealed Word of God." (John 1:1,14). He is the agent of creation.



Singing:

"The B-I-B-L-E"



Memory Verse:

How sweet are Thy words to my taste!
Yes, sweeter than honey to my mouth.
(Psalm 119:103)

Because of man's sin, Jesus (the Word of God) was sent by God the Father to earth in the form of man (the Incarnate Word) to show us "the way, the truth, and the life." (John 14:6)

Jesus' words are life and spirit. (John 6:63) He said, "If you abide in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:31-32). God's Holy Spirit is our teacher who brings the understanding to our hearts and minds of God's Word. (Job 32:8; John 14:26:16:13)

Feasting on the 'bread of life' sets us free from the bondage of lies and deception and helps us walk in liberty and truth.

3. Gather resources: Bible and Student Vocabulary Card.



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illuminate our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review the Bible is the eternal, living, and inspired word of God, and its words are sweet to the taste.
4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.
5. Connect the vocabulary word to the new principle. Teach the principle and remind them to look for this principle in their silent reading.
6. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if time) and then orally.
7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto The Bible Graphic Organizer. Have the children file this in their binders.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
10. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.

BOOK OF PROVERBS

3

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: Luke 4:14-22 (NIV)

Review: The Bible contains knowledge, truth and living principles.

Principle: The Gospel is God's "good news" that man can have eternal life through Jesus Christ.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

Gospel (n.) The history of the birth, life, actions, death, resurrection, ascension and doctrines of Jesus Christ; the revelation of the grace of God to fallen man through Christ; God's plan of salvation as revealed by Christ and His apostles.

Savior (n.) One that saves or preserves; but properly applied only to Jesus Christ, the Redeemer, who has opened the way to everlasting salvation by His obedience and death, and who is therefore called the Savior, the Savior of men, the Savior of the world.

Messiah (n.) [Heb. anointed.] Christ, the anointed; the Savior of the world.

sin (n.) Any violation of God's commands; a wicked act; iniquity. Sin comprehends not only an action, but neglect of known duty, all evil thoughts, purposes, words and desires—whatever is contrary to God's commands or law.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and background material.

Principle: The Gospel is God's "good news" that man can have eternal life through Jesus Christ.

STUDENT



Key Word:

Gospel (n.) Good news; God's joyful message of salvation in Christ.



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. Why is the Gospel message called 'good news'?
2. Why are the first four books in the New Testament called the 'Gospels'?
3. Has the Gospel come to your nation? To your family? To you?
4. Have you accepted the Gospel?
5. Who do you know with whom you could share this 'good news'?



Notebook Record:

Record the following on The Bible Graphic Organizer:

- The Gospel is God's 'good news' that I can have eternal life if I receive Jesus Christ as Savior.

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor (Luke 4:18).

Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness (Matthew 9:35).

[Jesus] "The gospel must first be preached to all nations" (Mark 13:10).

I am not ashamed of the gospel for it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes (Romans 1:16).

The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God (2 Corinthians 4:4).

But it [God's eternal purpose] has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel (2 Timothy 1:10).

The Gospel, or 'good news,' is God's eternal plan that sinful man can be forgiven of his sins through the shed blood of His Son, Jesus Christ by believing and receiving Him as Lord and Savior. This is good news, because sinful man cannot save himself from God's righteous judgment. He must confess his sins, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and receive salvation and eternal life in Him. In the Scriptures, this is called the Gospel of God (Rom 1:1); the Gospel of Christ (Rom 1:16); the Gospel of salvation (Eph 1:13).

This good news was first proclaimed in the garden of Eden to Adam and Eve with God's promise that the devil would be defeated through the seed of a woman. (Gen 3) God blessed Abraham with the Gospel through the covenant He made with him. The Gospel was proclaimed and demonstrated by Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer, when He came to earth in the flesh and willingly shed His blood on the cross for the forgiveness of man's sins. He taught His disciples this good news, and they carried it to the nations. It is recorded in the four New Testament Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The Great Commission of Christ is for His disciples to take the Gospel to all the nations and proclaim the "good news" to all people groups. (Matthew 28)

3. Gather resources: Bible, Student Vocabulary Card, Memory Verse Card and Parent Cards.



Singing

"The B-I-B-L-E"



Memory Verse:

Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (Psalm 119:105)



Take blessing and prayer cards home to parents.



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illumine our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review how the Bible contains knowledge, truth and living principles.
4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.
5. Connect the vocabulary word to the new principle. Teach the principle and remind them to look for this principle in their silent reading.
6. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if time) and then orally.
7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto The Bible Graphic Organizer. Have the children file this in their binders.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
10. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.
11. Send Parent Blessing and Prayer Cards home with the children for the week.

BOOK OF PROVERBS

4

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: John 1:1-14 (NIV)

Review: The Gospel is God's "good news" that man can have eternal life through Jesus Christ.

Principle: The Scriptures contain the light of God's knowledge and wisdom written for man's daily guidance.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

illumine (v.) 1) To illuminate; to enlighten; to throw or spread light on; to make light or bright. 2) To enlighten, as the mind; to cause to understand.

knowledge (n.) A clear and certain perception of that which exists, or of truth and fact. Learning; illumination of mind.

meditate (v.) To dwell on any thing in thought; to contemplate; to study; to turn any subject in the mind.

read (n.) 1) To pronounce written or printed words in the proper order. 2) To inspect and understand words or characters; to peruse silently; as to read to one's self. 3) To know fully.

understand (v.) To have just and adequate ideas of; to comprehend; to know; to interpret mentally.

wisdom (n.) The right use or exercise of knowledge.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and background material.

Principle: The Scriptures contain the light of God's knowledge and wisdom written for man's daily guidance.

STUDENT



Key Word:

truth (n.) The true state of things; conformity to fact or reality.



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. Why is it important to read the Word of God daily?
2. How does God's Word illumine our understanding?
3. How can you use God's Word to light your path?



Notebook Record:

Record the following on The Bible Graphic Organizer:

- God's Word is life and light. If I read and meditate upon it, I will prosper in every way.

It [the Word of God] shall be with him [the king of Israel] and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his God, by carefully observing all the words of this law and these statutes (Deuteronomy 17:19).

So keep them [My laws] and do them, for that is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes and say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people' (Deuteronomy 4:6).

This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success (Joshua 1:8).

His delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night. He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season and its leaf does not wither; and in whatever he does, he prospers (Psalm 1:2,3).

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints (Ephesians 1:18).

God created man to have fellowship with Him. One of the ways to fellowship with God is to read and meditate on His Word. God gave the gift of language to man so that man could communicate with Him. He created man with the ability to think and reason with words and to communicate with words. From times past, men have written down words in the form of languages, so they can communicate ideas to other people. The written word is very important. God gave us the ability to decode languages and read them.

God's Word is eternal truth (Ps 119:142). It is important to be able to read His Word so we may hear from Him and receive life and light. God's Word is sweeter than honey (Ps 19:10; Ps 119:103; Ezek 3:3). His Word illumines our understanding and delivers us out of darkness (Job 32:30; Ps 18:28).

3. Gather resources: Bible and Student Vocabulary Card.



Singing:

"The B-I-B-L-E"



Memory Verse:

Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (Psalm 119:105)



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illumine our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review the Gospel is God's "good news" that man can have eternal life through Jesus Christ.
4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.
5. Connect the vocabulary word to the new principle. Teach the principle and remind them to look for this principle in their silent reading.
6. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if there is enough time) and then orally.
7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto The Bible Graphic Organizer. Have the children file this in their binders.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
10. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.

BOOK OF PROVERBS

5

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: Proverbs 1:1-7 (NIV)

Review: The Scriptures contain the light of God's knowledge and wisdom written for man's daily guidance.

Principle: The study of Proverbs will provide youth with wisdom for successful living.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

discipline (n.) 1) Education; instruction in morals and manners, and submission to authority. 2) Rule of government; method of regulating principles and practice. 3) Submission to laws and rules. 4) Correction; chastisement; punishment intended to correct crimes or errors.

fear (n.) In scripture, a holy awe or reverence of God and His laws, which comes from a true view and genuine love of God and requires obedience.

folly (n.) 1) Weakness of intellect; the need for understanding. 2) A weak or absurd act; an act inconsistent with the dictates of reason or with the ordinary rules of prudence. Therefore, we speak of the follies of youth.

prudence (n.) Wisdom applied to practice.

simple (n.) Lacking experience, understanding and critical judgment; naïve.

wisdom (n.) The right use or exercise of knowledge. Applied truth.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson. Read the Proverbs Overview.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and the Book of Proverbs Overview.

STUDENT



Key Word:

proverb (n.) A short, wise, easy-to-learn saying that calls a person to action. (*Life Application Bible*)



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. Why read and study Proverbs?
2. What does it mean to "fear the Lord?"
3. How should we apply this wise counsel to our own lives?



Notebook Record:

Record the following on The Bible Graphic Organizer:

- Proverbs is one of the wisdom books in the Bible.
- A proverb is a short, wise, easy-to-learn saying that calls a person to action.

Principle: The study of Proverbs will provide youth with wisdom for successful living.

*For attaining wisdom and discipline;
for understanding words of insight;
For acquiring a disciplined and prudent life,
doing what is right and just and fair;
For giving prudence to the simple,
knowledge and discretion to the young.
(Proverbs 1:2-3)*

3. Gather resources: Bible, Proverbs Overview, Student Vocabulary Card, Memory Verse Card and Parent Cards.



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illuminate our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review how the Scriptures contain the light of God's knowledge and wisdom written for man's daily guidance.
4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.
5. Link the word to the principle and the purposes for studying the book of Proverbs. Read portions of the Overview of Proverbs, which follows.

It has been suggested by many Bible teachers that reading a chapter of Proverbs each day is a good habit to form. There are 31 chapters in the book of Proverbs, one for each day of the month.
6. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if time) and then orally.
7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto The Bible Graphic Organizer. Have the children file this in their binders.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
10. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.
11. Send Parent Blessing and Prayer Cards home with the children for the week.



Memory Verse:

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction. (Proverbs 1:7)



Take blessing and prayer cards home to parents.

Overview of Proverbs

The Book of Proverbs

This book in the Bible is one of the “books of wisdom.” It contains wise sayings intended to guide young people in their everyday behavior. This was very popular in the ancient Middle East nations. What makes this book unique is the emphasis on knowing the living God. A happy life must begin with love and reverence for the Lord. This is the wisdom of Proverbs.

What is a Proverb?

A proverb is a wise saying taken from everyday life intended to serve as a practical guideline for successful living. The book of Proverbs is a “library of instruction on how to live a Godly life here on earth and be assured of reward in the life to come.” The book of Proverbs is a collection of wisdom distilled from those who knew the law of God. (Ryrie Study Bible) It has been said that Psalms teaches us how to get along with God, while Proverbs teaches us how to get along with people.

The Hebrew word for ‘proverb’ means “a description by way of a comparison” and came to be used for many wise or moral sayings. Most proverbs are written in the form of couplets in which the two lines are generally compared, contrasted, or complemented.

Examples:

Comparison:

Like a city that is broken into and without walls
Is a man who has no control over his spirit. (26:1)

Contrast:

The wicked flee when no one is pursuing,
But the righteous are bold as a lion. (28:1)

Complement:

A wise man will hear and increase in learning,
And a man of understanding will acquire
wise counsel. (1:5)

Background of the Book of Proverbs

Date Written: 950-700 B.C.

Authors: Solomon and others.

King Solomon, the son of king David, reigned in Israel during its Golden Age. God promised him that He would give him whatever he asked for, and Solomon prayed for wisdom. God was so pleased with Solomon’s request that not only did He give him wisdom, but He also gave him peace, power, and great riches. Solomon wrote 3,000 proverbs and 1,005 songs (1 Kings 4:32). Solomon is also credited with writing most of the collection of proverbs in this Old Testament book.

Wisdom is more than just having knowledge of facts. Wisdom is the right use and exercise of knowledge. Knowledge by itself puffs up (1 Corinthians 13), but the application of Godly knowledge to our lives brings wisdom. It is a basic heart attitude that affects every aspect of our lives. All knowledge and wisdom begin by respecting and reverencing God and His Word.

God gave us His laws and commandments to protect us and guide us in righteous living. Those who obey His Word grow in understanding. Where there are fear and reverence for God and obedience to His Word, wisdom will govern daily choices and bring the blessings of God into our lives.

Key Verse: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. (Proverbs 1:7)

Overview: (from the *Life Application Bible*)

1. Wisdom for the young (Chapters 1 – 9)
2. Wisdom for all (Chapters 10 – 24)
3. Wisdom for leaders (Chapters 25 – 31)

Main Themes in the Book of Proverbs

1. Wisdom: Compares the wise person and the stubborn fool
2. Relationships: Advice for everyday relationships
3. Speech: How we talk reveals our heart attitude
4. Work: Defines the work ethic that brings successful living
5. Success: Defined by God as a good reputation, moral character, and obedience to truth

BOOK OF PROVERBS

6

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: Proverbs 2:1-11 (NIV)

Review: What is a proverb? The precepts of wisdom

Principle: If I seek godly wisdom and ask God, wisdom will enter my heart.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

guard (v.) To secure against injury, loss or attack; to protect; to defend; to keep in safety.

integrity (n.) Moral soundness or purity; uprightness; honesty.

just (adj.) 1) Conformed to truth. 2) In an evangelical sense, righteous; living in exact conformity to God's will.

right (n.) Fit; suitable; proper. Conformity to the will of God or to his law; the perfect standard of truth and justice.

understanding (n.) The faculty of the human mind by which it apprehends the real state of things presented to it, or by which it receives or comprehends the ideas, which others express and intend to communicate.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and background material.

Principle: If I seek godly wisdom and ask God, wisdom will enter my heart.

Make your ear attentive to wisdom and incline your heart to understanding (Proverbs 2:2).

STUDENT



Key Word:

discern (v.) To see the difference between two or more things, such as good and evil.



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. What are we instructed to do with God's word and commands?
2. From where does wisdom come?
3. What protects us from evil?
4. What are some of the ways you can apply this principle to your daily life?

For the Lord gives wisdom, and from His mouth come knowledge and understanding (Proverbs 2:6).

But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him (James 1:5).

For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding. He stores up sound wisdom for the upright (Proverbs 2:7-8a).

God's children are instructed to accept and treasure the commands of God. God gives wisdom to those who are upright—those who are in “right standing” with Him. We must be in right relationship with Him.

First we must ask God to forgive our sins and then invite Jesus to dwell in our hearts as our Savior and Lord. Then we must open our inner ears to hear what He is speaking to us when we read His Word. Learning to hear God's voice is the first step to acquiring wisdom. Wisdom puts into practice those things God speaks to our inner man from His Word. Wisdom is like a shield around our heart. God uses it to protect our thinking and help us make wise decisions. Wisdom also protects God's children from the ways of evil.

The second step to acquiring wisdom is to read God's Word every day and practice hearing His voice. This brings us understanding and shows us how to apply His instructions to our daily choices.

3. Gather resources: Bible, Student Vocabulary Card and Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizers.



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illumine our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review how the study of Proverbs will provide youth with wisdom for successful living.
4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.



Notebook Record:

Record the following on your Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer:

Wise Child:

- Searches for wisdom
- Listens with his inner ear for understanding
- Has a shield guarding his heart

Foolish Child:

- Does not search for wisdom
- Is not listening for God's voice
- Is not protected from the ways of evil



Memory Verse:

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction. (Proverbs 1:7)

5. Connect the vocabulary word to the new principle. Teach the principle and remind them to look for this principle in their silent reading.
6. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if time) and then orally.
7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Distribute Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizers. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto the Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer. Have the children file this in their binders.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
10. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.



Wisdom and Folly

Contrast the wise child and the foolish child by recording key words or phrases from the Book of Proverbs.

The wise child

wisdom: The right use and exercise of knowledge

The foolish child

folly: A foolish act contrary to the rules of prudence

BOOK OF PROVERBS

7

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: Proverbs 3:1-12 (NIV)

Review: When we ask God for wisdom, He gives it to us.

Principle: Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean unto your own understanding.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

acknowledge (v.) Recognize, know, respect.

confidence (n.) A trusting or reliance; an assurance of mind or firm belief in the integrity, stability or truthfulness of another, or in the truth and reality of a fact.

fear (n.) 1) Dread or fright. 2) In scripture, fear is used to express the fear of God as a holy awe or reverence of God and his laws in good men.

honor (v.) To revere; to respect toward.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and the background material.

Principle: Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean unto your own understanding.

Those who know your name will trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you (Psalm 9:10).

Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture (Psalm 37: 3).

I trust in You, O Lord; I say, "You are my God" (Psalm 31:14).

STUDENT



Key Word:

trust (v.) To place confidence in; rely on.



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. What are we instructed to do with God's words and commands?
2. How can we grow in wisdom?
3. Name some ways you can acknowledge God and show that you trust Him.

Trusting and honoring God brings great reward. Trust means placing complete confidence in something or someone. Use the example of sitting in a chair to demonstrate trust. You must believe or “trust” that the chair will hold you before you sit in it. You must rely on the chair to hold you up. Trust is necessary in a relationship with God. The theme of trusting God runs throughout the Scripture.

To acknowledge means to know, respect and recognize someone or something. Proverbs teaches that we are to know God, honor Him and acknowledge Him in all our ways. This will build our relationship with Him. As we begin to trust Him with the smallest details of our lives, our love for Him will increase and our faith will grow. Draw attention to “the fear of the Lord” and how it affects one’s physical body and material resources. (Re-read Proverbs 3: 7-10)

3. Gather resources: Bible, Student Vocabulary Card, Memory Verse Card and Parent Cards.



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illumine our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review how that when we seek God for wisdom and study His word, He gives us understanding and wisdom.
4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.
5. Connect the vocabulary word to the new principle. Teach the principle and remind them to look for this principle in their silent reading.
6. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if time) and then orally.
7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto their Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer. Have the children file this in their binders.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
10. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.
11. Send Parent Blessing and Prayer Cards home with the children for the week.



Notebook Record:

Record the following on your Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer:

Wise Child:

- Hides God’s Word in his heart
- Does not lean on his own understanding
- Turns from evil

Foolish Child:

- Forgets what God said
- Relies on his own understanding
- Is drawn toward evil



Memory Verse:

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. (Proverbs 3:5)



Take blessing and prayer cards home to parents.

BOOK OF PROVERBS

8

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: Proverbs 3:13-20 (NIV)

Review: Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean unto your own understanding.

Principle: Godly wisdom is a source of life. She is to be pursued more than riches.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

blessed (adj.) Happy; prosperous in worldly affairs; enjoying spiritual happiness and the favor of God.

embrace (v.) 1) To hug, usually with fondness. 2) To take up the cause, ideas, practice or method of someone and use it as one's own.

peace (n.) A state of quiet or tranquility; freedom from inner disturbance or agitation.

pleasant (adj.) Cheerful, pleasing; agreeable; giving pleasure; gratifying.

virtue (n.) 1) Moral goodness or excellence; the quality of doing what is right and avoiding what is wrong. 2) Any admirable quality or attribute.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and background material.

Principle: Godly wisdom is a source of life. She is to be pursued more than riches.

For wisdom is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her (Proverbs 3:15).

How much better to get wisdom than gold, to choose understanding than silver (Proverbs 16:16).

STUDENT



Key Word:

wisdom (n.) The right use or exercise of knowledge.



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. Define wisdom.
2. Where was wisdom at creation?
3. What does it mean to “embrace” wisdom?
4. What is the first step you must take when seeking wisdom? Have you taken this step?

But God made the earth by his power; he founded the world by his wisdom and stretched out the heavens by his understanding (Jeremiah 10:12).

In this chapter of Proverbs, wisdom is represented in several ways:

- A woman more precious than jewels who offers riches, power, and long life to all who follow her ways. We learn from this chapter that gaining wisdom is better than silver or gold or power.
- The tree of life, a source of life to those who gain her. Wisdom is a Person! Jesus Christ is wisdom (Proverbs 8). He is the door to eternal life.
- The agent of creation; by wisdom, God founded the world.

When we know Christ as our Savior, we have the source of eternal life abiding within. Wisdom also lives within our hearts. We must listen with our inner ear for the voice of wisdom and apply it to our decisions.

3. Gather resources: Bible and Student Vocabulary Card.



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illumine our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean unto your own understanding.
4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.
5. Connect the vocabulary word to the new principle. Teach the principle and remind them to look for this principle in their silent reading.
6. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if time) and then orally.
7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto the Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer. Have the children file this in their binders.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
10. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.



Notebook Record:

Record the following on your Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer:

Wise Child:

- Is blessed by God
- Gains understanding

Foolish Child:

- Does not receive God's blessings
- Lacks understanding



Memory Verse:

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. (Proverbs 3:5)

BOOK OF PROVERBS

9

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: Proverbs 4:20-27 (NIV)

Review: Godly wisdom is a source of life. She is to be pursued more than riches.

Principle: Guard your heart with all diligence, for out of it flow the issues of life (Proverbs 4:23).

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

devious (adj.) Misleading; characterized by insincerity or dishonesty; evasive.

heart (n.) 1) The inner part of anything. 2) The seat of the affections and passions. 3) The seat of the understanding. 4) The seat of the will; hence, secret purposes, intentions or designs. 5) Spiritual vitality.

instruction (n.) 1) The act of teaching or informing the understanding in that of which it was before ignorant; 2) Direction; orders; mandate.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and the background material.

Principle: Guard your heart with all diligence, for out of it flow the issues of life.

For God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart (1 Samuel 16:11).

For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart (Matthew 12:34).

Thy word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against Thee (Psalm 119:11).

STUDENT



Key Word:

deceitful (adj.) Dishonest; lying; cunning; devious.



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. Why is the heart considered your "command center?"
2. How can you keep your heart "healthy?"
3. What habit would be wise for you to commit to do every day to keep your heart healthy?

The peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:7).

The heart is the “command center” of our spiritual or inner man. This is where the Holy Spirit lives when we “ask Jesus to come into our heart.” The heart is the source of spiritual vitality (when the Spirit of Jesus lives within) or deadness (when we have never asked Jesus into our heart). It gives direction to our will in all the choices we make daily.

God advises us to guard our hearts and be careful upon what we meditate and upon the words that we speak. When we hide God’s Word in our heart, the Word acts as a shield to protect us from temptations and unwise or evil choices. God’s Word is like an advisor to our heart when we are trying to make a decision.

When we apply the wisdom of God’s Word, we have peace in our heart. The wisdom of this passage is for each of us to give priority to God’s Word every day. Hiding God’s Word in our heart brings spiritual health to our inner man and physical health to our whole body.

3. Gather resources: Bible, Student Vocabulary Card, Memory Verse Card and Parent Cards.



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illumine our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review that godly wisdom is a source of life. She is to be pursued more than riches.
4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.
5. Connect the vocabulary word to the new principle. Teach the principle and remind them to look for this principle in their silent reading.
6. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if time) and then orally.
7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto their Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer. Have the children file this in their binders.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
10. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.
11. Send Parent Blessing and Prayer Cards home with the children for the week.



Notebook Record:

Record the following on your Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer:

Wise Child:

- Is truthful
- Makes wise decisions

Foolish Child:

- Is deceitful
- Is careless about decisions



Memory Verse:

Guard your heart with all diligence, for out of it flow the issues of life. (Proverbs 4:23)



Take blessing and prayer cards home to parents.

BOOK OF PROVERBS

10

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: Proverbs 6:12-23 (NIV)

Review: Guard your heart with all diligence, for out of it flow the issues of life

Principle: Applying the wisdom of God's Word keeps us from sin and destruction.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

evil (n.) 1) The quality of being morally wrong in principle or practice. 2) That which causes harm or destruction or misfortune. 3) Corruption of the heart.

haughty (adj.) Proud; having a high opinion of one's self with contempt for others; lofty and arrogant.

lying (adj.) The deliberate act of not telling the truth.

perverse (adj.) 1) Marked by immorality; deviating from what is considered right or proper or good. 2) Resistant to guidance or discipline.

plot (v.) To plan; to devise; to plot.

strife (n.) Opposition; contention in anger; struggle for victory.

wicked (adj.) Evil in principle or practice; deviating from God's law.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and background material.

Principle: Applying the wisdom of God's Word keeps us from sin and destruction.

In his pride the wicked does not seek God; in all his thoughts there is no room for God (Psalm 10:4).

STUDENT



Key Word:

sin (n.) Any violation of God's commands; immoral acts, thoughts, purposes, words, and desires.



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. What are the consequences of sin and wickedness?
2. What do these parables teach us that you can apply to your life in order to avoid the consequences of sin?
3. How can you bind wisdom around your heart and neck?

My son, observe the commandment of your father and do not forsake the teaching of your mother; bind them continually on your heart; tie them around your neck. When you walk about, they will guide you; when you sleep, they will watch over you; and when you awake, they will talk to you. For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching is light; and reproofs for discipline are the way of life (Proverbs 6:20-23).

These proverbs graphically describe the character of the wicked man and six evils that God hates. It is very important for us to know what displeases God, so that we can avoid it.

The description of the wicked man is vivid. Spend time with the vocabulary words from these verses. These proverbs exhort us to faithfully adhere to the Word of God and to use it as our guide in all our decisions and actions. They tell us to bind wisdom around our heart and neck.

The teachings and commandments of God's Word light up God's path for us, guard us when we are sleeping and even talk to us when we are awake!

3. Gather resources: Bible and Student Vocabulary Card.



Teaching Plan:

4. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illumine our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
5. Distribute student binders.
6. Review guard your heart with all diligence, for out of it flow the issues of life.
7. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.
8. Connect the vocabulary word to the new principle. Teach the principle and remind them to look for this principle in their silent reading.
9. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if time) and then orally.
10. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
11. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto the Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer. Have the children file this in their binders.
12. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
13. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.



Notebook Record:

Record the following on your Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer:

Wise Child:

- Binds God's Word around his heart and neck
- Listens for God's voice speaking from His Word

Foolish Child:

- Tells lies
- Spreads strife
- Points out the faults of others



Memory Verse:

Guard your heart with all diligence, for out of it flow the issues of life. (Proverbs 4:23)

BOOK OF PROVERBS

11

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: Proverbs 8:12-22 (NIV)

Review: Applying the wisdom of God's Word keeps us from sin and destruction.

Principle: Jesus Christ personifies wisdom.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

arrogance (n.) Overbearing pride evidenced by a superior manner.

discretion (n.) The ability to analyze what is correct with regard to one's own conduct.

pride (n.) An overly high sense of one's own value that arises from achievements, characteristics, or possessions; conceit.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and the background material.

Principle: Jesus Christ personifies wisdom.

I wisdom dwell with prudence and I find knowledge and discretion (Proverbs 8:12).

Counsel is mine and sound wisdom . . . by me kings reign and rulers decree justice (Proverbs 8:14).

Riches and honor are with me, enduring wealth and righteousness (Proverbs 8:18).

In Christ are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge (Colossians 2:3).

STUDENT



Key Word:

prudence (n.) The practice of wise behavior; caution in decisions.



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. Name two kinds of wisdom and their fruit.
2. Why did God bless King Solomon with earthly riches?
3. Describe the enduring riches these verses portray (vss. 18-21).
4. Why does Godly wisdom yield earthly riches?

Many Bible scholars view the verses 23 & 24 in Proverbs 8 as a picture of Christ and others the eternal character of wisdom. These verses do portray wisdom as being older than creation. They are a beautiful description of the riches and power that are found in Godly wisdom.

The book of James describes two types of wisdom:

1) Godly wisdom from above whose fruit is righteousness (3:17) and 2) natural wisdom, which is earthly and demonic whose fruit is evil (3:14-15). Without Godly wisdom, man cannot govern himself with justice and goodness.

King Solomon prayed for wisdom above all earthly riches and received both from God. This is what we must do, as well. The riches of these verses are hidden in Jesus Christ, and the Bible tells us to diligently search for them with all our heart.

3. Gather resources: Bible, Student Vocabulary Card, Memory Verse Card and Parent Cards.



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illumine our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review that applying the wisdom of God's Word keeps us from sin and destruction.
4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.
5. Connect the vocabulary word to the new principle. Teach the principle and remind them to look for this principle in their silent reading.
6. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if time) and then orally.
7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto their Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer. Have the children file this in their binders.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
10. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.
11. Send Parent Blessing and Prayer Cards home with the children for the week.



Notebook Record:

Record the following on your Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer:

Wise Child:

- Looks for the wisdom that comes from above

Foolish Child:

- Trusts the natural, earthly wisdom



Memory Verse:

In Christ are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. (Colossians 2:3)



Take blessing and prayer cards home to parents.

BOOK OF PROVERBS

12

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: Proverbs 10:1-9 (NIV)

Review: Jesus Christ personifies wisdom.

Principle: The one who neglects his work and duties will be poor, but the diligent hand will make one rich.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

craving (n.) An intense desire for some particular thing.

diligent (adj.) Characterized by care and perseverance in carrying out tasks.

glad (adj.) 1) Cheerful and bright. 2) Showing or causing joy and pleasure.

grief (n.) 1) Something that causes great unhappiness. 2) Intense sorrow caused by the loss of a loved one (especially by death).

negligent (adj.) Characterized by neglect and undue lack of concern; insufficient care and attention.

slack (n.) 1) An idle person; one who avoids duties and work. 2) A noticeable decline in performance.

sluggard (n.) An idle slothful person.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and background material.

Principle: The one who neglects his work and duties will be poor, but the diligent hand will make one rich.

STUDENT



Key Word:

integrity (n.) Moral soundness or wholeness that comes from honesty and uprightness of character.



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. How do your choices and actions affect your parents and siblings?
2. Describe the Christian work ethic?
3. What is the fruit of the diligent hand? The negligent hand?
4. Which fruit do you desire in your life? Explain why.

The sluggard craves and gets nothing, but the desires of the diligent are fully satisfied (Proverbs 13:4).

Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest (Proverbs 6:6-8).

The hand of the diligent will rule, But the slack hand will be put to forced labor (Proverbs 12:24).

He also who is slack in his work is brother to him who destroys (Proverbs 18:9).

These proverbs hold two very important lessons for children:

Lesson 1: The wise child makes his parents glad, but the foolish child brings grief to his parents. We need to learn that the choices we make everyday not only affect our own life, but the lives of those around us, particularly our family members!

Lesson 2: The Christian work ethic is spelled out in these proverbs. God has a standard for the way in which we perform our duties and work. Work is not a curse! The Bible tells us that God worked for six days in creation (Genesis 2:2) and then rested from His work. Jesus said, "I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do" (John 17:4). We must pattern our work standard after Jesus and be diligent and careful in completing the work God has ordained for us, no matter what it is. A Godly work ethic will produce great fruit and wealth, while a sluggard's work ethic will not produce anything leading to poverty or forced labor!

3. Gather resources: Bible and Student Vocabulary Card.



Notebook Record:

Record the following on your Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer:

Wise Child:

- Makes his father glad
- Works with a diligent hand
- Will govern others

Foolish Child:

- Is a grief to his mother
- Works with a negligent hand
- Will be put to forced labor



Memory Verse:

In Christ are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. (Colossians 2:3)



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illumine our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review that Jesus Christ personifies wisdom.
4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.
5. Connect the vocabulary word to the new principle. Teach the principle and remind them to look for this principle in their silent reading.
6. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if time) and then orally.
7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto the Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer. Have the children file this in their binders.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
10. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.

BOOK OF PROVERBS

13

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: Proverbs 13:1-7 (NIV)

Review: Contrast the fruit of the diligent and negligent hands

Principle: The one who guards his mouth preserves his life.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

defer (v.) To submit or yield to another's wish or opinion.

despise (v.) To condemn; scorn; look down on with a lack of respect; to reject with contempt.

discipline (n.) The treatment suited to a disciple or learner; education; development of the faculties by instruction and exercise; training, whether physical, mental, or moral.

preserve (v.) 1) Maintain in safety from injury, harm, or danger. 2) Keep or maintain in unaltered condition; cause to remain or last.

rebuke (n.) A direct and pointed reproof; a reprimand; also, chastisement; punishment.

righteousness (n.) 1) Purity of heart and right living; conformity of heart and life to the divine law. 2) Adhering to moral principles.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and the background material.

Principle: The one who guards his mouth preserves his life.

STUDENT



Key Word:

guard (v.) 1) To keep watch over; protect. 2) To take precautions to avoid an unwanted consequence.



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. How can you put a guard over your mouth?
2. Compare your mouth with the rudder of a ship? What purpose do they both serve?
3. What habit can you develop that will build wisdom and reap the blessings of God in your life?

I will guard my ways that I may not sin with my tongue; I will guard my mouth as with a muzzle while the wicked are in my presence (Psalm 39:1).

Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips (Psalm 141:3).

With the fruit of a man's mouth his stomach will be satisfied; he will be satisfied with the product of his lips (Proverbs 18:20).

Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit (Proverbs 18:21).

He who guards his mouth and his tongue, guards his soul from troubles (Proverbs 21:23).

For we all stumble in many ways. If anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to bridle the whole body as well. Now if we put the bits into the horses' mouths so that they will obey us, we direct their entire body as well. Look at the ships also, though they are so great and are driven by strong winds, are still directed by a very small rudder wherever the inclination of the pilot desires. So also the tongue is a small part of the body, and yet it boasts of great things. See how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire! (James 3:2-5).

Guarding the tongue is one of the themes that runs throughout the book of Proverbs. Words are spirit (John 6:63). God's Word is alive and sharper than a two-edged sword! (Hebrews 4:12). The wise man is the one who learns to put a guard over his mouth and resists saying many things he would like to say.

Proverbs teaches us that the tongue has the power to speak life or death, and that we will eat the fruit of our words. It is best to learn this lesson when we are young. When we allow anger or bitterness to govern the words of our mouth, then we will surely reap the fruit of such foolishness. However, if we speak life with our tongue and bless others, we will reap life.

3. Gather resources: Bible, Student Vocabulary Card, Memory Verse Card and Parent Cards.



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illumine our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review the fruit of the diligent and negligent hands.



Notebook Record:

Record the following on your Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer:

Wise Child:

- Accepts his father discipline
- Guards his mouth and preserves his life

Foolish Child:

- Does not receive rebuke
- Opens his mouth wide and comes to ruin



Memory Verse:

Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but desire fulfilled is a tree of life. (Proverbs 13:12)



Take blessing and prayer cards home to parents.

4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.
5. Connect the vocabulary word to the new principle. Teach the principle and remind them to look for this principle in their silent reading.
6. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if time) and then orally.
7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto their Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer. Have the children file this in their binders.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
10. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.
11. Send Parent Blessing and Prayer Cards home with the children for the week.

BOOK OF PROVERBS

14

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: Proverbs 13:12-25 (NIV)

Review: The one who guards his mouth preserves his life.

Principle: Hope deferred makes the heart sick; desire fulfilled is a tree of life.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

defer (v.) Submit or yield to another's wish or opinion; hold back to a later time

desire (n.) something that is longed for; an eager wish to obtain or enjoy.

despise (v.) Look down on with a lack of respect.

life (n.) 1) The condition of living or the state of being alive. 2) The state of living eternally with Christ.

sick (adj.) Not in good physical or mental health.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and background material.

Principle: Hope deferred makes the heart sick; desire fulfilled is a tree of life.

You hear, O Lord, the desire of the afflicted; You encourage them, and You listen to their cry (Psalm 10:17).

May God give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed (Psalm 20:4).

Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart (Psalm 37:4).

STUDENT



Key Word:

hope (n.) A desire of some good and the belief that it is obtainable.

*Hope is the thing with feathers
That perches in the soul,
And sings the tune without the words,
And never stops at all.*

—EMILY DICKINSON,
19 c. American poetess



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. What is God's desire for His children?
2. What happens to your heart when what you hope for does not come to pass?
3. What should you base your desires upon?
4. Name one of your heart's desires. Does it agree with God's Word?

Surely You desire truth in the inner parts; You teach me wisdom in the inmost place (Psalm 51:6).

The righteousness of the upright delivers them, but the unfaithful are trapped by evil desires (Proverbs 11:6).

A desire is something that is longed for. God has desires for His children. They are based on His nature and His Word. He desires to bless us with joy and success, long life and wisdom. He also longs to grant us our heart's desires.

If our desires are righteous and line up with His Word, then we will be joyful and peaceful. If our desires are selfish and ungodly, then we are trapped and cannot find peace. This makes our heart "sick," and we lose hope that we will be happy. We must hope and pray for those things that God has promised in His Word and we will find our lives filled with joy, peace and success.

3. Gather resources: Bible and Student Vocabulary Card.



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illumine our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review the one who guards his mouth preserves his life..
4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.
5. Connect the vocabulary word to the new principle. Teach the principle and remind them to look for this principle in their silent reading.
6. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if time) and then orally.
7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto the Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer. Have the children file this in their binders.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
10. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.



Notebook Record:

Record the following on your Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer:

Wise Child:

- Desires those things that agree with God's Word
- Has inner peace

Foolish Child:

- Gets trapped by his selfish desires
- Lacks Godly peace within



Memory Verse:

Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but desire fulfilled is a tree of life. (Proverbs 13:12)

BOOK OF PROVERBS

15

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: Proverbs 14:26-35 (NIV)

Review: Hope deferred makes the heart sick; desire fulfilled is a tree of life.

Principle: Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

delight (v.) To give pleasure to; be pleasing to.

disgrace (n.) A state of being out of favor; a cause of shame.

exalt (v.) 1) To raise in rank, character or status. 2) To praise, glorify or honor.

nation (n.) 1) People who live in the same country or are united under the same government. 2) A group of people sharing a language, culture and ethnicity.

purity (n.) 1) The state of being free from sin or moral wrong; lacking the knowledge of evil. 2) Unmixed.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and the background material.

Principle: Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people.

And if we are careful to obey all this law before the Lord our God, as he has commanded us, that will be our righteousness (Deuteronomy 6:25).

The Lord loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love (Psalm 33:5).

Kings (rulers) detest wrongdoing, for a throne is established through righteousness (Proverbs 16:12).

STUDENT



Key Word:

righteousness (n.) Purity of heart and an honest, upright life; being in right standing with God.



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. What does it mean to be in “right standing” with God?
2. What does God promise the nation that delights in Him?
3. How can you help your nation to do what is right and be pleasing to God?

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled (Matthew 5:6).

Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous, just as He [Christ] is righteous (1 John 3:7).

The nation that delights in God and obeys His law will enjoy His blessings. God desires righteousness from his people individually and corporately. Righteousness comes from a heart surrendered to Christ. The marks of righteousness are those actions that reflect obedience to Christ, perseverance, courage, compassion, consistency, integrity, peace, joy and a sense of what is appropriate.

As the citizens within a nation seek and obey God, He will honor their obedience, empower them with rank and dignity and prosper them in all they do. God will exalt them with joy and protect the boundaries of their nation. We must pray that our nation will honor God and delight to do what pleases Him so that we may have joy and security.

3. Gather resources: Bible, Student Vocabulary Card, Memory Verse Card and Parent Cards.



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illumine our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review hope deferred makes the heart sick; desire fulfilled is a tree of life.
4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.
5. Connect the vocabulary word to the new principle. Teach the principle and remind them to look for this principle in their silent reading.
6. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if time) and then orally.
7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto their Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer. Have the children file this in their binders.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
10. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children. Include your nation in your prayer.
11. Send Parent Blessing and Prayer Cards home with the children for the week.



Notebook Record:

Record the following on your Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer:

Wise Child:

- Obeys God
- Prays for his nation

Foolish Child:

- Makes up his own rules
- Does not pray for his nation



Memory Verse:

May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer. (Psalm 19:14)



Take blessing and prayer cards home to parents.

BOOK OF PROVERBS

16

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: Proverbs 15:1-12; 18:21 (NIV)

Review: Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people.

Principle: A soothing tongue is a tree of life.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

gentle (adj.) Mild; meek; soft; soothing.

healing (n.) The act of curing; restoring to a sound or whole state in body, mind or spirit.

perversion (n.) The action of turning something to a wrong use.

soothing (adj.) 1) Freeing from fear and anxiety. 2) Giving moral or emotional strength to. 3) Bringing physical relief to.

word (n.) 1) Language; living speech; oral expression. 2) The building blocks of ideas.

*A word is dead when it is said,
Some say. I say it just
Begins to live that day.*

—EMILY DICKINSON,
19 c. American poetess

wrath (n.) Violent anger; rage.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and background material.

Principle: A soothing tongue is a tree of life.

The tongue is a fire . . . and sets on fire the course of our life . . . (James 3:6).

STUDENT



Key Word:

folly (n.) 1) Foolish or senseless behavior. 2) The trait of acting stupidly.



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. Why is it important to speak words of life to yourself and to others?
2. Who is your example of speaking “soothing” words?
3. Tell how you have used words to give life or healing to someone.

But I [Jesus] tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment (Matthew 12:36).

Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones (Proverbs 16:24).

A cheerful look brings joy to the heart, and good news gives health to the bones (Proverbs 15:30).

. . . the leaves of the tree [of life] are for the healing of the nations (Revelation 22:2).

The Bible teaches that words are spirit (John 6:63) and that each of us will give an account to God in eternity for every careless word spoken during our lifetime. Jesus used the power of words to convey wholeness to those who were sick in body or soul. His words brought eternal life, hope, faith and healing.

Kind words are like a “tree of life” and bring healing to those who hear them. The tree of life is found in the garden of Eden and in the New Jerusalem. It represents eternal life in Christ. Its leaves are said to be for the healing of the nations. The wise child will learn to use words wisely because he understands the power of words. He also desires to speak life into his own situation and the lives of others.

3. Gather resources: Bible and Student Vocabulary Card.



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illuminate our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review that righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people.
4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.
5. Connect the vocabulary word to the new principle. Teach the principle and remind them to look for this principle in their silent reading.
6. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if time) and then orally.
7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto the Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer. Have the children file this in their binders.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
10. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.



Notebook Record:

Record the following on your Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer:

Wise Child:

- Speaks soothing words to others
- Brings healing with his words

Foolish Child:

- Speaks harshly and stirs up anger
- Speaks lies that crush the spirits of others



Memory Verse:

May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer. (Psalm 19:14)

BOOK OF PROVERBS

17

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: Proverbs 17:9-22 (NIV)

Review: A soothing tongue is a tree of life.

Principle: A friend loves at all times. There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

adversity (n.) 1) A state of misfortune or affliction; hardship. 2) A stroke of ill fortune; a calamitous event.

friendship (n.) An attachment to a person you know well and trust; one who is kind to you and whose qualities of mind are admirable.

gossip (n.) 1) A groundless rumor. 2) One who runs from person to person with idle tattle.

intimate (adj.) 1) Near; close; familiar; confidential. 2) Close in friendship or acquaintance; familiar.

joyful (adj.) Elated; gleeful; jubilant; full of high-spirited delight; producing joy.

slander (n.) Words falsely spoken that damage the reputation of another.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and the background material.

Principle: A friend loves at all times. There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

If I have rewarded evil to my friend . . . let the enemy pursue my soul and overtake it (Psalm 7:4-5).

STUDENT



Key Word:

friend (n.) 1) A person you know well and regard with love and trust. 2) One who provides help when you are in trouble.



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. Define friend in your own words.
2. Who is the friend that sticks the closest? Why is this so?
3. How should we talk about our friends?

He (who is a Christian) does not slander with his tongue, nor does evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his friend (Psalm 15:2).

There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother (Proverbs 18:24).

Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. You are My friends if you do what I command you (John 15:14).

Oil and perfume make the heart glad, so a man's counsel is sweet to his friend (Proverbs 27:9).

A friend is one who loves you so much that he or she will cover your faults with his love and forgiveness. This is what the Bible calls "loyal love." Even though your friend sees your weak points, he will be careful to never talk about you or "gossip" about you behind your back. Gossip and slander are deadly talk and hurt the heart of the person they're spoken about and can break the relationship you have with that person.

When you are in trouble, you see who your "real" friends are. A genuine friend sticks with you through all your trials. Jesus is really the One who sticks the closest. (Proverbs 18:24) He lives in the heart of the believer and loves us unconditionally. He gives us the ability to love others when they are hard to love. He will always come to our aid. This is the "Good News" that truly makes the heart joyful.

3. Gather resources: Bible, Student Vocabulary Card, Memory Verse Card and Parent Cards.



Notebook Record:

Record the following on your Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer:

Wise Child:

- Loves his friend through all his problems
- Is careful about how he speaks about his friend

Foolish Child:

- Gives up on a friend when he has problems
- Gossips about his friend when he's not around



Memory Verse:

A friend loves at all times. (Proverbs 17:17)



Take blessing and prayer cards home to parents.



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illumine our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review how a soothing tongue is a tree of life.
4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.
5. Connect the vocabulary word to the new principle. Teach the principle and remind them to look for this principle in their silent reading.
6. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if time) and then orally.
7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto their Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer. Have the children file this in their binders.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
10. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.
11. Send Parent Blessing and Prayer Cards home with the children for the week.

BOOK OF PROVERBS

18

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: Proverbs 18:10-21 (NIV)

Review: A friend loves at all times.

Principle: Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, but humility goes before honor.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

arrogant (adj.) Having or showing feelings of unwarranted importance out of pride.

contention (n.) A dispute where there is strong disagreement.

haughty (adj.) Having or showing arrogant superiority to those seen as unworthy.

humility (n.) 1) Freedom from pride and arrogance; humbleness of mind; a modest estimate of one's own worth. 2) In theology, humility consists of a deep sense of one's own unworthiness in the sight of God and submission to God's will.

offend (v.) To hurt the feelings of; to cause to feel resentment.

pride (n.) Unreasonable and excessive self-exaltation.

shame (n.) 1) A state of dishonor. 2) A painful emotion resulting from an awareness of inadequacy or guilt.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and background material.

Principle: Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, but humility goes before honor.

Better to be lowly in spirit and among the oppressed than to share plunder with the proud (Proverbs 16:19).

STUDENT



Key Word:

honor (n.) A person's name, reputation, self-perception or moral identity.



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. What are the characteristics of a humble person?
2. Describe a proud person. What makes him proud?
3. What is the image of the humble person? (Answer: A person on his knees)
4. What are some of the habits that you can develop to be humble?

The fear of the Lord teaches a man wisdom, and humility comes before honor (Proverbs 15:33).

Although He [Jesus] existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross (Philippians 2:6-8).

Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted (Matthew 23:12).

God loves the humble. Humility comes from an understanding of who God is and who man is. Everything we have belongs to God. When we submit to Him and allow Him to be Lord of our life, we are able to be humble. When we begin to choose our own way and think too highly of self, pride begins its work of destruction.

The teaching in Proverbs is direct and forceful in rejecting pride. God hates a proud attitude. (Proverbs 6:16-17) God exalts the humble. (Mt 23:12) Jesus is our greatest example of humility. He did not come to be served and lift Himself up before men. He came to serve and, in doing this, gave us the greatest illustration of humility.

3. Gather resources: Bible and Student Vocabulary Card.



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illumine our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review that a friend loves at all times.
4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.
5. Connect the vocabulary word to the new principle. Teach the principle and remind them to look for this principle in their silent reading.
6. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if time) and then orally.
7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto the Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer. Have the children file this in their binders.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
10. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.



Notebook Record:

Record the following on your Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer:

Wise Child:

- Humbles himself to serve others
- Will receive honor from God and man

Foolish Child:

- Exalts himself and his achievements
- Will be humbled and brought low



Memory Verse:

A friend loves at all times. (Proverbs 17:17)

BOOK OF PROVERBS

19

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: Proverbs 20:11-20 (NIV)

Review: Contrast the humble and the haughty

Principle: The conduct of the young child builds the man.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

blameless (adj.) Without fault; innocent; guiltless.

character (n.) 1) The internal attributes that determine a person's moral and ethical actions and reactions. 2) Good repute.

distinguish (v.) 1) To mark as different. 2) To know and discriminate (anything) from other things.

honest (adj.) Upright; just; fair in dealing with others; proceeding from pure or just principles.

integrity (n.) Moral soundness; the internal sense of "wholeness" derived from honesty and consistent uprightness of character.

pure (adj.) 1) Not mixed. 2) Used of persons or behaviors; having no faults; sinless.

upright (adj.) Of moral excellence.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and the background material.

Principle: The conduct of the young child builds the man.

STUDENT



Key Word:

conduct (n.) Personal behavior; manner of acting or conducting yourself.

*As the twig is bent,
so the tree inclines. —VIRGIL*



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. Define character. How is it formed?
2. Why is it important to develop upright habits when you are a child?
3. What does God promise to those who follow Jesus?

The way of a guilty man is crooked, but as for the pure, his conduct is upright (Proverbs 21:8).

God stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk in integrity (Proverbs 2:7).

If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay on earth (1 Peter 1:17).

Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe (1 Timothy 4:12).

Character is built by one's daily choices and decisions, not the external circumstances. A person's reputation is described by his character.

Even as children, the choices made everyday reveal whether the heart is honest and upright or dishonest and deceitful. An honest and upright character brings joy and dignity to life. Dishonesty and folly bring unhappiness and destruction.

God desires that His children live in truth so they may know the joy of having an upright character. Jesus said, "Follow Me! I am the way, the truth and the life." (John 14:6) The Bible tells us that as a child, Jesus grew in wisdom. (Luke 2:52) He distinguished Himself even as a youth for having an upright character. Knowing God's Word helps even the youngest child make wise choices about his conduct everyday.

Each day habits are formed by our choices that yield either blessings or grief and pain for a lifetime. Therefore, it is important in childhood to practice walking in accord with God's standard of behavior so that our character and conduct will be pure and upright.

3. Gather resources: Bible, Student Vocabulary Card, Memory Verse Card and Parent Cards.



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illuminate our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review the contrast of the humble and the haughty.
4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.



Notebook Record:

Record the following on your Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer:

Wise Child:

- Makes choices that are upright

Foolish Child:

- Makes choices that are foolish



Memory Verse:

It is by his deeds that a youth distinguishes himself if his conduct is pure and right. (Proverbs 20:11)



Take blessing and prayer cards home to parents.

5. Connect the vocabulary word to the new principle. Teach the principle and remind them to look for this principle in their silent reading.
6. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if time) and then orally.
7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto their Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer. Have the children file this in their binders.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
10. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.
11. Send Parent Blessing and Prayer Cards home with the children for the week.

BOOK OF PROVERBS

20

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: Proverbs 24:27-34 (NIV)

Review: The conduct of the young child builds the man.

Principle: A Christian work ethic glorifies God and produces success and prosperity.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

effort (n.) 1) Use of physical or mental energy; hard work. 2) Earnest and conscientious activity intended to accomplish something. 3) A notable achievement.

enterprise (n.) 1) A purposeful or industrious under-taking, especially one that requires effort or boldness. 2) Readiness to begin a bold venture or business.

industrious (adj.) Working hard and persevering to promote an enterprise.

lazy (adj.) Disinclined to work; moving slowly.

slack (n.) A noticeable decline in performance. (v.) To avoid responsibilities and work; be idle.

slothful (adj.) Inactive; sluggish; lazy; idle.

work ethic (n.) A belief in the moral virtue of hard work; a set of values based on the moral virtues of hard work and diligence as seen in the Godhead. (John 5:17)



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and background material.

Principle: A Christian work ethic glorifies God and produces success and prosperity.

STUDENT



Key Word:

diligent (n.) Care and perseverance in performing tasks.



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. What has been your view of work?
2. Describe a time when you were diligent and industrious in your work. What benefit did you receive?
3. How is an individual, a family, a business or a nation affected when the people are industrious and diligent in their work?

Lazy hands make a man poor, but diligent hands bring wealth (Proverbs 10:4).

He also who is slack in his work is brother to him who destroys (Proverbs 18:9).

The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty (Proverbs 21:5).

The sluggard's craving will be the death of him, because he hands refuse to work (Proverbs 21:25).

[Jesus answered] "My Father is working until now, and I Myself am working" (John 5:17).

Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted (Matthew 23:12).

. . . walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work . . . (Colossians 1:10).

In some cultures, being poor means you're very spiritual, and having to work is a curse! This is not a Biblical view. God has a great deal to say to us about work in the Bible, particularly in the book of Proverbs.

God created man in His image to work just as He worked! Both God the Father and Jesus the Son worked. Jesus said, "My Father is working until now, and I Myself am working" (John 5:17). Creator God worked for six days and "rested on the seventh day from all His works" (Hebrews 4:4). God commanded Adam and Eve to labor in the garden of Eden. God set a standard for how man should perform his work. Work is not a curse and being poor is not spiritual. God expects us to work to the best of our ability in all that each day brings.

3. Gather resources: Bible and Student Vocabulary Card.



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illumine our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review how the conduct of the young child builds the man.
4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.



Notebook Record:

Record the following on your Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer:

Wise Child:

- Diligently works at duties and jobs
- Makes plans to prosper

Foolish Child:

- Avoids work and is lazy
- Has no plans to be enterprising



Memory Verse:

It is by his deeds that a youth distinguishes himself if his conduct is pure and right. (Proverbs 20:11)

5. Connect the vocabulary word to the new principle. Teach the principle and remind them to look for this principle in their silent reading.
6. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if time) and then orally.
7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto the Wisdom and Folly Graphic Organizer. Have the children file this in their binders.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
10. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.

BOOK OF PROVERBS

21

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: Proverbs 29:2-12 (NIV)

Review: The Christian work ethic

Principle: A godly leader recognizes God as the supreme authority in all issues of life.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

authority (n.) Legal power or the right to give orders or make decisions, as the authority of a king over subjects or parents over children.

govern (v.) To direct and control as the actions or conduct of men, either by established laws or by will; to regulate by authority.

judge (v.) To compare facts or ideas and distinguish truth from falsehood.

rejoice (v.) To express great joy and happiness!

rule (v.) To govern; to control the will and actions of others, either by arbitrary power and authority or by established laws.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and the background material.

Principle: A godly leader recognizes God as the supreme authority in all issues of life.

When the godly are in authority, the people rejoice. But when the wicked are in power, they groan (Proverbs 29:2 NLT).

STUDENT



Key Word:

leader (n.) One who goes before and shows the way; one that leads or guides.



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. What are the characteristics of a godly and wise leader? An ungodly and unwise leader?
2. How does a leader affect those he leads?
3. Name some of the leaders in your life? How should you respond to their leadership?

. . . rulers are servants of God (Romans 13:6).

For the kingdom is the Lord's and He rules over the nations (Psalm 22:2).

A good man obtains favor from the Lord, but the Lord condemns a crafty man (Proverbs 12:2).

Solomon was the greatest and wisest king of Israel. He wrote many proverbs about leadership. Jesus Christ also spoke often about leadership. He understood that a godly leader is really a servant. He came to earth and demonstrated this important principle to men.

Jesus taught His disciples that, "whoever wishes to become great among men must first become their servant" (Mt 20:26). The wise leader imitates Jesus Christ and seeks the guidance of God to serve those of whom he is responsible as a leader.

All authority is rooted in God. (Romans 13:1) God raises up leaders and brings them down for His purposes. (Dan 2:21) God governs in the affairs of men and nations. (Job 12:23) Good leaders bless the people they serve; poor leaders take advantage of the people they serve. When the people have godly leaders, they live in harmony and peace and rejoice in their happiness. When ruled by ungodly leaders, they suffer loss and pain.

3. Gather resources: Bible, Student Vocabulary Card, Godly Leader Graphic Organizers, Memory Verse Card and Parent Cards.



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illuminate our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review how the Christian work ethic glorifies God and produces success and prosperity.
4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.
5. Connect the vocabulary word to the new principle. Teach the principle and remind them to look for this principle in their silent reading.
6. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if time) and then orally.



Notebook Record:

1. Record the following on your Godly Leader Graphic Organizer:
 - Is a servant of God
 - Serves the people he's leading
 - Seeks the counsel of God for governing
 - Judges the poor and weak fairly
 - Learns all the facts before making decisions
 - Invokes God's blessings and protection
2. Sketch a portrait of a godly leader.



Memory Verse:

When the godly are in authority, the people rejoice. But when the wicked are in power, the people groan. (Proverbs 29:2)



Take blessing and prayer cards home to parents.

7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Distribute the Godly Leader Graphic Organizer. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto their Godly Leader Graphic Organizer. Have the children draw a portrait of a godly leader and file in their binders.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
10. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.
11. Send Parent Blessing and Prayer Cards home with the children for the week.



Portrait of the Godly Leader

Record phrases from Proverbs and draw a portrait of a Godly leader underneath.

BOOK OF PROVERBS

22

Time: 45 minutes

Reading: Proverbs 31:10-20 (NIV)

Review: Qualities of a godly leader

Principle: The woman who fears the Lord shall be praised by her children and her husband.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

deportment (n.) Attributes of behavior in relation to the duties of life.

noble (adj.) Great; elevated; dignified; being above everything that can dishonor reputation; as a noble mind; a noble courage; noble deeds.

praise (n.) 1) To commend; to applaud; to extol in words or song; to magnify; to glorify. 2) Offering words of respect as an act of worship.

productive (adj.) 1) Having the power of producing. 2) Bringing into being; causing to exist. 3) Great fruitfulness.

respect (n.) That deportment or course of action which proceeds from esteem; regard; due attention; as, to treat a person with respect.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. Read and reflect upon the assigned readings. Be certain to understand them in the context of this lesson.
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words, principle and the background material.

Principle: The woman who fears the Lord shall be praised by her children and her husband.

The wise woman builds her house, but the foolish tears it down with her own hands (Proverbs 14:1).

STUDENT



Key Word:

character (n.) The internal qualities that mark an individual's nature, which is formed by his daily choices.



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage silently and orally as assigned by the teacher.



Reason Questions:

1. Why do you think Proverbs ends with a description of a noble woman?
2. Name the qualities of a godly woman.
3. Whom do you know that embodies the qualities of the Proverbs 31 woman?

Reverence for the Lord is the foundation of true wisdom. The rewards of wisdom come to all who obey Him (Psalm 111:10).

A kindhearted woman gains respect, but ruthless men gain only wealth (Proverbs 11:16).

Your adornment must not be merely external – braiding the hair and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses; but let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God (1 Peter 3:3-4).

There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore, I command you to be openhanded toward your brothers and toward the poor and needy in your land (Deut 15:11).

The book of Proverbs begins with the command to fear the Lord and ends with the picture of a woman who fulfills this command. The wise and gracious woman has Godly character, practices wisdom, exercises great compassion and cultivates many homemaking and enterprising skills. Her strength and dignity come from within as a result of her reverence for God. Her noble character qualities are mentioned throughout this chapter: a kind tongue; respect for her husband; foresight; hard work; encouragement; care and concern for others; wisdom in handling money; and business skills. We can look to her as a model of ennobled womanhood.

Proverbs is a handbook for daily living that provides the steps for growing in wisdom. Those who fear the Lord will be praised in the gates!

3. Gather resources: Bible, Student Vocabulary Card, Godly Woman Graphic Organizers and Memory Verse Card.



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Come Holy Spirit into our class and our hearts and be our teacher today. Illumine our minds. Help us know Jesus Christ better and grow in the knowledge of the Word of God. Amen.*
2. Distribute student binders.
3. Review the qualities of a godly leader.
4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children.
5. Connect the vocabulary word to the new principle. Teach the principle and remind them to look for this principle in their silent reading.



Notebook Record:

1. Record the following on your Godly Woman Graphic Organizer:
 - Respects her husband and does him good
 - Makes clothes for her family
 - Works hard and is productive
 - Gathers food for her family
 - Speaks wisdom and kindness
2. Sketch a portrait of a godly woman.



Memory Verse:

When the godly are in authority, the people rejoice. But when the wicked are in power, the people groan. (Proverbs 29:2)

6. Assign the Bible Reading to the children. Have them read silently (if time) and then orally.
7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Distribute the Godly Woman Graphic Organizer. Write the notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto their Godly Woman Graphic Organizer. Have the children draw a portrait of a godly woman and file in their binders.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat their weekly Memory Verse. Practice frequently during the week.
10. Conclude with a short prayer and blessing for the children.

Portrait of a Godly Woman

Record phrases from Proverbs 31 and draw a portrait of a Godly woman underneath.

Time: 80 minutes

Project: Class Books or Scrolls

Review: Themes, key words and recorded phrases

This is a **TWO-DAY LESSON PLAN** and contains instructions for **TWO PROJECTS:**

- 1. Illustrated Student Proverb** is for older children who will write their own proverb. Instructions for writing the proverb are on this page. Instructions for illustrating and making a Scroll or a Class Book follow on the next pages.
- 2. Illustrated Proverb with Illuminated Letter** is for any age. Instructions follow.

TEACHER:

Illustrated Student Proverb Pre-Preparation:

1. Print the samples found with the Resources for the children to see.
2. Decide whether your group will make scrolls or a class book.
3. Gather supplies. See instructions, which follow.
4. Place all the student vocabulary words for the Proverbs study on the bulletin board.
5. Write the themes of the book of Proverbs on the chalkboard.

Teaching Plan:

1. Review the themes with the children:
 - Wisdom: Compare the wise and the foolish child; Wisdom is better than riches and power!
 - Speech: How we talk and use our tongue reveals our heart attitude
 - Work: The Christian work ethic that brings productivity and prosperity
 - Success: Defined by God as a good reputation, moral character and obedience to truth

STUDENT:

Day 1

1. Select a theme and gather with your classmates to find the phrases and key words that describe that theme.
2. Write a two-line proverb by yourself. Have your spelling checked and put your name on your paper.
3. If there is time, think about how you will illustrate your proverb. Remember, you are drawing yourself “doing the proverb” Decide if you want your illustration above or below your proverb.

Day 2

1. Copy the proverb onto the paper.
2. Illustrate and make a scroll or a class book.
3. Instructions are found on page 88.

- Godly Leader: Qualities of a Christian leader or father
 - Godly Woman: Qualities of a Christian wife or mother
2. Have each child select the theme that means the most to him or her. Tell them they will be drawing a picture of themselves “doing the proverb.” (See example that follows).
 3. Group the children according to themes. Working in teams, have them look for the phrases on their graphic organizers that describe the wise and foolish child or the godly leader or woman. Have them find the key words and share the ideas that they have. (You may want to have mothers or helpers come in and assist with the groups.)
 4. Then have each child work independently to write a short, two line proverb for his or her life.
 5. Work with the children to call out their ideas. When they are finished, check their spelling.
 6. Have children write their names on their proverbs and collect.



ARTS AND CRAFTS LESSON PLANS

Every child is an artist.
The problem is how to remain an artist
once he grows up.

~ PABLO PICASSO ~

Clay Oil Lamps

Inspired by Psalm 119:105

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.*

—*Psalm 119:105*

*But now, O Lord, You are our Father,
we are the clay, and You our potter;
and all of us are the work of Your hand.*

—*Isaiah 64:8*



Oil Lamp from Hellenistic Period

Early lamps were small clay bowls made by hand and filled with olive oil. (See Figure B on the next page.) A flax or wool wick floated in the oil and was lit to produce light. Other lamps had a tapered spout with the wick emerging from the end. The lamps held little oil and needed constant refilling. They did not shed much light and were often placed on a lamp stand to brighten a larger area. Men often attached small lamps or lanterns on their ankles at night to enlighten the dark pathway. Hence, the Scripture: “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path!”

Jesus said that He is the light of the world. (John 8:12) He also taught that the Word of God was like a lamp. It lights our path by revealing God’s way keeping us from stumbling in the dark of sin and evil. Jesus spoke about those of us who have asked Him into our hearts, that we should not hide our light under a bushel, but let our light so shine before men that they can see your good deeds and praise God for them. (Matthew 5:16)

Clay is a naturally occurring material that can be pinched, molded, rolled or coiled into almost any shape. Children love to work with clay and will love making these oil lamps. Fashioning items from clay gives them an opportunity to express themselves creatively and to say “I did it all by myself!”

Materials:

- Clay (terra-cotta)
- Hard surface
- Water dish
- Toothpicks
- Piece of string or yarn for a wick
- Oil (if your want to burn the “wick”)

Elements:

- **shape:** the outline or contour that describes it (This project is three-dimensional: length, width, and depth)
- **texture:** roughness or smoothness of an object or art medium

Instructions for Pinch-Pot Method:

1. Using the pinch-pot method means that a potter's wheel is not needed to mold the lamp.
2. Each student receives a piece of clay and "works it" into a ball with his hands.
3. Next, insert thumbs into the clay ball until you nearly reach the bottom. Begin to press outward, making the hole larger as you rotate the clay. Work slowly to fashion into a flat-bottomed bowl.
4. Keep your fingers moist with water, but not too wet as to weaken the clay. The object is to get the sides of your lamp thin, but not so thin that you put a hole in it! Try to keep the thickness of the lamp the same on all sides, as well as smooth.
5. For a spout like Figure A, pinch over one of your fingers or fashion four wide-mouthed spouts as in Figure B.
6. The lamp can be simply decorated by gently pressing a toothpick into the clay.
7. Let the lamp dry for one week. When the terracotta clay lightens in color you can paint your project with a glaze. Fire pot in a kiln. When cool, insert a piece of yarn or string, add oil and light, if permitted.

Examples of Oil Lamps from the Time of Jesus christ:



Figure A



Figure B



Figure C

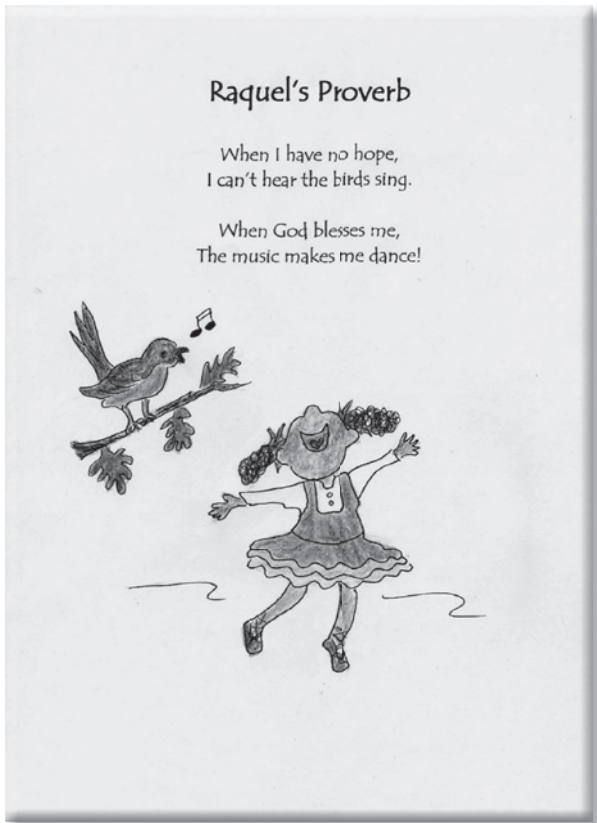


Figure D

Illustrated Student Proverb

There are two options for completing the project:

1. The children can make individual scrolls, OR
2. The children's individual proverbs are bound into one class proverb book. Directions are provided for both.



Supplies:

1. For the Scroll: Collect two long wooden dowels, sticks, or paper towel rolls for each child. The size depends on the height of the paper being used. The ends of the dowels should extend beyond the paper both at the top and the bottom. Select long, white paper for the scroll project (at least 8 ½ x 14 inches) which will be glued or stapled on both sides of the wooden dowel after the child has written his proverb and illustrated it.
2. For the Book: Use plain white paper and make a cover for the book the same size. Punch two holes in the cover and the student pages and lace with ribbon or yarn.
3. Black pens
4. Colored pencils, crayons, or paints
5. Glue or staple gun and ribbon or yarn for the scroll
6. Hole punch and ribbon or yarn for the book

Method:

(To be done after the children have completed writing their own proverb.)

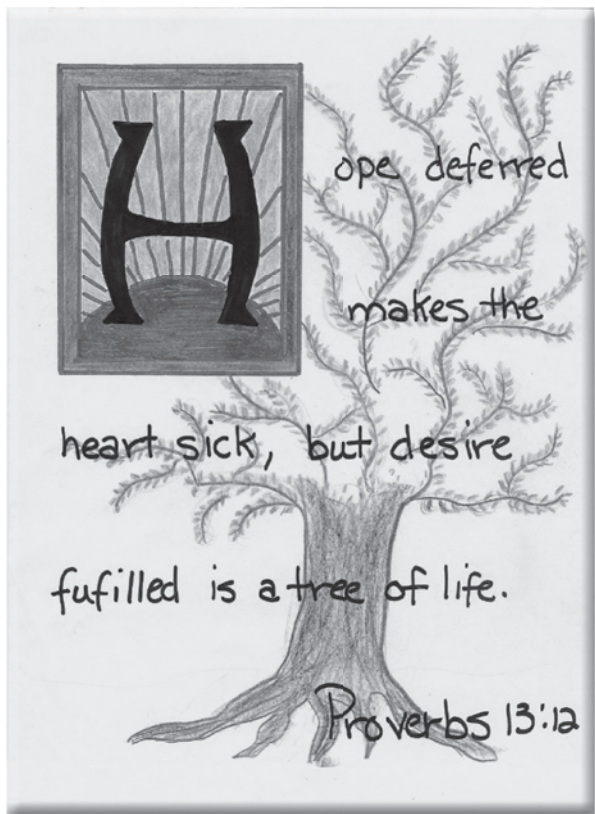
1. For the scroll: When the children lay out their design, have them keep two inches free on both the right and left sides of their paper, which will be rolled and then stapled or glued to the dowels.
2. For the class book: Have the children leave two inches free on the left side.
3. Have children carefully copy their proverb onto the paper with black pen.
4. Illustrate the proverb by showing how they see themselves “doing the proverb!”
5. Color or paint the illustration.
6. If doing a scroll, you may want to antique the paper (instructions below).
7. When the paper is dry, glue or staple their proverb to the dowels, one on the right and one on the left.
8. Roll up and tie with a ribbon or a piece of yarn.
9. Have each child write his name on the outside.

Antique Parchment Paper Wash: (optional)

1. You can make the paper look old by tinting it with one of these applications. Do the artwork first and make sure it is thoroughly dry. Apply the dark wash as a last step.
2. Make strong black tea or coffee. Let it get cold. Soy sauce also makes a good antiquing agent. Sponge the wash over the papers with several light applications. Blot off any excess liquid. Be sure and press the individual papers flat while they dry or at least weight the corners down.
3. You can seal with a coat of water-based acrylic sealer (optional).

Illustrated Proverb with an Illuminated Letter

This is a two-day project for any age. There are several options from which to choose. The class can either make individual scrolls or bind their pages into a class book. They may choose not to do an illuminated letter if this seems too difficult. Introduce the class to the art of illuminated letters. You may want to have the children choose a proverb from their study and complete an illuminated letter in art class, which is then glued to their scrolls or bound into the class book project.



Supplies:

1. For the Scroll: Collect two long wooden dowels, sticks, or paper towel rolls for each child. The size depends on the height of the paper being used. The ends of the dowels should extend beyond the paper both at the top and the bottom. Select long, white paper for the scroll project (at least 8 1/2 x 14 inches), which will be glued or stapled on both sides of the wooden dowel after the child has written his proverb and illustrated it.
2. For the Book: Use plain white paper and make a cover for the book the same size. Punch two holes in the cover and the student pages and lace with ribbon or yarn.
3. Ruler, black pens
4. Metallic gold pens (optional for the illuminated letter) and colored pencils, magic markers or crayons.
5. Glue or staple gun
6. Ribbon or yarn and a cover for the book
7. Sample illuminated letter

Method:

1. For the Scroll: When the children lay out their design, have them keep two inches free on both the right and left sides of their paper which will be rolled and stapled or glued to the dowels.
2. For the Book: Have the children leave two inches free on the left side.
3. Have children select their proverb.
4. Show how to create an illuminated letter using the first letter of the proverb. Several alphabets are given as samples or you can print from your computer and hang them on the chalk board. Show sample illuminated letters.
5. Have children lay out their design before using a pen or colors. After the illustration dries well, paint with a wash for an aged look, if desired.
6. When the paper is dry, glue or staple their proverb to the dowel.
7. Roll up and tie with a ribbon or a piece of string.
8. Have each child write his name on the outside.

Antique Parchment Paper Wash:

1. You can make the paper look old by tinting it with one of these applications. Complete the artwork first and apply the dark wash as a last step.
2. Make strong black tea or coffee. Let it get cold. Soy sauce also makes a good antiquing agent. Sponge over the papers with several light applications. Blot off any excess liquid. Be sure and press the individual papers flat while they dry or at least weight the corners down.
3. Optional: Seal with a coat of water-based acrylic sealer.

Brief History of Illuminated Letters and Manuscripts



Illuminated letters are calligraphic letters that are ornately embellished by hand on the pages of old manuscript books dating back in both Eastern and Western civilizations to early Christendom. Books replaced the papyrus scrolls of antiquity as early as the fourth century A.D. These books were written or transcribed and decorated in monasteries by scribes. They did not change in appearance for nearly 1,000 years. Bibles and other sacred books were copied by monks in small cubicles set up in the cloisters of the monasteries and great cathedrals. The monks traditionally spoke the words aloud as they wrote them. This oral “chewing” of the text was closely associated with the act of prayer, also helping to identify words. The reading of the Scriptures was also considered a form of meditation in which the scribe received divine wisdom as he laboriously copied the words.



The designs of the illuminated letters were unique to the monasteries, region and city and many have endured to this date. The Celtic scribes of the sixth to ninth centuries, whose brilliant artistry is still greatly admired in their sacred manuscripts, worked from instructions and master copies handed down from generation to generation.



Pages from the Alba Bible, translated in 1422 by Rabbi Moses Arragel de Guadalajara from Hebrew into Castilian. It is a fine example of Spanish manuscript illumination.



Early books were usually written on vellum, made from goat, calf, or sheep skins. Many have survived throughout the centuries. They were expensive to produce and a complete Bible might take a whole year for a scribe to transcribe and illustrate. The art of papermaking began before the birth of Christ in China and the process was eventually shared with the Europeans in the 9th century A.D. Italy became the paper manufacturing center of the western world for many centuries.

Beside the black ink and quill pen, the colors used in the illuminated letters were most often reds and blues, though oils in all colors were available. These were only used for the most exquisite volumes created for kings and clergy. Gold accents were often added with either gold ink or gold leaf. This adds a brilliant highlight to the initial letter decorations. Many of these beautiful works of art vibrate with radiant colors even today. Garlic oil was often added to the inks which acted as a preserving agent.



The Book of Kells: Four Evangelists' Symbols



The invention of movable type and the printing press in 1455 began the end of the era of illuminated manuscript books. Despite its limitations, the art of illumination is one of the most charming ever invented!. And while most of the paintings of the Middle Ages have perished, these little works form an almost uninterrupted series which afford us a clear idea of the chief schools of painting of each epoch and each region. Finally, in the history of art the role of illuminated manuscripts was considerable. With the inclusion in their scenes of sacred history, the manuscript painters inspired other artists, painters, sculptors, goldsmiths, ivory workers, and other craftsmen. It is especially in miniature that the ebb and flow of artistic styles during the Middle Ages may be detected.

Other examples follow. For more examples visit the web.

