



**Mustard Seed Sunday School Lesson for May 14, 2006
Released on May 10, 2006**

"Wisdom's Invitation"

GOLDEN TEXT-"Doth not wisdom cry? and understanding put forth her voice?" (Proverbs 8:1).

SCRIPTURE LESSON TEXT: Proverbs 8: verses 1-5 and verses 22-31

1 Doth not wisdom cry? and understanding put forth her voice? 2 She standeth in the top of high places, by the way in the places of the paths.

3 She crieth at the gates, at the entry of the city, at the coming in at the doors.

4 Unto you, O men, I call; and my voice is to the sons of man.

5 O ye simple, understand wisdom: and, ye fools, be ye of an understanding heart. 22 The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old.

23 I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. 24 When *there were* no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water.

25 Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth: 26 While as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world. 27 When he prepared the heavens, I was there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth: 28 When he established the clouds above: when he strengthened the fountains of the deep:

29 When he gave to the sea his decree, - that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the foundations of the earth: 30 Then I was by him, as one brought up *with him*: and I was daily *his* delight, rejoicing always before him;

31 Rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth; and my delights were with the sons of men.

NOTES ON THE LESSON:

The Bible tells us there are two paths in life: the path of wisdom and the path of fools. The New Testament speaks of the wisdom of the world and the wisdom of God (I Corinthians 2:6-7). Proverbs 8 presents God's wisdom as a person calling to everyone to take the path of wisdom. Wisdom was present when the world was created and in all of the Creator's works (cf. Col. 2:2-3). Wisdom is important, a sure foundation on which to build a life. Wisdom guides those who are willing to live for God daily.

God approves of those who listen to and obey the call to wisdom. Wisdom affects one's thinking, speech, and actions in all of life. Wisdom opens hearts to God's direction and guidance.

All wisdom is found in Christ. After accepting Him as Saviour, we must listen to His teachings and follow them to be wise. Jesus Himself is the personification of wisdom.

Help the children hear the invitation to wisdom as recorded in the Bible.

THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

This lesson invites the children to be wise.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

Wisdom comes from God.

Wisdom is understanding that God's way is best.

Wisdom gives direction and shows the right way to live.

PLANNING VISUAL AIDS:

For *Beginning the Lesson*, make an invitation that reads "You Are Invited" on the front and "Come to Wisdom-Be Wise" inside.

For *Telling the Lesson*, you need a road map.

For *Helping to Remember*, you need construction paper and crayons or colored markers.

BEGINNING THE LESSON:

(Show the front of the invitation.) Ask the question, "**What do you do when you receive an invitation?**" (Answer: "Open the invitation.") God's Word, the Bible, gives us the wisdom of God. This wisdom helps us learn the best way to live. It guides us in the right way to go. It gives us peace in our hearts when our minds are on God and things that are good. God uses his word to invite us to learn about wisdom and to follow his ways, which are wise.

TELLING THE LESSON:

(Read Proverbs 8:1-5 to the children.) These verses picture wisdom as a person calling to everyone to follow God's wisdom.

God loves you. He made a way for you to know Him through the Bible and His Holy Spirit. You can choose to follow or not to follow Him. God gave you ears to hear, minds to think, and hearts to love Him.

When we are on vacation, how do we know which way to go? We look at the map.

(Show map.) Ask the question, "How is God's Word like a map?" (Answers: 1) God's word shows us the right way to go. 2) God's word in the Bible tells us how to recognize when we are doing things the wrong way. 3) When we do things the way God tells us to we don't get lost or in unexpected trouble.)

Question: How do we know the difference between right and wrong?

(Answers: 1) God put it in our mind to know right from wrong. 2) Our parents, grandparents, teachers, and others like them teach and remind us about the differences

between right and wrong.) That is why we know on the inside that we need forgiveness of sin, when we do what is wrong. We know that we need help to do what is right. Nature shows there is a great Creator. Our conscience tells us there is a God. God gives words of wisdom in the Bible. This wisdom is worth searching for. Wisdom comes from God as we allow Him to teach and guide us.

Wisdom from God is for everyone adults and children. Everyone can understand that we need to be wise.

TELLING HOW TO LIVE:

How does God call us to be wise today?

Answer: God calls us today to be wise today by giving us The Bible and people to teach us about His love and commands. As we learn what the Bible says, we learn what is wise. The Bible is God's Word to everyone. God wants us to follow His word, our map that shows us the road to heaven. Obey God's word every day to be wise. Trust in God to have peace. To receive wisdom from God, you must first accept Jesus as your Saviour. Learn from the Bible how God wants you to live. Talk to Him (Pray) every day. Tell Him about your joys and your sorrows. We must admit our troubles, sin, and problems. Pretending they are not there is not the solution. Be wise. Accept Jesus' love for you. Learn from God's Word how to live for Him. Obey Him every day by doing what is right. (Read Psalm 28:7 together slowly. Talk to God. Sing "Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus" [Lemmel] or another appropriate song.)

EXPLAINING THE GOLDEN TEXT

"Doth not wisdom cry? and understanding put forth her voice?" (Proverbs 8:1).

Wisdom is not hidden from us. It is like a person who cries out to us in public. We have many opportunities to gain God's wisdom. It is as close to us as our Bible. It is as close to

us as our parents or other people who love the Lord and who choose daily to obey his commands in how they live, love, and handle life's problems.

Wisdom and understanding help us enjoy life and helps us through life's troubles. Today in the United States, we celebrate Mother's Day. In God's word in The Old and New Testament it says to honor your mother and father so that you may live long and it may go well with you. E.g. Exodus 20:12; Matthew 15:4 and 19:19; Mark 7:10 and 10:19; Luke 18:20; and Ephesians 6:2. Remember to show your mother and father that you honor them everyday. Remember to say "Happy Mother's Day" to your mother and other women that God has put in your life to teach you wisdom.

HELPING TO REMEMBER

Have the children fold the paper to make an invitation. They should print "You Are Invited" on the front and "Come to Wisdom-Be Wise" inside. They can decorate the card with crayons or markers (for 4-5 year olds).

PROVERBS CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Circle the words and phrases from Chapter 8 of Proverbs, a book in the Old Testament of the Bible. This could be tricky! Be sure to talk about all of these words when you finish. Most of the words go across or down, but one is diagonal. This puzzle (with the answer sheet) should be OK for first graders and older. But if you want to make it harder, don't look at the answer sheet.

D	O	T	H	N	O	T	W	I	S	D	O	M	C	R	Y	A	R	P	P	O	L	E	C	A
A	L	A	P	O	U	C	L	F	O	R	P	U	V	I	N	T	E	G	H	B	R	M	O	J
M	Y	N	U	R	T	L	A	U	U	L	T	C	Z	C	A	Q	C	W	E	T	E	R	U	R
N	M	O	P	A	J	E	I	O	N	U	Y	B	O	H	R	U	E	I	O	A	I	R	N	H
H	A	E	R	K	U	M	A	B	D	C	R	O	M	E	F	O	I	O	T	I	L	A	A	H
O	B	L	E	S	S	E	D	A	T	E	R	C	O	S	U	P	V	T	M	N	P	O	E	R
X	E	R	O	P	T	N	I	G	H	P	I	M	Y	A	M	I	E	S	H	A	C	D	L	D
A	T	H	E	C	I	D	F	J	L	O	U	R	B	N	A	I	M	Y	V	H	Z	O	I	N
O	T	U	R	S	C	S	B	A	P	I	I	S	R	D	C	O	Y	N	M	E	A	C	S	T
H	E	A	R	B	E	X	E	Y	V	O	U	I	N	H	E	R	I	T	I	K	B	J	M	A
E	R	O	I	Y	G	H	S	K	L	O	N	E	M	O	R	A	N	U	Y	G	P	P	I	C
T	T	E	G	A	M	G	O	P	F	R	U	M	A	N	P	R	S	O	A	D	T	T	N	R
A	H	P	H	C	I	A	R	K	O	T	D	R	O	O	G	G	T	I	E	T	T	U	E	U
R	A	T	T	L	H	E	M	N	E	A	N	Y	R	U	A	T	R	C	H	A	E	T	O	N
C	N	H	E	E	A	T	O	O	B	E	Y	R	E	R	F	U	U	S	E	W	R	I	T	D
T	G	Y	I	N	V	E	N	W	T	I	O	N	S	S	C	H	C	E	D	U	T	L	E	E
J	O	U	D	G	E	M	N	L	T	E	A	S	P	E	A	K	T	R	U	T	H	R	T	R
L	L	O	U	S	S	F	B	E	W	I	S	E	N	E	V	E	I	R	S	T	A	P	T	S
R	D	Y	I	N	T	G	T	D	O	P	L	E	A	S	G	O	O	V	M	D	N	O	M	T
A	R	O	U	N	R	D	T	G	H	E	W	K	O	R	L	D	N	I	B	E	R	I	G	A
H	P	R	U	D	E	N	C	E	T	Y	D	M	A	Y	Z	O	U	N	F	L	U	O	V	N
E	R	T	H	O	N	C	C	U	Z	N	E	E	S	L	I	S	T	E	N	P	B	A	R	D
K	W	A	Y	E	G	A	S	T	N	U	B	O	G	T	H	E	R	D	I	U	I	N	O	I
B	Y	R	X	A	T	O	U	I	Y	G	H	O	S	V	T	R	A	Y	D	F	E	A	O	N
L	U	I	N	T	H	E	B	E	G	I	N	N	I	N	G	W	U	U	I	D	S	Y	N	G

Answers for Word Search Puzzle

Words and phrases about Wisdom are used in Word Search Puzzle and from Chapter 8 of Proverbs. I tried to be tricky, but I'm sure you did well. Check the Answer Puzzle that follows to be sure that you located all the words and phrases listed here.

Receive my instruction

Right

Doth not wisdom cry

Be wise

Understanding

Knowledge

Better than gold

Counsel is mine

Favour

Obey

Hear

Seek me

Speak truth

Prudence

Inherit

Blessed

Justice

I have strength

Better than rubies

Sound

In the beginning

Obtain

Listen

Riches and honour

D	O	T	H	N	O	T	W	I	S	D	O	M	C	R	Y		R			O			C			
									O					I			E			B			O			
									U					C			C			T			U			
					J				N					H			E			A			N			
					U				D					E			I			I			S			
	B	L	E	S	S	E	D							S			V			N			E			
	E				T									A			E						L			
	T				I		F							N			M						I			
	T				C			A						D			Y						S			
H	E	A	R		E				V				I	N	H	E	R	I	T			B	M			
	R		I						O					O			N				E		I			
	T		G							U				N			S				T		N			
	H		H		I			K					R		O				T			T	E	U		
	A		T		H			N						U			R			E			N			
	N				A			O	B	E	Y			R			U				R		D			
	G				V			W									C				T		E			
	O				E			L					S	P	E	A	K	T	R	U	T	H		R		
	L				S			B	E	W	I	S	E							I			A		S	
	D				T			D											O				N		T	
					R			G											N				R		A	
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					T																			E		N
					I	N	T	H	E	B	E	G	I	N	N	I	N	G						S		G

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"Happy Mother's Day" to all you Moms!