

The Value of Wisdom



THE VALUE OF WISDOM

Proverbs 8

Many of Solomon's proverbs are about wisdom. Often he described wisdom as a person. Solomon wrote, "Wisdom stands where people can easily see her and she cries out, 'People, I call out to you. What I say is the truth. My words are right and good. My words do not deceive. Accept my instructions and knowledge instead of silver and gold. Wisdom is better than jewels. Remember, to honor the LORD is to hate evil.'"

Then wisdom said, "I hate pride, evil actions, and sinful words. I have good advice, wisdom, understanding, and strength. Right and good rulers use wisdom. I love those who love me. Those who search for me will find me."

Solomon said that the LORD had wisdom at the beginning of creation, and wisdom was formed before the universe. Wisdom saw the mountains, land, fields, horizon, skies, oceans, and more created. This was Solomon's way of saying that wisdom is from God. True wisdom can only come from God because He is the source of wisdom.

Finally, Solomon wrote, "Listen to instruction and be wise. Do not ignore it. Anyone who listens to wisdom is happy. The one who finds wisdom, finds life and is blessed by the LORD."

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Session #11 & May 14, 2023

Younger Children's Activity

Resources Needed: Pre-made Bible verse poster, markers, white cardstock, dot painter, pencils markers, children's pictures from previous week, glue sticks.

Directions:

- Have the kids decorate inside the bubble letter on the Bible verse poster with markers.

Mother's Day Activity:

- Prior to class, have teachers write MOM lightly in pencil on the white cardstock.
- Allow kids to dot paint the word MOM.
- Then have them use markers to write a special note to mom around the word.
- Prior to the lesson, cut the child's picture in the shape of the O on MOM and have the kids glue their picture inside the O.

Older Children's Activity

Resources Needed: Chinese take out boxes (one per child), gold and silver sharpies, stick on jewels, children's pictures from previous week, receipt paper, straws, ribbon, Jolly Ranchers (3 per child)

Directions:

- Give each child a takeout box.
- Have the kids decorate the outside on the box with sharpies and jewels.
- Give each child strip of receipt paper and have them write a special to their mom, grandmother, or special person in their life and draw a small picture of what they do together.
- Give each child a straw and have them cut it in half.
- Attach the straws to each end of the receipt paper and roll up into a scroll. Tie a ribbon around it.
- Put the scroll, child's picture, and 2 Jolly Ranchers in the box.

Would you rather meet Noah or Queen Esther?

Would you rather be swallowed by a whale or be trapped in a lions' den?

Would you rather talk to a donkey or see a burning bush?

Would you rather live during Abraham's time or Jesus' time?

Would you rather walk on water or heal the sick?

Would you rather eat fish or bread?

Would you rather have a house full of grasshoppers or frogs?

Would you rather throw a stone at a giant or be the shepherd watching the sheep?

Would you rather stay home with your brothers or be an Egyptian advisor to the pharaoh (king)?

Would you rather roam in the wilderness for 40 years or fast in the wilderness for 40 days?

Would you rather have all the wisdom in the world or be the richest man in the world?

DO NOT BE WISE
IN YOUR OWN
EYES; FEAR THE
LORD AND SHUN
EVIL. PROVERBS 3:7

THE VALUE OF WISDOM

WE SHOULD SEEK WISDOM ABOVE EARTHLY TREASURES.

May 14



THE MALERMI BIBLE

Niccolò Malermi's Italian translation of the **BIBLE** is **533 YEARS OLD!** It is one of the most illustrated books created during its time. But the illustrations weren't created how you might expect. They're woodcut illustrations!

A **WOODCUT ILLUSTRATION** is a form of relief painting. An artist would draw on a piece of wood then carve away the wood that wasn't drawn on, creating something like a stamp. The woodcut was then inked and pressed onto pages.

This woodcut illustration is from Malermi's opening pages of the **BOOK OF PROVERBS**. It shows Solomon writing. Solomon sought wisdom. We should seek wisdom, too!

WHERE DO YOU SEEK WISDOM?

Draw a star next to the pictures of people, places, or items where you can seek wisdom. Which one do you think is the best source of wisdom? Draw an extra star by that image.



BIBLE PASSAGE:
PROVERBS 8

MEMORY VERSE:
PROVERBS 3:7

HIDDEN TREASURES & UNSOLVED MYSTERIES



THE AMBER ROOM

In the 18th century, a room full of golden mosaics and mirrors and 1,000 pounds of amber was constructed in a palace near St. Petersburg, Russia. The room's panels and artwork were disassembled in 1941 and haven't been seen since!



THE JUST JUDGES

This panel was painted in the 15th century as part of a larger painting at a cathedral in Belgium. The panel was stolen in 1934. Tips are still being sent to investigators today, nearly 90 years later!

THE FLORENTINE DIAMOND

This 137-carat diamond was taken from India to Europe in the 1400s. It was kept by dukes, emperors, and lawyers for years, but it vanished in the 1920s. Some people think it was cut apart and scattered!



THE COPPER SCROLL TREASURES



An engraved sheet of copper was discovered among the Dead Sea Scrolls in Qumran. It was made around the time Rome took Jerusalem and destroyed the second temple, and it describes the location of a massive hidden treasure. Is the treasure real or a legend? Scholars are trying to figure it out!

These hidden treasures and unsolved mysteries have been stumping sleuths for centuries, but God and His wisdom are not hard to find! Proverbs 8 promises that people who search for wisdom will find it!

LIVE LIKE LADY WISDOM

"PERSONIFICATION" is a technique that gives human characteristics to something that isn't human.

For example, you may have seen art of Lady Justice at a courthouse or on TV. She's not a real person, but her characteristics personify and demonstrate what justice is.

In the book of Proverbs, **LADY WISDOM** is the personification of wisdom. If you created art of **LADY WISDOM**, what symbols and features would she have? **PROVERBS 1-9** will give you ideas!

LADY JUSTICE PERSONIFIES JUSTICE. HER SCALES DEMONSTRATE WEIGHING THE EVIDENCE. HER BLINDFOLD MEANS THAT JUSTICE IS IMPARTIAL. HER SWORD REPRESENTS JUSTICE AS SWIFT AND FINAL.

SOLOMON SAID REVIEW

Circle yes or no to indicate whether or not Solomon shared this piece of wisdom in the book of Proverbs. Use your Bible to examine **PROVERBS 1, 3, AND 8** for help.

- YES OR NO → SOLOMON SAID, "IF A SINNER TEMPTS YOU TO SIN, DO NOT GIVE IN."
- YES OR NO → SOLOMON SAID, "TRUST THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART."
- YES OR NO → SOLOMON SAID, "DO NOT RELY ON YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING."
- YES OR NO → SOLOMON SAID, "DO NOT THINK YOU ARE WISE WHEN YOU ARE NOT."
- YES OR NO → SOLOMON SAID, "RESPECT THE LORD AND TURN AWAY FROM EVIL."
- YES OR NO → SOLOMON SAID, "HONOR GOD WITH THE THINGS YOU OWN."
- YES OR NO → SOLOMON SAID, "WISDOM IS BETTER THAN JEWELS."
- YES OR NO → SOLOMON SAID, "LISTEN TO INSTRUCTION AND BE WISE. DO NOT IGNORE IT."
- YES OR NO → SOLOMON SAID, "ANYONE WHO LISTENS TO WISDOM IS HAPPY."
- YES OR NO → SOLOMON SAID, "THE ONE WHO FINDS WISDOM, FINDS LIFE AND IS BLESSED BY THE LORD."