

# The Book of Proverbs



## THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

### Proverbs 1

The book of Proverbs is a book of wisdom and poetry. Solomon and the other authors wrote down principles and guidelines that people could use to make wise decisions. Solomon wrote that the proverbs help us gain wisdom. Proverbs help us learn about doing what is right and just. They teach one to be thoughtful and to think and plan. A wise person should listen and continue to learn. The only way to gain wisdom is to honor and trust in the LORD. Foolish people hate wisdom.

Solomon wrote, “Listen my son to your father’s instructions. Do not reject what your mother teaches you. If a sinner tempts you to sin, do not give in. If someone invites you to hurt an innocent person for fun, you should not join them. Do not set foot on their path. Their feet are running toward evil. Those who seek to make money using dishonesty only create trouble for themselves.”

Next, Solomon wrote about wisdom using words that described it like it was a person. Solomon described wisdom as a woman calling out warnings to people. She warns people to listen to her and not to ignore her. Those who ignore wisdom will face trouble. Then they will look for wisdom, but she will be gone because they rejected her knowledge. They did not honor the LORD. They refused all of wisdom’s help. But those who listen to wisdom and trust in God will be safe.

# **The Book of Proverbs**

## **Session #9 & April 30, 2023**

### **Younger Children's Activity**

**Resources Needed:** Flowerpots, potting soil, stickers, sharpies, plastic spoons, potting soil, vinca flower seeds, gallon Ziploc bags (one per child), tape, di-cut flowers (one per child), skewers (one per child)

#### **Directions:**

- Give each child a flowerpot and have them decorate their pot using sharpies and stickers.
- Allow each child to spoon potting soil into their flowerpot.
- Have the kids poke a hole in the center of the soil and place the flower seeds in.
- Cover the seeds with dirt.
- Give each child a di-cut flower and have them write the text truth "Honor and respect God!" on it.
- Tape flower to a skewer and poke into one side of the flowerpot.
- Have kids place their flowerpot in a gallon Ziploc bag to transport home.

**Extra Activity:** Bible Verse Path pg 77 (painter's tape)

### **Older Children's Activity**

**Resources Needed:** Flowerpots, potting soil, stickers, sharpies, plastic spoons, potting soil, vinca flower seeds, gallon Ziploc bags (one per child), tape, di-cut flowers (one per child), skewers (one per child)

#### **Directions:**

- Give each child a flowerpot and have them decorate their pot using sharpies and stickers.
- Allow each child to spoon potting soil into their flowerpot.
- Have the kids poke a hole in the center of the soil and place the flower seeds in.
- Cover the seeds with dirt.
- Give each child a di-cut flower and have them write the text truth "Honor and respect God!" on it.
- Tape flower to a skewer and poke into one side of the flowerpot.
- Have kids place their flowerpot in a gallon Ziploc bag to transport home.

**Extra Activity:** Ground Volleyball pg 77 (Item 9)



## BIBLE VERSE PATH

*Tools: painter's tape, dry erase board and marker*

- ☐ Create a straight path with painter's tape. Print the words of Proverbs 1:7 on the dry erase board.
- ☐ Option: Substitute the Text Truth for the Bible Verse. Adjust the application wording as needed.
- Tell kids they will cross the path in different ways while saying an important verse from today's study of Proverbs 1.
- Ask kids to cross the path in different ways, such as hopping on one foot, bear crawling, crawling, walking backwards, crossing sideways, scissor stepping, and so on.
- Say: "Memorizing Scripture will help us to always think about God's Word. Scripture can help us make better choices. We should understand that wisdom comes from God. God's Word, the Bible, gives us instructions on how to live in wise ways. **We should respect God** and obey His Word."



## GROUND VOLLEYBALL

*Tools: Item 9: "Review Questions" (Printables), beach ball, chairs*

- ☐ Place chairs in a line so that kids can sit on either side of the line on the floor.
- Form two teams and assign teams a spot on either side of the chair row, facing each other.
- Say: "We are going to play ground volleyball. You play just like regular volleyball but no standing (or spiking)."
- On your signal, the teams will start volleying the ball back and forth.
- When it touches the ground, the team that missed will answer a "Review Question."
- Continue playing, asking questions each time the ball lands on the ground.
- Say: "You all did a great job keeping that ball in the air and listening to today's Bible story. Remember, **to find wisdom, we first must honor and respect God.**"



# REVIEW QUESTIONS

## SESSION 1

1. Fill in the blank: Jesus traveled to the area of \_\_\_\_\_ and Sidon. (*Tyre, Matthew 15:21*)
2. Who cried out, asking Jesus for mercy? (*a Gentile/Canaanite woman, Matthew 15:22*)
3. Who did the Gentile woman want Jesus to help? (*her daughter, Matthew 15:22*)
4. Why did the woman's daughter need help? (*She was being hurt by an evil spirit, Matthew 15:22*)
5. What did Jesus say when the woman first approached Him? (*nothing, Matthew 15:23*)
6. What did the disciples want Jesus to do? (*send the woman away, Matthew 15:23*)
7. Who did Jesus tell the woman He was seeking to reach? (*Israelites who were hurt by the religious leaders, Matthew 15:24*)
8. Fill in the blank: The woman came and \_\_\_\_\_ before Jesus. (*knelt, Matthew 15:25*)
9. Fill in the blank: Jesus told the woman that her faith was \_\_\_\_\_. (*great, Matthew 15:28*)
10. Who healed the people who could not walk, the people who could not see, and the people who could not speak? (*Jesus, Matthew 15:29-30*)

## SESSION 2

1. Where did Jesus and His disciples travel—Caesarea Philippi or Jerusalem? (*Caesarea Philippi, Matthew 16:13*)
2. What was the first question Jesus asked the disciples? (*Who do people say the Son of Man is? Matthew 16:13*)
3. Name one of the people that some of the people thought Jesus might be. (*John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah, one of the prophets; Matthew 16:14*)
4. What was the second question Jesus asked the disciples? (*Who do you say I am? Matthew 16:15*)
5. How did Peter answer Jesus' question? (*You are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God! Matthew 16:16*)
6. What did Jesus tell Peter that Peter would help build? (*His church, Matthew 16:18*)
7. Fill in the blank: Jesus told the disciples that He would suffer, be killed, and be raised from the dead on the \_\_\_\_\_ day. (*third, Matthew 16:21*)
8. How did Peter react when Jesus said He would suffer and die? (*He argued with Jesus, Matthew 16:22*)
9. Whose plan was Peter not thinking about? (*God's plan, Matthew 16:23*)
10. Fill in the blank: Jesus said, "If anyone wants to follow Me, he must forget his own ideas and plans, and \_\_\_\_\_ Me." (*follow, Matthew 16:24*)

## SESSION 3

1. Name one of the three disciples in today's story. (*Peter, James, or John; Matthew 17:1*)
2. Where did Jesus take the three disciples? (*up a high mountain, Matthew 17:1*)
3. Whose appearance suddenly changed (*transfigured*)? (*Jesus', Matthew 17:2*)
4. When Jesus' appearance changed, what did His face shine like? (*the sun, Matthew 17:2*)
5. What color did His clothes become? (*white as the light, Matthew 17:2*)
6. Name one of the two people who appeared to talk with Jesus. (*Moses or Elijah, Matthew 17:3*)
7. What did Peter offer to build on the mountain? (*three shelters, Matthew 17:4*)
8. Fill in the blank: A voice from the cloud said, "This is My beloved Son. I take delight in Him. \_\_\_\_\_ to Him." (*listen, Matthew 17:5*)
9. What did the disciples do when they heard God speak? (*They became afraid and fell facedown on the ground, Matthew 17:6*)
10. Finish Jesus' statement to the three disciples: "Do not be \_\_\_\_\_." (*afraid, Matthew 17: 7*)

## REVIEW QUESTIONS (ALL SESSIONS)

Explore the Bible: Older Kids

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# THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

TO FIND WISDOM, WE FIRST MUST HONOR AND RESPECT GOD.

April 30



## OSTRACON

Long before sticky notes and scrap pieces of paper, people wrote and doodled on broken pieces of pottery. These ancient notes are called ostraca.

This ostraca contains a poem about a son who ignores his father's advice. It was unearthed in **DEIR EL-MEDINA, EGYPT**. The ancient artisans who lived there called themselves **"SERVANTS IN THE PLACE OF TRUTH."**

**PROVERBS 1:8** says, "Listen, my son, to your father's instruction, and don't reject your mother's teaching." Solomon wrote this proverb to a young man, and it helps everyone know to **HONOR THEIR PARENTS AND RESPECT GOD.**

## WHAT'S A GENRE?

A GENRE IS A CATEGORY OR GROUP OF THINGS SHARING A SIMILAR STYLE.

Each book of the Bible belongs to a genre. The six genres of the Bible are **LAW, HISTORY, POETRY & WISDOM, PROPHECY, GOSPELS, and LETTERS**. Some of the genre names match division names!

The style of the book of Proverbs is "wisdom literature," so it belongs in the poetry & wisdom genre.

Wisdom literature was a style common among many cultures in Old Testament times. This genre deals with philosophy, ideas, common sense and...wisdom!

THIS IS AN ARTIST'S RENDERING OF THE DOORS AT A SYNAGOGUE IN NEW YORK. THE HEBREW TEXT CARVED INTO THE DOORS ARE VERSES FROM THE POETRY & WISDOM GENRE, INCLUDING PROVERBS 4:2!

The 10 divisions of the Bible help us know how the Bible is arranged and where books are located. The six genres of the Bible help us know what style a book is written in.

**BIBLE PASSAGE:**  
**PROVERBS 1**

**MEMORY VERSE:**  
**ROMANS 5:1**

## WISE AND FOOLISH CHOICES

Read each of the situations and write your thoughts in the space provided. Look at Proverbs 1 for help deciding what is wise and what is foolish.

Your friends are making fun of another kid at school.  
What do you think would be a wise choice for you to make?  
What would be a foolish choice to make?

Your younger sibling wants to play instead of obeying your mom by cleaning your room. What do you think would be a wise choice for you to make? What would be a foolish choice to make?

## MY PROVERB

The book of Proverbs calls people to live in ways that please and honor God. These words give us practical advice for wise, godly living. If you could write your own proverb or words of wisdom for someone to read, what would you say?

Write your own proverb in the space provided.

## HOW YOUR BRAIN LEARNS

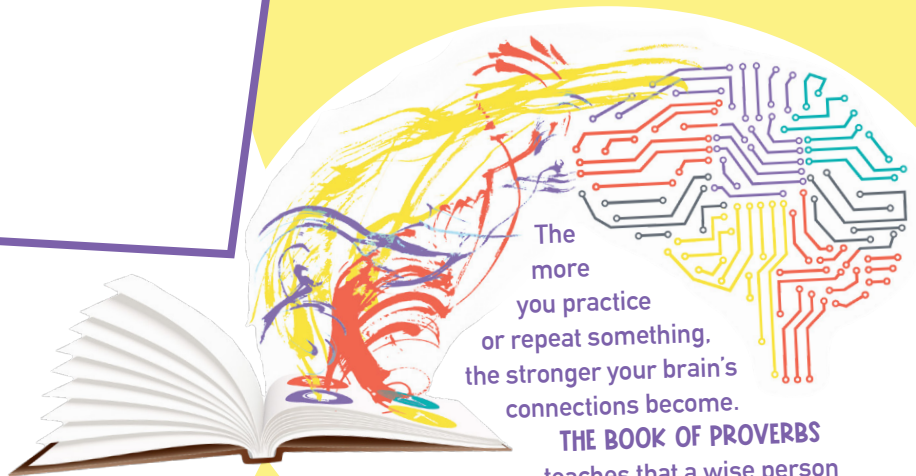
Your brain contains around 85 billion neurons—microscopic cells that can connect together through dendrites and synapses to form “pathways.”

These pieces work together to transmit information to other parts of your brain and to parts of your body through your nervous system.

For example, you have neurons and pathways that:

- + recognize letters and their sounds
- + know the letters in your name
- + help your body pick up, hold, and move a pencil

Neurons connect each of these pathways to share information and work together to help you write your name!



**BONUS BRAIN TIP:** If you can combine a new skill with an old skill, or practice recalling information using an old, favorite game, song, or activity, your brain can connect the new, weaker pathway to a stronger one. This helps you learn faster and remember longer!