

Lesson 9

Proverbs Teach Us

Theme: Self-control – Resisting temptation



Sunday Morning Lesson

Pre-Class Activity

Bible Facts: Shine a Light on the Bible Facts

Memory Verse: Make or purchase heavy card stock footprints, both right and left. Print each word of the memory verse on a footprint, alternating right and left. Arrange the footprints in order to make a trail, so that a student can step on the words and say them. Have students walk the trail and say the Memory Verse. Since you are introducing a new Memory Verse, have them walk the trail and say the verse a few times. Place sentence strips in the pocket chart to show the verse. Talk about Who? What? When? and Where? in connection with the verse.

Prayer

Teaching Today's Lesson

1. For non-reading students, read Proverbs 15:1-5. Have reading students find and mark Proverbs 15:1 in the classroom Bibles.
2. Ask students to bring the Bibles and move to the Bible story area.
3. Introduce Lesson Graphics using "A Great Find" as described on page 9 in this Guide.
4. Tell the story using the *Lighting the Way Lesson Graphics* and other props.
5. Tell the story and teach the lesson emphasizing the following scenes and points, tailored to the students' ages:
 - It is wise to choose to use words that are pleasing to God.
 - There are many wise ways to use our words, such as praising God, praying, and expressing love and kindness to other people.
 - In Proverbs, Solomon tells about the severe consequences of drinking too much alcohol and of being lazy.
 - Proverbs 31 describes the qualities and worth of a good wife.
 - Each of us must make his or her own choices, and if we are wise, we will choose to love and obey God.

6. Review the meaning of “wisdom”—knowing how to make good choices; comes from listening to God’s Word. Discuss Solomon, who wrote much of the “wisdom literature.” Read aloud together Proverbs 15:1-5. Then use the Lesson Graphics and other pictures to do the following activities:

- List on a marker board wise ways words can be used and foolish ways words are sometimes used.
- Discuss the use of alcohol.
- Discuss having a good work ethic and how it pleases God—everything we do, we do for Him.
- Discuss the good wife described in Proverbs 31.

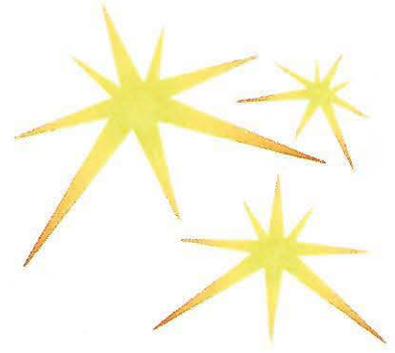
**Things to Get or Do
for Sunday Morning**

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Lesson 9

Proverbs Teach Us

Theme: Self-control – Resisting temptation



Wednesday Night Lesson

Pre-Class Activity

Bible Facts: Shine a Light on the Bible Facts

Memory Verse: Using the footprints from Sunday, place them in a trail but pull out several key words, scattering the missing words around on the floor. Have students work together to place the footprints in the correct order to complete the trail. Have students walk the trail and say the verse. Place sentence strips in the pocket chart to show the verse.

Prayer

Starter

Have you ever seen a whole nut, such as a pecan or walnut? The nut we eat is on the inside. The part around the nut is called the shell. We crack the shell to get to the nut inside. If it is not crushed, the nutshell left over after cracking is like a small bowl. We have a phrase that refers to this small container – “in a nutshell.” When someone takes a *lot* of information and puts it in a *few* words, we say, “That’s it in a nutshell.”

We might think of the Proverbs this way. Wise men and women put truth in a nutshell; they state a *lot* of truth in a *few* words. Proverbs are usually short sayings that get right to the point. They grow out of looking at life, thinking about it, looking again, and learning a lesson or two. We have proverbs in our time such as “You reap what you sow,” “Pretty is as pretty does,” and “A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.” The Old Testament proverbs are from God.

Illustrations and Applications

1. **Objective:** *Learn to write a proverb*

On the board, write the following and have students finish the sentences.

- When you wait until the last minute to do a big project _____.
- When you practice baseball every day _____.

 2. **Objective:** *Wisdom in using words*

Make a Word Board on a display board, such as used for a science project. Print out and attach proverbs about words 10:19, 13:3, 16:24, 18:21. Have pieces of construction

paper cut and ready to add to the display. Have the students name good ways and bad ways to use words. Write out on the construction paper the ways words may be used and attach them to the display on the "GOOD" side or the "BAD" side. Examples are:

GOOD

- Please
- Thank you
- Encourage
- Preach and teach the gospel
- Constructively criticize

BAD

- Unfairly criticize
- Complain
- Curse
- Tell lies
- Making fun of others

3. *Objective: Demonstrate that everything is not what it appears to be, especially the "fun" of drinking wine and beer*

Have a drink such as Hawaiian punch for the students. Choose a bright red colored drink that will look especially appealing. Have small paper cups to give each student a drink of the punch. Before class, put seltzer water in the punch. It doesn't change its appearance, but it certainly changes its taste. Pour a small amount for each student and have the students drink the punch at the same time.

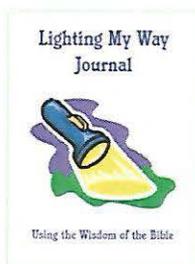
Apply this to Proverbs 23:29-34. Wine looks attractive in a wine glass. It looks like it will be a great drink. It may even go down smoothly. But its effects on people are not good at all. Show pictures of a car wreck caused by alcohol. Show pictures of people drunk. What looks good isn't always good. Beer commercials and other forms of advertising make drinking beer look like a lot of fun and that everyone is doing it. The commercials don't ever show anyone drunk or vomiting or passed out. They don't tell the whole story. If we're wise, we learn that everything is not what it appears to be.

4. *Objective: Illustrate the consequences of drinking wine and beer*

Cut out the eight wine glasses on pages 71-74 of this Guide. Notice they are numbered and have consequences printed on the back. Lay the glasses with the wine side up on the table. Explain that someone drinks a glass of wine. Have a student turn over wine glass 1 and read the consequences. Next, the person drinks more. Have a student turn over wine glass 2 and read the consequences. Continue through all eight glasses and talk about the increasingly bad consequences. No one ever plans such consequences when he or she takes the first drink.

Things to Get or Do for Wednesday Night

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My favorite proverb is ...
This will help me ...