

# PROVERBS

## UNIT OVERVIEW

Wisdom and knowledge carry a great value in our society. A degree from a major university can open doors in careers, politics and social circles. Yet many people can confuse worldly education and knowledge with the wisdom that can lead us to eternal life. We can be "book smart" or "street smart," and never become "God smart." By using the book of Proverbs, the students will begin to understand the ideals that God sees as true wisdom. They will learn practical ways to put this wisdom into practice in their lives. Finally, they will understand that this wisdom leads to productive, fruitful and happy lives on earth, and the promise of a glorious eternity with God in heaven.

## UNIT GOALS

1. The students will learn that the book of Proverbs is a tool for gaining godly wisdom in their lives.
2. The students will learn that the book of Proverbs provides practical answers to almost any situation or struggle in their lives.
3. The students will learn that as they grow in true wisdom, they will be greatly blessed by God in every area of their lives.

## UNIT CONTENTS

### LESSON 1 DISCIPLINE AND LAZINESS

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

PROVERBS 14:23

We all need to deal with our laziness at different times in our lives. For preteens however, the struggle between discipline and laziness is a constant battle. Through the example of the ant, the students will come to understand the many benefits of leading a disciplined life. This lesson will provide practical applications that the students can begin to put into practice immediately in their lives.

### LESSON 2 SPEECH

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

PROVERBS 16:24

Few people realize the incredible power that they hold in their words. The things we say can define us as disciples and bring glory to God every day. Yet, our words can also cause pain, division and broken relationships. In this lesson, the students will learn how valuable their speech is to their hearts, their relationships, and ultimately, to their salvation.

### LESSON 3 WISDOM AND FOOLISHNESS

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

PROVERBS 19:20

Who can be considered truly wise? Does it take many degrees beside our name? Does wisdom come with age? Everyone has their own view of wisdom. True wisdom, in God's eyes, comes from a knowledge of his word and a daily devotion to righteousness. In this lesson, the students will come to understand that this type of wisdom can be found only in the Scriptures, and in the advice of the godly people around us.

### LESSON 4 THINGS GOD HATES

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

PROVERBS 6:16-19

In spite of his infinite capacity to love, God has many things that he hates. It is easy to understand how God can hate the things on the list in Proverbs 6:16-19. These are the things that cause all of us great spiritual and emotional hurts. The students will come to understand that, in order to be close to God, they will need to hate the things he hates, and love the things he loves.

### LESSON 5 MONEY

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

PROVERBS 11:24

In the eyes of the world, money holds the key to power and social status. In God's eyes, money holds the key to the salvation of a lost world. The world may consider a disciple foolish for the way in which he sacrifices his wealth. Yet, God sees money as a way to help bring the gospel to all nations, and as a way to help meet the needs of the poor and needy of this world. True disciples know that anything we have is really God's, and we are only stewards who use his possessions to bring him glory.

### LESSON 6 HUMILITY AND PRIDE

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

PROVERBS 13:10

In one form or another, pride affects us all. Whether it is our insecurity, our temper, or our willfulness, pride is at the root of much of the sin in our lives. As they study the story of Naaman, the students will become familiar with some of the consequences of pride and the blessings of humility. They will be challenged to identify prideful attitudes in their own lives, and to see how much God dislikes this characteristic.



Preteens

Unit 6 at a Glance



## Preteens

Dear Parent,

On the reverse side of this page you will find an outline and description of the lessons which comprise this unit. The weekly Scripture Memory Verse is listed with each lesson synopsis.

As part of the class experience, students are given a Weekly Challenge. Below is a list of the challenges given with the lessons:

### LESSON 1 DISCIPLINE AND LAZINESS

Weekly Challenge: Talk to your family about one way you want to be more disciplined and not lazy this week. Ask them to help you change.

### LESSON 2 SPEECH

Weekly Challenge: Write a card to a person whom you have never encouraged before, or to someone you have hurt recently with your speech.

### LESSON 3 WISDOM AND FOOLISHNESS

Weekly Challenge: Get advice from one of your "spiritual advisors" and then write the advice in your journal. Bring your journal with you next week so you can share some advice you got. Share with a friend at school about the advice you received.

### LESSON 4 THINGS GOD HATES

Weekly Challenge: After identifying one of the seven things that God hates that you need to change, talk with your partner during the week to encourage each other. Also share with a friend at school what you want to change and why.

### LESSON 5 MONEY

Weekly Challenge: Ask your parent(s) to help you to figure out your budget and what you will be able to give to God every week. Beginning next week, faithfully give that amount.

### LESSON 6 HUMILITY AND PRIDE

Weekly Challenge: Practice humility this week by asking an older disciple to teach you how to have better quiet times. Be ready to share with the class what you learned.

Your active involvement outside the classroom is essential and will truly make the Kingdom Kids Curriculum a great success for your child. Here are some suggested ways for you to reinforce these lessons at home:

- Share with your child how you seek wisdom through God's word and through asking advice from other spiritual people.
- Review the memory verse before bedtime, at dinner or while riding in the car.
- While eating dinner, talk about something that your child really enjoyed about Bible class this week.
- Ask your child to share with you how he or she is doing with the weekly challenge. Give encouragement or direction as needed.
- Have a family devotional using the memory verse (or parallel verses) this week. Allow your child to share with younger siblings what he or she is learning in class.
- Don't forget to encourage your child as he or she uses the Preteen Quiet Time Book that gives daily support for the lesson of the week.

Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Deuteronomy 6:5-7

We look forward to being partners with you as we help *Generation Next* to be zealous and effective as they move forward the kingdom of our God.

Thank you,

Your child's teachers