

WEEK OF MAY 28, 2023



# WISE WAYS

## PREPARE



**BEFORE  
YOU BEGIN**



## TALK TOGETHER

### HAVE YOU EVER WALKED ON A BALANCE BEAM?

It's a long, solid bar that's perfectly straight. Gymnasts use it to do all kinds of incredible flips. When you walk on a balance beam, it takes you directly from start to finish. You don't wander to the left or right. If you do, you'll fall off the beam! The book of Proverbs talks about wisdom and straight paths.

King Solomon, a son of king David, wrote many of the Proverbs. He asked God to give him wisdom so he could make good choices, and God answered this prayer! But even as the wisest man to walk this earth, Solomon was not as wise as God. Not even close. **In Proverbs 3:5-8, Solomon wrote some wise words about how to live life. Let's take a look.**



#### TALK TOGETHER

Family conversations with God's Word.



#### MORE TO EXPLORE

Discover how this conversation fits into God's Big Story.



#### THRU-THE-WEEK SHEET

Post it on the fridge. Use it all week.



#### COLORING PAGE

Keep little hands busy before, during and after your family conversation.



***TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND DO NOT LEAN ON YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING. IN ALL YOUR WAYS ACKNOWLEDGE HIM, AND HE WILL MAKE STRAIGHT YOUR PATHS. BE NOT WISE IN YOUR OWN EYES; FEAR THE LORD, AND TURN AWAY FROM EVIL. IT WILL BE HEALING TO YOUR FLESH AND REFRESHMENT TO YOUR BONES.***

**What did Solomon, the wisest man to ever live, tell us to trust God with?** He said to trust God with ALL your heart and NOT to trust yourself. No matter how wise you are, you still need God to show you where to go and what to do in life.

When we rely on God and make Him the focus of our life, He makes the paths we walk in life straight, like the balance beam. He shares His wisdom with us and keeps us from walking toward things that will cause us to fall off.

**PROVERBS 3:5-8**

Even the wise Solomon struggled with fully relying on God. Sometimes he thought the wisdom God had shared with him made him wise enough to walk his own path. Guess what happened when he tried that? Yep. He fell off the balance beam, and God had to help him back up!

So if God’s wisdom helps us make good choices and live life well, how do we get more of it? I have good news! The answer is pretty simple. **Ask!**

In the Bible, Solomon shows us how to gain more of God’s wisdom. Go to God through prayer and ask Him to make you wise. Ask Him to help you trust Him with all of your heart. Ask Him to guide you away from evil. Ask Him to hold your hand and lead you down the straight path.

We will never be as wise as King Solomon. But if you've trusted Jesus as your Savior, you can ask God to give you the wisdom needed to walk the balance beam of life and make good choices. **He will help you walk a straight path.**

## GOD'S BIG STORY

CREATION



EVERYTHING  
GOD CREATED  
WAS GOOD.

FALL



ADAM & EVE SINNED,  
AND SIN PASSED TO  
ALL PEOPLE, EVEN  
YOU AND ME.



THOUGH ALL OF  
US ARE SINNERS,  
CHRIST DIED  
FOR US.

RESTORATION



JESUS WILL  
COME AGAIN.

### FIND IT IN THE BIBLE: PROVERBS

This week's story comes from the book of Proverbs. Proverbs is one of several books that fall under the category of poetry and wisdom. At least part of the book was written by Solomon, the wisest man to ever live. This book shares with its readers wisdom for godly living.

### PROVERBS SAYS TO FEAR THE LORD. SHOULD I BE AFRAID OF GOD?

Fear has more than one meaning. God is all-powerful, all-knowing and perfect. We should be afraid of doing things against God (sin), but we should also know He loves His children. We should respect God, our heavenly Father and Creator, and rest in the comfort of His love. Psalm 111:10 tells us that fearing the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

### OT-NT CONNECTION

In the New Testament book of James, chapter one talks about trials Christians will face during this life and the importance of wisdom. **Read James 1:5-6.**

- What should a believer who needs wisdom do?
- Are you facing any difficult situations? Ask God to give you wisdom to handle them in a Christ-like way.

### JOURNAL

Proverbs 3:5 says we should trust God with all our heart and NOT lean on our understanding of how things work. Think about what this means and how you can apply it to your life. Now, write down three ways you can trust God with all your heart. Ask Him for His wisdom to help you make good choices.

### PROVERBS SAYS WISDOM BRINGS HEALTH. IF I TRUST GOD AND LIVE WISELY, WILL I NEVER GET SICK?

Unfortunately, sickness is part of this world because of sin. Even Christians will deal with sickness until we reach heaven. Bad decisions can affect both our spiritual and physical health. But God's Word does tell us in Proverbs 3:7-8 that when we fear and respect Him and let Him guide us away from evil, we will have healthier lives.

### READ



Solomon asked God for wisdom, and God gave it to him. God not only gave Solomon wisdom, but He also made Solomon the wisest person to ever live. **Learn more by reading 1 Kings 3:1-15.**

# ★ THRU-THE-WEEK SHEET

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## ♥ MEMORIZE

**TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND DO NOT LEAN ON YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING.**

**(PROVERBS 3:5)**

**Q: HOW CAN I GAIN WISDOM?**

**A: ASK GOD!**

## SHARE

Tell your child about a time you asked God for wisdom. What was the circumstance? How did God help guide you through the situation?

## FIND

This week's verse is found in the book of Proverbs. Help your child find the book of Proverbs. Is this book in the Old or New Testament? How many chapters are there?

## WATCH



Help your child learn their verse by watching this week's Memory Melody video!

## PRAY

**DEAR LORD, TODAY WE ASK YOU FOR WISDOM. LIFE IS HARD, AND WE NEED YOU TO HELP US KNOW HOW TO LIVE LIVES THAT HONOR YOU. PLEASE SHOW US HOW TO MAKE GOOD CHOICES AND HELP US TRUST YOU WITH ALL OF OUR HEARTS. AMEN.**

## BAKE

Find your favorite shapeable cookie recipe and bake some tasty treats shaped like hearts!

As you enjoy your cookies throughout the week, remind your child to trust God and ask Him for wisdom.

## CRAFT

King Solomon was the wisest man to ever live, and his wisdom was still nothing compared to God's wisdom.

Help your child make a paper crown! This can be as simple as cutting a long, thin piece of paper and taping it to make a circle that fits your child's head. Help them decorate the crown and remind them that even kings and queens need to ask God for wisdom.

## EXPLORE

When we trust in God and ask for wisdom, He guides us through life on straight paths.

Take your child outside, and go on a search for a straight walking path to walk along.

## SING



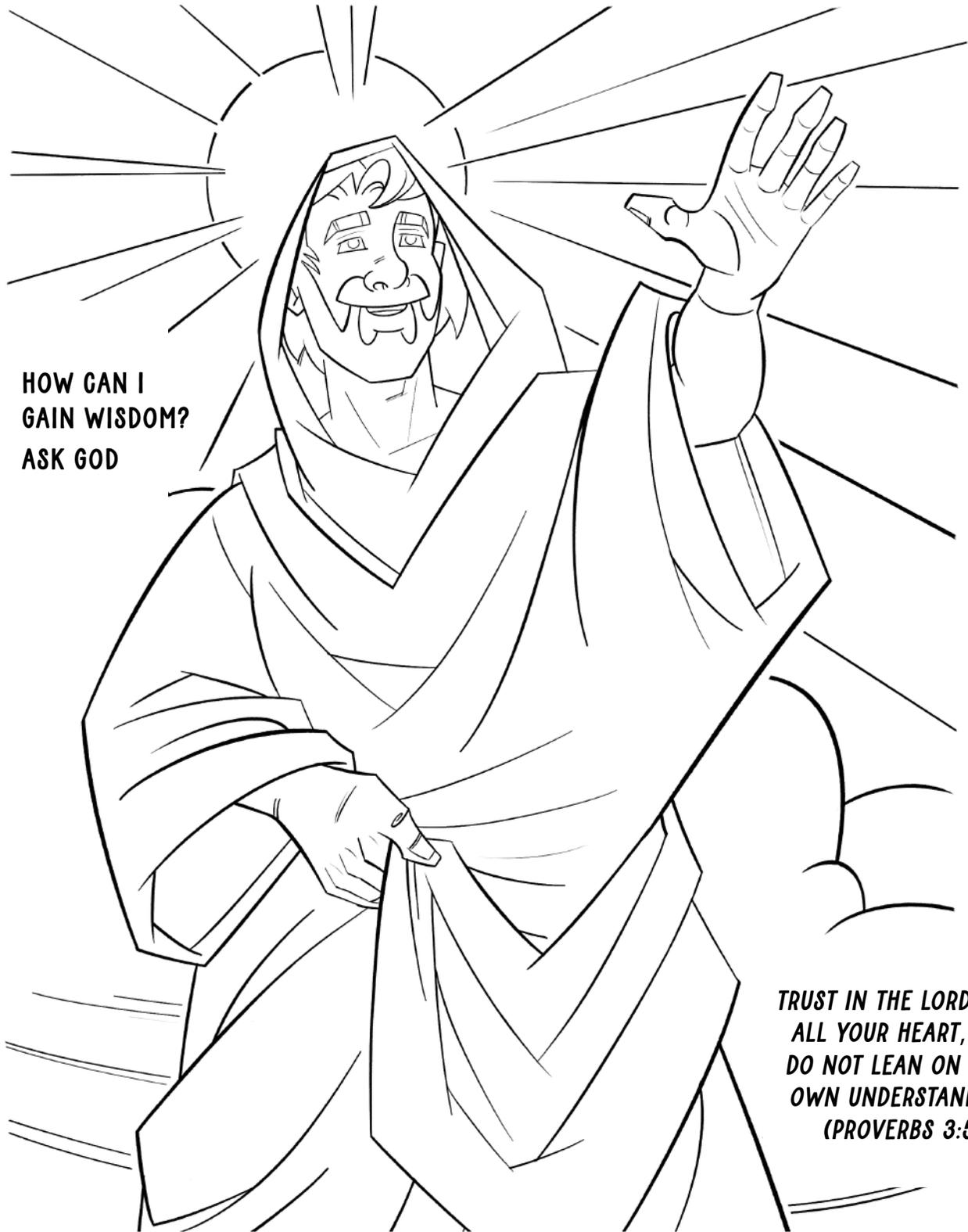
Listen to this playlist to think about what it means to live life in pursuit of godly wisdom.

**SCAN HERE TO LISTEN WHEREVER YOU ARE!**



# COLORING PAGE

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**HOW CAN I  
GAIN WISDOM?  
ASK GOD**

**TRUST IN THE LORD WITH  
ALL YOUR HEART, AND  
DO NOT LEAN ON YOUR  
OWN UNDERSTANDING.  
(PROVERBS 3:5)**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_