

Intermediate Bible Class +

For Teens Ages 12 Through 14

“My
fortress;
my
high tower,
my
deliverer”

Psalm 144:2.

FALL | September
2026 | October
November

Intermediate Bible Class⁺

FALL QUARTER

September, October, November 2026

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GOD'S WISDOM VERSUS MAN'S WISDOM

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Dear students,

Welcome to *Intermediate Bible Class*⁺! We hope it helps you get excited about learning and applying God's Word!

Here are some of the features:

- The **Big Idea** highlights the main point of the lesson.
- **Discussion Questions** are within the lesson to help you interact with the topic.
- **What If?** helps you imagine how the Bible lesson might be applied to a hypothetical scenario that could occur in your everyday life.
- The **Big Question** addresses some doubts, fears, or concerns you may have about God, His Word, or life in general.
- **Next Steps** give you ways to be doing what the lesson is teaching throughout the week.
- The **Prayer Point** encourages you to commit to praying for something in the coming week.
- **Christ Focus** shows how every lesson points to Jesus.
- **Talk About It** gives you ideas on things to discuss with trusted Christian adults in your life.

WISDOM CALLS THE FOOLISH

Lesson 1
September 6, 2025

Lesson Text: Proverbs 1:20-33

"Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets" (Proverbs 1:20).

BIG IDEA: Misfortune comes to those who ignore God's wisdom.

PROV. 1:20 Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets.

21 She crieth in the chief place of course, in the openings of the gates: in the city she uttereth her words, saying,

22 How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scornors delight in their scorning; and fools hate knowledge?

23 Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you.

24 Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded;

25 But ye have set at naught all my counsel, and would none of my reproof:

26 I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh;

27 When your fear cometh as destruction,

and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you;

28 Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me:

29 For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the Lord:

30 Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.

31 Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.

32 For the turning away of the simple shall destroy them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them.

33 But whose heartiness unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.

BIBLE LESSON

There's a difference between having knowledge and being wise. There's a book in the Bible that talks a lot about wisdom—Proverbs. Most people have heard of Proverbs. They are usually short sayings or catchy phrases based on truth, like what you might find in fortune cookies. Sometimes they give tips to live your best life, and sometimes they're like riddles. But Proverbs in the Old Testament is different. It is a guide for pursuing good wisdom and truth in our daily lives.

Let's take a quick look at who wrote the book of Proverbs long ago. Almost all of the book of Proverbs was written by a wise king named Solomon. You may have heard of the book of Proverbs was written by a wise king named Solomon. You may have heard of him. He was actually the son of King David—as in, David and Goliath!

After Solomon became king, God appeared to him and said, "I would give him anything he asked for. Wouldn't that be great?" Can you imagine?

REFLECT If you could ask God for anything, what would you ask for?

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WHAT IF?

You want to make wise choices, but your friends think being foolish is fun. They want to go into an old, deserted house that's been roped off for destruction because they think it will be fun. You know it's dangerous and against the law to trespass on the property, but you don't want them to think you are a joy killer. As a Christian, however, you will have to remind your friends that wise rules exist for a reason. What should you do when you are outnumbered by friends wanting to do the wrong thing?

HOW DO I KNOW IF I AM MAKING A WISE CHOICE?

Sometimes when you have to make a decision, the wise choice isn't always clear. You know if there are several options—like which class to take or whether to attend college or trade school one day (and where), how do you know what is wise? No one wants to be foolish! You can ask a parent or trusted member of your church family to pray for you and seek their godly advice. But James 1:5 says if we lack wisdom, we should ask God, and He will give it to us generously. He delights in our questions. We can pray before God and ask for wisdom in prayer, no matter how big or small the situation is.

NEXT STEPS

Plan to read the whole book of Proverbs! Maybe ask a friend to join you. There are thirty-one chapters, so if you read just one chapter each day, it will only take you about a month. You will learn so much wisdom!

PRAYER POINT

CHRIST FOCUS

Jesus has perfect wisdom, greater than even Solomon's (see Matt. 7:24).

TALK ABOUT IT

Ask a trusted Christian adult about the most important thing for you to do to become wise.

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Solomon asked God for wisdom and knowledge to be a good king. God granted his request, and as a result there has never been anyone on Earth as wise as Solomon. Practical and godly wisdom that we can use in our lives today, no matter what our location, or circumstances are.

REFLECT Who was the smartest king, if you could ask him anything, what would you ask him?

Wisdom, or folly, as it's sometimes called, is when we choose to ignore wisdom and it doesn't turn out well for us. In the first chapter of Proverbs, we read that "nobody walks up one day and decides, 'I want to be a fool today!' But if you reject or disregard wisdom, then foolishness happens!"

Today's lesson text teaches about wisdom as if it were a lady in the middle of a market shouting a warning. She calls out to people, telling them to find wisdom. The people will not listen to her. However, some people do listen to her. Those people will be safe because they have chosen to listen to her and will look for wisdom.

Imagine that happening today. A good woman stands in the middle of a huge shopping mall. People are rushing around, shopping and living their busy lives. She holds a microphone in hand and proclaims the truth of God's Word: She warns the fools that their lives will be a disaster and that they will be overcome with trouble as a result of ignoring wisdom. Rejecting wisdom also means they reject God and His great love for them.

REFLECT What do you think people would do if they saw a woman doing that today?

Most likely, many would rush past and avoid eye contact with her. Some might stop and listen and even draw closer to her so that they can hear what she has to say. You will get a lot of advice from very many places today. Some of the things you will hear are folly (foolish) (see Prov. 9:23-28). There are many opinions and views that people will give you, yet you can always find the truth in God's Word. King Solomon wrote Proverbs with God's guidance so that even after thousands of years right choices.

Proverbs 1 is full of serious warnings to the foolish, but the very last verse is a beautiful promise. It offers comfort for those who choose to listen to the wisdom and have absolutely no need to fear, because they are in God's hands.

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UNIT 1:
The Way of the Fool



Lesson Text: Proverbs 1:20-33

“Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets”
(Proverbs 1:20).



BIG IDEA: Misfortune comes to those who ignore God’s wisdom.

PROV. 1:20 Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets:

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25 But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof:

26 I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh;

27 When your fear cometh as desolation,

and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you.

28 Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me:

29 For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD:

30 They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof.

31 Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.

32 For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them.

33 But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.

BIBLE LESSON

What is wisdom? There’s a difference between having knowledge and being wise. There’s a book in the Bible that talks a lot about wisdom—Proverbs. Most people have heard of proverbs. They are usually short sayings or catchy phrases based on truth, like what you might find in fortune cookies. Sometimes they give tips to live your best life, and sometimes they’re like riddles.

But Proverbs in the Old Testament is different. It is a guide for pursuing godly wisdom and truth in our daily lives.

Let’s take a quick look at who wrote the book of Proverbs long ago. Almost all of the book of Proverbs was written by a wise king named Solomon. You may have heard of him. He was the son of King David—as in, David and Goliath! After Solomon became king, God appeared to him and said He would give him anything he asked for. Wouldn’t that be great? Can you imagine?



If you could ask God for anything, what would you ask for?


Solomon asked God for wisdom and knowledge to be a good king. God granted his request, and as a result there has never been anyone on earth as wise as Solomon. Later, he made some poor decisions in his life, yet he did leave us with a lot of practical and godly wisdom that we can use in our lives today, no matter what our age, location, or circumstances are.

 If you could ask Solomon, the smartest king ever, anything, what would you ask him?

Foolishness, or folly, as it's sometimes called, is when we choose to ignore wisdom—and it doesn't turn out well for us. In the first chapter of Proverbs, we read that fools despise wisdom—they choose not to listen to what is true, right, and wise. Of course, nobody wakes up one day and decides, “I want to be a fool today!” But if we neglect or disregard wisdom, then foolishness happens!

Today's lesson text teaches about wisdom as if it were a lady in the middle of a market shouting a warning. She calls out to people, telling them to find wisdom. The foolish people will not listen to her. However, some people do listen to her. Those people will be safe because they have chosen to listen to her and will look for wisdom.

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 What do you think people would do if they saw a woman doing that today?

Most likely, many would rush past and avoid eye contact with her. Some might stop and listen and even draw closer to her so that they can hear what she has to say, seeking true wisdom. Which type of person would you be?

You will get a lot of advice from very many places today. Some of the things you will hear are pure folly or foolishness (see Prov. 9:23-28). There are many opinions and views that people will give you, yet you can always find the truth in God's Word. King Solomon wrote Proverbs with God's guidance so that even after thousands of years have passed, we could receive God's truth, follow His wisdom, and learn how to make the right choices.

Proverbs 1 is full of serious warnings to the foolish, but the very last verse is a beautiful promise. It offers comfort for those who choose to listen to the wisdom found in the Bible. Those who seek and find God's wisdom will live in safety and have absolutely no need to fear, because they are in God's hands.

WHAT IF? You want to make wise choices, but your friends think being foolish is fun. They want to go into an old, deserted house that's been roped off for destruction because they think it will be fun. You know it's dangerous and against the law to trespass on the property, but you don't want them to think you are a joy killer! As a Christ-follower, you will have to remind your friends that wise rules exist for a reason. What should you do when you are outnumbered by friends wanting to do the wrong thing?

HOW DO I KNOW WHETHER I AM MAKING A WISE CHOICE? Sometimes when you have to make a decision, the wise choice isn't always clear. You know it's foolish to steal a pair of sneakers rather than pay for them! That's easy. But when there are several options—like which classes to take or whether to attend college or trade school one day (and where), how do you know what is wise? No one wants to be foolish! James 1:5 says if we lack wisdom, we should ask God, and He will give it to us generously. He delights in our questions. We can go before God and ask for wisdom in prayer, no matter how big or small the situation.

NEXT STEPS Plan to read the whole the book of Proverbs! Maybe ask a friend to join you. There are thirty-one chapters, so if you read just one chapter each day, it will only take you about a month. You will learn so much wisdom!

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