



A YEAR FOR

Wisdom

BIBLE STUDY
PARENTS GUIDE

Wisdom

Bible Verse: James 1:5

"If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you".

Introduction:

In our fast-paced world, we often find ourselves making countless decisions every day, from simple choices about how to spend our time or what to eat for lunch, to more complex decisions that affect those around us and could potentially affect our future. While we can easily access information through technology and social media, true wisdom—the kind that leads to good decisions and a fulfilling life—comes from a much deeper source. This Bible study will explore how we can gain and apply God's wisdom in our daily lives no matter our age.

Over the next four weeks, we'll journey through the Psalms and look at passages that reveal the nature of wisdom, our attitude in gaining it, the actions that lead to wisdom, and the profound impact of wisdom when it's gained. We'll discover that wisdom isn't just about having knowledge; it's about understanding how to apply that knowledge in ways that honour God and benefit others. Through these carefully selected verses, we'll learn how to distinguish between worldly wisdom and Godly wisdom, and why this difference matters in our lives.

Each day's study includes questions designed to help you reflect deeply on the Scripture and apply it to your own life. Whether you're dealing with family relationships, school friendships, or personal challenges, God's wisdom is available to guide you. As James 1:5 reminds us, God gives wisdom generously to all who ask, without finding fault. This promise forms the foundation of our study and invites us to approach these sessions with open hearts and minds, ready to receive the wisdom that God so freely offers.



Wisdom

Week 1: The Value of Wisdom

Bible Verses:

James 1:5 – "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you".

Proverbs 16:16 – "How much better to get wisdom than gold, to get insight rather than silver!"

Proverbs 3:13 – "Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding."

Day 1 – Study Questions:

James 1:5

"If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you".

1 – What situations in your life make you feel like you're currently lacking wisdom?

Think about times of significant life changes, complex relationship (friendship and/or family) challenges, study or career decisions, parenting struggles, or moral dilemmas.

2 – What barriers might prevent someone from asking God for wisdom?

Sometimes we prefer solving problems our own way instead of surrendering to God. We can think we know better, or that God does not understand. Also things like Pride, doubt, fear and hurt feelings play a role.

3 – Share a time when you asked God for wisdom and experienced His guidance.

Own Answer. Think about times when you have had to make a major decision, faced an hard situation or been wronged by someone.



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Day 2 – Study Questions:

"How much better to get wisdom than gold, to get insight rather than silver!" (Proverbs 16:16)

1 – How would you define the difference between worldly wealth and spiritual wisdom?

Worldly wealth = temporary and material.

Spiritual wisdom = eternal and transformative. Wisdom provides a deeper understanding of life and our relationships with God and others.

2 – Can you share an example of when wisdom was more valuable to you than money?

Own Answer. Could be when there is a situation that money cannot solve (eg. medical, relational) and wisdom can give understanding, resolution or peace.

3 – How does investing in wisdom impact personal growth and decision-making?

Wisdom helps us make thoughtful choices and reduces impulsive reactions. It increases our emotional intelligence and aligns our actions with Godly values.

Day 3 – Study Questions:

"Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding."
(Proverbs 3:13)

1 – What's the connection between finding wisdom and personal happiness?

Wisdom helps you feel happy because it teaches you how to make good choices, understand others better, and feel calm even when things get tough. When you learn God's wisdom, you discover that real happiness comes from knowing how to love others and live in a way that pleases God.



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2 – What does being "blessed" look like in the context of wisdom?

Being blessed means experiencing spiritual contentment, having discernment in challenging situations, maintaining inner peace, and living with a sense of purpose beyond material success.

3 – Who is someone you consider wise, and what makes them stand out?

Own Answer. This could describe a mentor, pastor, parent, or spiritual leader who demonstrates compassion, shows consistent godly character, offers thoughtful advice, and lives with integrity.

Week 2: Attitude in Gaining Wisdom

Bible Verses:

Proverbs 3:5 – "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding."

Proverbs 9:10 – "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." ()

Proverbs 11:2 – "When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom."

Day 1 – Study Questions:

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

1 – How do you usually handle situations where your personal understanding conflicts with what you believe God might want?

Own Answer. Acknowledging that human understanding is limited helps us recognize the need to seek guidance from God through prayer, scripture, and wise counsel.

2 – What practical steps can someone take to cultivate trust in God?

Regular prayer, scripture reading, community accountability, and reflecting on past instances of God's faithfulness can strengthen trust.



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3 – How does modern culture challenge the biblical principle of trusting God over personal understanding?

Contemporary society often emphasizes individual achievement and self-reliance, which can conflict with the biblical call to God's guidance.

Day 2 – Study Questions:

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." (Proverbs 9:10)

1 – What does "fear of the LORD" mean in the context of wisdom?

This fear isn't about terror, but instead profound respect, reverence, and recognition of God's ultimate sovereignty and holiness.

2 – In what ways can someone develop a more meaningful knowledge of God?

Consistent scripture study, prayer, listening to spiritual mentors, and experiencing God through life's challenges can deepen spiritual understanding.

3 – What distinguishes spiritual knowledge from academic or worldly knowledge?

Spiritual knowledge transforms character, provides deeper meaning, and connects personal experiences to eternal perspectives.

4 – How can young people cultivate a reverent understanding of God?

Engaging in authentic worship, asking questions, surrounding themselves with spiritual mentors, and being open to God's guidance.



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Day 3 – Study Questions:

"When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom." (Proverbs 11:2)

1 – What does genuine humility look like in practical daily situations?

Humility is thinking of yourself as God thinks of you. No less and no more. It involves listening more than speaking, acknowledging personal limitations, and being open to learning from others.

2 – How can pride subtly undermine personal and spiritual growth?

Pride creates blind spots, prevents honest self-reflection, and can lead to repeated mistakes by resisting constructive feedback.

3 – What's the difference between healthy self-confidence and destructive pride?

Healthy confidence is rooted in understanding our God-given value, while destructive pride elevates us above others and God.

4 – In what ways does humility contribute to wisdom and personal relationships?

Humility creates openness to different perspectives, fosters empathy, and allows for genuine connection and mutual understanding.



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Week 3 – Actions that Lead to Wisdom

Bible Verses:

Proverbs 19:20 – "Listen to advice and accept discipline, and at the end you will be counted among the wise."

Proverbs 23:12 – "Apply your heart to instruction and your ears to words of knowledge."

Proverbs 13:20 – "Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm."

Day 1 – Study Questions:

"Listen to advice and accept discipline, and at the end you will be counted among the wise." (Proverbs 19:20)

1 – What qualities make someone more receptive to advice from others?

Being open-minded, humble, and genuinely interested in growth makes us better listeners. Recognition that we don't have all the answers creates space for learning from others.

2 – How can you tell the difference between good and bad advice?

Good advice aligns with biblical principles, comes from people with proven wisdom, and often challenges us to grow rather than just confirming what we want to hear.

3 – How does listening to advice connect to spiritual maturity?

Spiritual maturity involves recognizing our need for guidance and being willing to learn from others' experiences and insights. It demonstrates humility and a desire to grow.



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Day 2 – Study Questions:

"Apply your heart to instruction and your ears to words of knowledge."
(Proverbs 23:12)

1 – What does it mean to "apply your heart" to instruction?

It means engaging fully with what we're learning, not just hearing but actively working to understand and implement wisdom. It involves emotional investment and commitment to growth. Heart learning involves deeper transformation of character and values, not just accumulating information. It changes how we think, feel, and act.

2 – What practices help you retain and apply what you learn?

Regular reflection, journaling, discussing with others, and immediately putting lessons into practice can help wisdom take root in our lives.

3 – Why might someone struggle to truly listen to "words of knowledge"?

Distractions, preconceptions, and information overload can make it difficult to focus on and absorb important wisdom. Sometimes we're physically present but mentally elsewhere.

4 – What role does persistence play in gaining wisdom?

Real wisdom requires consistent effort and patience, as transformation happens gradually through repeated exposure to truth and practice.

Day 3 – Study Questions:

"Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm." (Proverbs 13:20)

1 – How do your closest friends influence your decision-making and values?

Our close companions shape our perspectives, habits, and choices, often in subtle ways we might not immediately notice. Their influence can either elevate or diminish our character.



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2 – What qualities should you look for in wise companions?

Look for people who demonstrate Godly character, make sound decisions, and encourage others toward positive growth. Their lives should reflect the wisdom they claim to have.

3 – What does "suffering harm" from foolish companions look like in real life?

Poor influences can lead to compromised values, damaged relationships, missed opportunities, and decisions that have lasting negative consequences.

4 – What's the difference between being judgmental and being discerning about relationships?

Discernment focuses on protecting your own growth and values while maintaining compassion for others. Being judgmental involves condemning others from a position of superiority.

Week 4 – When Wisdom is Gained

Bible Verses:

Proverbs 2:12 – "Wisdom will save you from the ways of wicked men."

Proverbs 14:8 – "What makes a person wise is understanding what to do."

James 1:5 – "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you".

Day 1 – Study Questions:

"Wisdom will save you from the ways of wicked men." (Proverbs 2:12)

1 – How does wisdom help us recognize deceptive or harmful situations?

Wisdom provides discernment to see beneath surface appearances and recognize patterns that might lead to trouble. It helps us identify red flags we might otherwise miss.



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2 – What role does wisdom play in resisting peer pressure?

Wisdom gives us confidence in our values and helps us understand the long-term consequences of choices. It provides the strength to stand firm when faced with social pressure.

3 – How does wisdom differ from mere knowledge in protecting us?

Knowledge provides information, but wisdom helps us apply that information effectively in real-life situations. Wisdom includes both understanding and the ability to act on that understanding.

4 – What warning signs of wickedness does wisdom help us identify?

Wisdom helps us recognize manipulation, dishonesty, and harmful intentions in others' words and actions. It alerts us to inconsistencies between what people say and do.

Day 2 – Study Questions:

"What makes a person wise is understanding what to do." (Proverbs 14:8)

1 – What's the difference between knowing what's right and understanding what to do?

Understanding what to do involves practical application and timing, not just theoretical knowledge. It's about knowing how to implement wisdom in specific situations.

2 – How does wisdom help in complex situations where there's no clear right answer?

Wisdom provides principles for weighing options, considering consequences, and making decisions that align with godly values. It helps us navigate gray areas.



Wisdom

3 – Why might someone know what's right but struggle to act on it?
Fear, uncertainty about consequences, or lack of confidence can create gaps between knowledge and action. Sometimes emotional barriers prevent us from acting on what we know.

Day 3 – Study Questions:

James 1:5

"If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you".

1 – Looking back on this study, how has your understanding of wisdom deepened?

Consider how your view of wisdom has evolved from seeing it as mere knowledge to understanding it as a divine gift that transforms how we live and make decisions.

2 – In what specific areas of your life can you now see, where you need more of God's Wisdom?

Reflect on relationships, decisions, or challenges where you recognize a greater need for divine guidance based on what you've learned about wisdom.

3 – What barriers to seeking God's wisdom have you identified during this study?

Consider how pride, self-reliance, or fear might have prevented you from fully seeking God's wisdom, and how you can address these barriers.

4 – How can you maintain a consistent practice of seeking God's wisdom?
Develop specific habits of prayer, scripture study, and reflection that will help you regularly seek and apply God's wisdom in your life.





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