

Principle

3



FIVE PRINCIPLE WORLDWIDE TRAINING MANUAL

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Principle: Knowledge and Understanding Culture

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### **Note to Trainer**

This section is designed to emphasize the importance of gaining knowledge and applying wisdom in the ministry context. Simply stated, knowledge is just that, knowing. Wisdom is the ability to take knowledge and apply it to life and ministry. This section is broken down into three parts. The first part is an overview of the importance of knowledge and wisdom. The second part emphasizes ways to gain or receive knowledge. The final part helps to appropriate knowledge and have it affect what we do (wisdom).

Dear Youth Leader,

One of the dreams of the Youth Ministry and Youth Network Teams for all of us in youth ministry is that we work together to help raise up a new generation of Christ-centered leaders around the world.

The 5 Principle Training system, developed in conjunction with the SHAPE initiative of the Church Of God, is intended to help train youth leaders around the world. It was developed with the belief that the five principles of vision, leadership, knowledge/culture, relational/connectivity, and spirituality apply across all cultural lines.

In January 2008, the principles were piloted with leaders in Africa; in 2009, the training materials were revised and updated, with the revised materials posted in January 2010.

The dream is that this system will be a tool that local, state/provincial, regional, and national leaders everywhere can use. Feel free to use all or portions of these lessons to teach and train your leaders.

The material can be used in a full-day or half-day training or as standalone training. If you see the symbol indicating a full day , each of the lessons will take 75–84 minutes. If you see the symbol indicating a half day , each of the five individual training sessions will take 50–59 minutes.

Committed to raising up a new generation of Christ-centered leaders,

The Youth Ministry and Youth Network Team

# Overview (Table of Contents)

- I. Obtaining Knowledge and Gaining Wisdom**
- II. Knowledge of Where You Minister: Knowing Your Culture**
- III: Wisdom: Ministering Effectively Within Your Culture**

**Key** (Follow according to the time you have allotted.)



**HD: Half Day (if you have 50–59 minutes)**



**FD: Full Day (if you have 75–84 minutes)**

## Obtaining Knowledge & Gaining Wisdom

### Knowledge & Knowing

“A central theme in Christian theology down the ages has been that the human attempts to discern fully the nature and purposes of God.” —J. I. Packer



3 min

3 min

### Introduction

We are people who like to be in the know. Some people equate knowledge with power. We want to *know*, so many of us ask questions, some more than others. Questions are all about knowledge. We can see this in the young, who are not afraid to ask questions—a lot of them. Some examples of questions children and youth ask:

#### *Children*

- Did Eve have a belly button?
- If God made mosquitoes, why do we kill them?
- How can God hear everyone’s prayers at once?
- Is God a boy or a girl?
- Why does God make the sky move?

#### *Youth*

- Will my mentally handicapped sister get into heaven?
- Is there one person that God has set aside for me to marry? If so, what do I do if I miss the opportunity to marry that one person? Or are there many people that would be compatible with me?
- How do I respect the wishes of my non-Christian parents and still follow God’s will?
- If God knows that I am hurting, why doesn’t he help me?
- Why do good people suffer?

Knowledge is the pursuit of knowing something that is unknown.

I have to spend time with you in order to get to know you. In order to *know* something, you have to spend time in that field. “Time with” is how we access knowledge.



### Questions

Ask your audience these questions:

4 min

- What does it mean to know?
- How does one gather information?
- How do we really know something or someone?
- What qualities distinguish one type of knowing from another?
- What role does knowledge play in spirituality, and how do they relate to each other?

You may want to get into groups of 3–5 and have them discuss these. After 3-5 minutes in groups, you could call on one or two different groups to tell you their answers to each question.



### Looking at Scripture

Let’s take a look at what scripture says about knowledge.

3 min

3 min

2 Peter 1:1-8 (NIV, emphasis added): “Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ have received a faith as precious as ours: grace and peace be yours in abundance through the *knowledge* of God and of Jesus our Lord. His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our *knowledge* of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, *knowledge*; and to *knowledge*, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your *knowledge* of our Lord Jesus Christ.”



6 min

6 min

### Reflection

Knowledge is *given* by God in order for us to *know* him. Knowledge is always given for the benefit of the whole, not just the benefit of the individual. The point of knowledge is to guide us into a relationship with God through Jesus Christ. As the 2 Peter passage shows, knowledge is also what guides us.

Knowledge, according to the dictionary, could be defined as “facts, information, and skills acquired by a person through education or experience.

To be acquainted with, familiar with, have an experience with. To be aware of the truth or factuality. To have a practical understanding of.”

Knowledge: Knowing what to do! What you know.

**Bible Knowledge Test**

See attached interactive activity in student handout section. The answer key is at the end of this lesson.

Give everyone a few minutes and then go over the correct answers and let everyone see how they did.



6 min

6 min

**Reflection on Wisdom**

Step One is Knowing...Knowing the Bible, Knowing the Culture

Step Two is Application...Applying what has been learned.

Wisdom can be defined as: When what you know affects what you do. Knowledge usually implies some degree of study and a literal value or perception of truth. Wisdom can be described as how to put knowledge into practice. The dictionary defines wisdom as “the quality of having experience, knowledge, and good judgment. The soundness of an action or decision with regard to the application of knowledge.” Doing what you know is right to do!

Job 28:12 (NIV) asks, “But where can wisdom be found? Where does understanding dwell?”

The book of Proverbs is easy to misuse, especially if we try to take verses out of context. To see the problem with doing this, compare Proverbs 26:4 and 26:5:( Do not answer a fool according to his folly, or you will be like him yourself. Answer a fool according to his folly, or he will be wise in his own eyes.) Proverbs, like all of the Word of God, is intended to challenge us, to shape us, to transform us. God didn’t give us the Bible to do our thinking for us but to teach us how to think. We interact with the Bible best when the wisdom of God’s Word fills us and influences every decision from the inside out. It is not always beneficial or appropriate to just pull out a nugget of wisdom and apply it to a situation or context without looking at the whole picture.

**Illustration** (Might not work in all contexts)

Automaker Henry Ford asked electrical genius Charlie Steinmetz to build the generators for his factory. One day the generators ground to a halt and the repairmen couldn’t find the problem. So Ford called Steinmetz, who tinkered with the machines for a few hours, and then threw the switch. The generators whirred to life—but Ford got a bill for \$10,000 from Steinmetz. Flabbergasted, the rather tightfisted carmaker inquired why the bill was so high. Steinmetz’s

reply: “For tinkering with the generators, \$10. For knowing where to tinker, \$9,990.” Ford paid the bill (*Today in the Word*, MBI, April 1990, p. 27).



3 min

### Divine Wisdom

The term *wisdom* is primarily used in the Old Testament in relation to human beings being grounded in a spiritual relationship with the Creator. Wisdom forms a central part of the nature of God as evidenced through the created order. Again, knowledge shows that one knows something; wisdom shows the application of that knowledge. Wisdom, in its most spiritual connotation, is a trait that is inherent in God, reflected in creation, and a part of our rational, reasoning ability.

Wisdom in creation is reflected in the form and order that emerged out of primeval chaos. The wisdom of God expressed in the creation of humanity means that human life may also be marked by form and order, and that meaning in life may be found in the created world, which contains marks of divine wisdom (Walter A. Elwell, in *Illumina*, Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House, 2005).

The wisdom of God is also seen in creation and is not the mere intellect of God. Our potential to be wise people is rooted in the creation of humanity. We have the ability to discern, choose, and make decisions as people created in a context of free will. As creatures of God, we have the innate ability, the God-given capacity, and the spiritual prowess for wisdom. It is impossible to understand human wisdom without first understanding its source. All truth is God’s truth. We have the ability to use everything in creation to worship God, to speak about God, and to lead young people and others to God.

Rob Bell, a speaker and pastor of Mars Hill Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan, has said, “We are not people who bring God to our youth; we point out the God who is already there.”

Wisdom is the ability to use knowledge gained through experience, education, Scripture, experience, tradition, and, using what we know, to decide and act upon such knowledge. Wisdom is more than an accumulation of facts and experience; it is the ability to change one’s course of action or act upon such facts and experiences. It is clear perception and action.



4 min

### For Further Study: Praying for Wisdom Through the Proverbs

Knowing how to pray for wisdom is most evidenced in Psalms and Proverbs. The attached sheet, *Wisdom in the Proverbs* (found in the student handout section), is a guide to all the proverbs concerning wisdom. Take time to pray through each of these proverbs. An exercise that you could do is have students take the sheet home and pray through the verses asking God for wisdom.



## Knowledge of Where You Minister: Knowing Your Culture



### TEACHING

#### Teaching: How We Gain Knowledge



4 min



4 min

As those who seek to affect the lives of others for Christ, we must be leaders who have knowledge. Yet we do not seek knowledge in the same way that Adam and Eve yearned for the fruit from the tree of knowledge (Genesis 2). Our desire is to be fully equipped with knowledge, not to be puffed up, but rather to be prepared to affect the lives of others. It is our prayer that “wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul” (Proverbs 2:10 NIV).

#### Two kinds of Knowledge

##### A. God’s Word

Meal time: No one wants to miss a meal. If we can, we enjoy regular meal times. In some cultures, that is breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Sometimes we are busy and snack when we can, but usually, we eat regular meals at regular times. Should our desire for God’s Word be any less? No. We must plan on regular times to feed on God’s Word, just like we plan on regular meals to eat. When we don’t get the physical food we need, we get hungry. And if we go without food for a long time, it affects how we feel and can cause great complications, even death.

Let us give equal time, just as much importance, to feeding the hunger of our soul for God’s Word as we do to feeding the hunger of our stomachs. Let us see digging into God’s Word and drinking in the knowledge of God as important as we do quenching our thirst for water. Yes, equal importance to feed and quench the thirst of our spirit and body! “As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul longs for you, O God” (Psalm 42:1 NIV). Does your soul thirst and hunger to know God and to know his Word? Do you give equal importance to feeding your spirit as you do your body? Let us make regular meals of God’s Word.

**Memorize:** The second important part of seeking the knowledge of God’s Word is memorization. Who has memorized a scripture?



**EXPERIENTIAL**.....

**Experiential**



2 min

Ask for volunteers to share a scripture they have memorized. Hopefully, you will have many people share favorite scriptures that they have memorized.)

Why do we memorize God’s Word? Because God is able to use these verses to speak to us and bring to mind a special word from him. The Holy Spirit prompts us at the right moment. When we have captured God’s Word in our mind, chances are it is also in our hearts. And when it is in our hearts, then it comes out through our actions. “The word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword...” (Hebrews 4:12 NIV).



3 min



3 min

**Object Lesson**

(Hold up a sword or machete. If you don’t have one, you can act like you do.)

Name a great swordsman that you have seen in a movie or read about in a book? (allow for different people to share the name of a person or movie: examples – Braveheart / Lord of the rings / star wars, etc.)

How do you think these swordsmen became so great? Were they simply born with this talent? No. A great swordsman will spend much time practicing and making the movements of swordplay as natural as breathing. This only comes with much use as the sword becomes like an extension of the arm. God’s Word, when we memorize it, becomes like an extension of our arm, and we can then wield this sword of the Spirit as a mighty offensive weapon.

Share about a time you were able to use a memorized scripture in spiritual battle. When did the Holy Spirit bring a memorized scripture to mind at just the right time? (example: My young child was scared and could not go to sleep. The Holy Spirit brought Philippians 4:6-7 to mind, and when I shared it with my child he was able to experience God’s peace, and he fell asleep.)

Ask for volunteers to share experiences when a memorized scripture had an impact on someone.



**EXPERIENTIAL**.....

**Experiential**



2 min



2 min

We also must seek deeper meaning in the scriptures. We cannot allow ourselves to skim over the words of Scripture, but we must actually dig into the Word of God. There are many tools at our disposal to help us as we seek to discover deeper meaning in the Scriptures.

Ask for volunteers to share different resources and tools they use in order to discover deeper meaning in God’s Word. Examples include concordances, study bibles, commentaries, conferences, computers (Internet sites: [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com)), Christian brothers and sisters (group discussion).



5 min

**Small Group Discussion**

If time allows, break into small groups and discuss a portion of Scripture (some possible passages: Luke 10:25–37; Luke 15:11–31; Matthew 18:21–35). See how the perspective and experience of others help each of us deepen the meaning of the passage in a different new way. While in groups, also share different resources/tools they can use to dig deeper into God’s Word.



2 min



2 min

**B. Our Culture / Object Lesson**

Have a bunch of grapes or a real fish or a boat or fish net on hand as you talk.

Relate Effectively: It’s not enough for us to just know Scripture. We must know our culture and be able to relate the truth of Scripture effectively to the people within our culture. Jesus is the perfect example of this. As he walked near a grape vineyard, he spoke about remaining in the vine. When he walked along the seashore, he spoke of fishing. He spoke with fisherman about nets and fish, and he spoke to farmers about vineyards and crops. Jesus was aware of his surroundings and made his message involve it. Rather than hiding away from a difficult culture, he sought it out. He did not allow himself to be intimidated, but instead he interacted with his culture. We must do the same.



5 min

**Small Group Discussion**

If time allows, break into small groups or simply throw these questions out to the whole group:

- In what ways is your culture intimidating to unchurched people?
- Is our church hiding from culture or impacting culture?
- What are some effective ways to interact with the culture?



8 min



8 min

**Small Group Discussion**

Break into small groups for discussion. Introduce this time by saying: Jesus was all about people. He enjoyed engaging people and never avoided the outcasts of his culture. Of the following list, who was Jesus most likely NOT to spend time socializing with?

- tax collectors
- prostitutes
- common laborers
- religious leaders

Questions for discussion:

- What percentage of your time is spent with church people?
- What percentage of your time is spent with those who don’t have a relationship with Jesus?

- Why do Christian people tend to socialize only with Christian people?
- If we only spend time with those who have a relationship with Jesus, how will we reach those who don't?
- If we never spend time with nonbelievers, how will we understand the culture that we are trying to reach?
- What are some creative ways you can invest time with young people, getting to know them and learning from them?



2 min



2 min

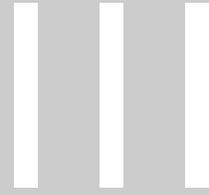
**Closing Thoughts:** Some would suggest if we are to impact our society today we must have a Bible in one hand and a newspaper in the other.

As we continue to be students of God's Word, we should also continue to be students of our culture so we can help relate God's message to those who don't know Jesus. This takes an intentional effort on our part. What are some ways we can continue to challenge ourselves to grow in our understanding of culture? (Note to teacher: Be ready to give one or two suggestions in each of the areas below).

- Reading books (What good books have you read lately?)
- Internet (What sites are you aware of that are helpful?)
- Newspaper (What do you learn from newspapers about culture?)
- Magazines (What are students in your youth ministry interested in?)
- Music (What artists are teenagers listening to?)

As pastors, youth pastors, and volunteer workers, what can we be doing to make sure we are aware of the culture our youth are growing up in? Some possible Web sites for understanding U.S./Canada culture include [www.cpyu.org](http://www.cpyu.org) (Center for Parent/Youth Understanding, with updates on youth culture), [www.pluggedinonline.com](http://www.pluggedinonline.com) (movie and music reviews), and [www.teenresearch.com](http://www.teenresearch.com).

So we gain knowledge of God's Word, and we make it relevant to our culture. To accomplish this takes wisdom.



## Wisdom: Ministering Effectively in Your Culture



### Intro

Imagine being the son of a carpenter. When you are old enough to swing a hammer, pour concrete, dig holes, lift walls, build roofs, and everything else it takes to finish building a house, you get that childish gleam in your eye because you know you get to use tools. You have watched your father build and think you know all that is required to build a house. You may have some knowledge of what you need to build a house, but you will still lack the wisdom (skill) to apply this knowledge to the actual construction of a house. You might know how to use a hammer, but you need to know how that tool will assist in the overall building of the house for it to be effective



### Scriptural Reflection

In the Bible, the Hebrew word most often used for wisdom is *hokmah*, which refers to skill. *Hokmah* is used to describe the skill of craftsmen, sailors, and other workers. These workers, having the knowledge of their trade, also have the skill or the wisdom (*hokmah*) to perform their trades.

Similarly, we can read the Bible everyday and we can even memorize passages in the Bible. We can know all about the Bible. We can memorize how many books are in each testament. We can memorize where each book is placed in the Bible. We can know where to find specific passages that can help people through different situations. But the question remains: Do we have the skill, the wisdom, to apply this knowledge to everyday life? Do we have the wisdom to put all the pieces together?

### Engaging Culture

In order to understand culture, one of the first things we must do is to study and see what it is that culture values.

1. What do you perceive the culture you serve in as valuing? Try not to just think of things that are antibiblical. Are there any things that are positive? Examples might include family, progress, development, money/material things, faith, reason, and academics.
2. What are the core values of the church or ministry you serve in?
3. Where are the similarities between the values of the culture and the ministry values you have?
4. What are the differences?
5. How can you engage culture through shared values (those, of course, that aren't against Scripture) to gain new ideas or wisdom about how to minister in your current context?

### **Some Key Truths About Ministering in Your Culture**

1. No matter where you live or what you do, it will not be easy. Ministry was not designed to be easy. Ministry was designed to change people's lives, which is never an easy task, but it is a good task.
2. People are always in process. Therefore, the processes we use will change as the people we work with change. We have to keep examining our methods to make sure they are effective.
3. Change takes time. People need time to change, the culture will change over time, and how we effectively minister to people will take time. There is an old saying that tells not to overestimate what one can accomplish in a year, nor to underestimate what one can accomplish in five years.
4. You are a part of the culture you minister in. Therefore, it is wise and prudent to study the culture you are in that you might effectively know it. This does not mean we embrace everything that is in our culture, but we study it in order to equip those who serve in it.
5. Get Personal. What is transcendent of all cultures is the God who created all cultures. There are things to celebrate, stories to share, and celebrations to partake in. Share in people's lives and the effectiveness of the ministry will be enhanced.

Look at these verses:

1 Corinthians 13:1–3 (NLT): “If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging

cymbal. If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God’s secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn’t love others, I would be nothing. If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn’t love others, I would have gained nothing.”

Spiritually speaking, a person who possesses *hokmah* in reference to God is one who is both knowledgeable and experienced in following God’s way. In the Bible’s wisdom literature, being wise means being skilled in godly living. Having God’s wisdom means having the ability to cope with life in a God-honoring way. The writer of 1 Corinthians was very wise and possessed wisdom. Humans can boast in many things, including their education, power, and knowledge, but without love they and all they have to say means nothing.

One of the main reason we are here today is to share and exchange knowledge with one another—to educate one another. However, if I cannot love my brother or sister, my neighbor, or my enemy, then everything I speak and share today is worthless. It cannot be used to apply *hokmah* in teaching others to follow the example of Christ.



10 min 10 min

### Discussion

Either divide the group into small groups based on ministries present or into small groups of diverse individuals. If there is time, this could be a whole group discussion as well.

1. Who are the people that live in your communities? What is a general picture of the average person in your context?
2. What burdens do these individuals have? What are their physical needs? What are their spiritual needs? What are their hopes, dreams, desires?
3. What is the ministry philosophy in your church or context?
4. Now, how are the first three questions connected? Is the ministry philosophy connected to the people with an intent on being with them in their burdens? Is it helping assist them in their needs? Does it help guide them into their hopes, dreams, and desires?
5. What are the resources God has given you to minister in your context?
6. How effective are you at ministering at the point of people’s physical and spiritual needs?
7. What is one area that you could focus on to bridge the gap between the ministry philosophy and the people within your community?

A fool is someone who knows and does nothing. May we be challenged to minister wisely because of the knowledge we have.



## TEACHING



6 min

### Teaching: Why Is the Study of Culture Important?

- It affects those in it.
- The dominant culture imposes its core values on those who live in it.
- Our churches and ministries have the power to transform it.

In Titus 1:12, Paul uses a cultural beliefs and language to speak the truth: “Even one of their own prophets has said, ‘Cretans are always liars, evil brutes, lazy gluttons’” (NIV).

Consider Acts 17:26–29 (niv): “From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us. ‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’ Therefore since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by man’s design and skill.”

- Paul is deeply aware of his culture. To quote their poets, he had to read or know of them.
- Paul, using the knowledge of the culture, uses his wisdom to apply truth to the gospel.
- Paul engaged people by communicating with them using common language and methods of the day.
- Paul spoke as a member of the culture he was in.

### Discussion

Either divide into small groups or ask the entire group:

- What knowledge do you have of culture in order to apply the truth of the gospel to it?
- What style of music, activities, books, newspapers, etc.
- What are the common languages and methods that have worked best for you?
- Do people see you as a member of the community they live in? How?



2 min 2 min

### Final Characteristics of a Wise Person

A wise person...

- Discerns successes and failures and learns from them.
- Seeks to be knowledgeable.
- Sincerely communicates in a cultural context.
- Seeks the counsel of many.
- Applies knowledge personally. Who they are is reflected in what they do, and what they do is the result of who they are.
- Practices spiritual disciplines.
- Is a lifelong learner.

Wisdom is a gift from God, through the knowledge of God that we have received. It is our task as ministers to gain knowledge and grow in wisdom so that we can effectively engage the culture we serve in.

## Reflection Time



2 min 2 min

Recap training.

Give two or three things that are have-to-remembers.

If you have time, ask your students if they have any questions.

### Prayer and Close

Take some time to pray that God would give wisdom to everyone who is present.

## Student Handout—Bible Knowledge Test

Circle the correct answer.

1. Which book tells the story of Samson?
  - a. Judges
  - b. Samson
  - c. 1 Samuel
  - d. Joshua
  
2. Which two books list the Ten Commandments?
  - a. Exodus and Deuteronomy
  - b. Deuteronomy and Leviticus
  - c. Exodus and Leviticus
  - d. Numbers and Deuteronomy
  
3. Which book is well known for its teaching about wisdom?
  - a. Psalm
  - b. Ecclesiastes
  - c. Proverbs
  - d. Song of Songs
  
4. Which prophet responded to God by saying, “Here am I, send me?”
  - a. Isaiah
  - b. Jeremiah
  - c. Amos
  - d. Samuel
  
5. Which book tells us what Jesus’ great assignment is to believers?
  - a. Matthew
  - b. Mark
  - c. Luke
  - d. John
  
6. Who was the wife of Ananias?
  - a. Rebecca
  - b. Sapphira
  - c. Tabitha
  - d. Priscilla
  
7. Who went with Paul on his first missionary Journey? (Circle all that apply)
  - a. Silas
  - b. Barnabas
  - c. John Mark
  - d. Luke
  
8. On what island was Paul shipwrecked as he made his way to Rome?
  - a. Malta
  - b. Crete
  - c. Patmos
  - d. Madagascar

9. What is the longest chapter in the Bible?
  - a. Psalm 151
  - b. Jeremiah 34
  - c. Ezekiel 2
  - d. Psalm 119
  
10. In which prophecy do we read about the valley of dry bones?
  - a. Daniel
  - b. Ezekiel
  - c. Isaiah
  - d. Jeremiah
  
11. Which New Testament book is the shortest?
  - a. 2 John
  - b. Philemon
  - c. Jude
  - d. 3 John
  
12. How were sins forgiven in the Old Testament?
  - a. Animal sacrifices
  - b. Financial gifts
  - c. Priestly prayers
  - d. Incense
  
13. What was Noah's profession?
  - a. Farmer
  - b. Carpenter
  - c. Shepherd
  - d. Marine biologist
  
14. How long did the flood last (not the rain, the flood)?
  - a. 40 days and nights
  - b. About 2 months
  - c. About 1 year
  - d. About 2 years
  
15. In Acts 2 which Old Testament prophet is quoted in reference to the Holy Spirit?
  - a. Joel
  - b. Amos
  - c. Obadiah
  - d. Hosea

### **Bible Quiz Answers**

1. Which book tells the story of Samson?  
**a. Judges**
2. Which two books list the Ten Commandments?  
**a. Exodus & Deuteronomy**
3. Which book is well known for its teaching about wisdom?  
**c. Proverbs**
4. Which prophet responded to God by saying, “Here am I, send me?”  
**a. Isaiah**
5. Which book tells us what Jesus’ great assignment is to believers?  
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12. How were sins forgiven in the Old Testament?  
**a. Animal sacrifices**
13. What was Noah’s profession?  
**Trick Question. The Bible never tells us what his profession was. Maybe an architect!?**
14. How long did the flood last?  
**c. About 1 year**
15. In Acts 2, which Old Testament prophet is quoted in reference to the Holy Spirit?  
**a. Joel**

## Student Handout—Praying through the Proverbs

Wisdom in Proverbs. Take time to pray through each of these proverbs.

### **Proverbs 1:2**

...for attaining *wisdom* and discipline; for understanding words of insight...

### **Proverbs 1:7**

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise *wisdom* and discipline.

### **Proverbs 1:20**

*Wisdom* calls aloud in the street, she raises her voice in the public squares.

### **Proverbs 2:2**

...turning your ear to *wisdom* and applying your heart to understanding...

### **Proverbs 2:6**

For the Lord gives *wisdom*, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

### **Proverbs 2:10**

For *wisdom* will enter your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul.

### **Proverbs 2:12**

*Wisdom* will save you from the ways of wicked men, from men whose words are perverse.

### **Proverbs 3:13**

Blessed is the man who finds *wisdom*, the man who gains understanding.

### **Proverbs 3:19**

By *wisdom* the LORD laid the earth's foundations, by understanding he set the heavens in place.

### **Proverbs 4:5**

Get *wisdom*, get understanding; do not forget my words or swerve from them.

### **Proverbs 4:6**

Do not forsake *wisdom*, and she will protect you; love her, and she will watch over you.

### **Proverbs 4:7**

*Wisdom* is supreme; therefore get *wisdom*. Though it cost all you have, get understanding.

### **Proverbs 4:11**

I guide you in the way of *wisdom* and lead you along straight paths.

**Proverbs 5:1**

My son, pay attention to my *wisdom*, listen well to my words of insight,

**Proverbs 7:4**

Say to *wisdom*, “You are my sister,” and call understanding your kinsman;

**Proverbs 8:1**

Does not *wisdom* call out? Does not understanding raise her voice?

**Proverbs 8:11**

For *wisdom* is more precious than rubies, and nothing you desire can compare with her.

**Proverbs 8:12**

I, *wisdom*, dwell together with prudence; I possess knowledge and discretion.

**Proverbs 9:1**

*Wisdom* has built her house; she has hewn out its seven pillars.

**Proverbs 9:10**

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of *wisdom*, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

**Proverbs 9:12**

If you are wise, your *wisdom* will reward you; if you are a mocker, you alone will suffer.”

**Proverbs 10:13**

*Wisdom* is found on the lips of the discerning, but a rod is for the back of him who lacks judgment.

**Proverbs 10:23**

A fool finds pleasure in evil conduct, but a man of understanding delights in *wisdom*.

**Proverbs 10:31**

The mouth of the righteous brings forth *wisdom*, but a perverse tongue will be cut out.

**Proverbs 11:2**

When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes *wisdom*.

**Proverbs 12:8**

A man is praised according to his *wisdom*, but men with warped minds are despised.

**Proverbs 13:10**

Pride only breeds quarrels, but *wisdom* is found in those who take advice.

**Proverbs 14:6**

The mocker seeks *wisdom* and finds none, but knowledge comes easily to the discerning.

**Proverbs 14:8**

The *wisdom* of the prudent is to give thought to their ways, but the folly of fools is deception.

**Proverbs 14:33**

*Wisdom* reposes in the heart of the discerning and even among fools she lets herself be known.

**Proverbs 15:33**

The fear of the LORD teaches a man *wisdom*, and humility comes before honor.

**Proverbs 16:16**

How much better to get *wisdom* than gold, to choose understanding rather than silver!

**Proverbs 17:16**

Of what use is money in the hand of a fool, since he has no desire to get *wisdom*?

**Proverbs 17:24**

A discerning man keeps *wisdom* in view, but a fool's eyes wander to the ends of the earth.

**Proverbs 18:4**

The words of a man's mouth are deep waters, but the fountain of *wisdom* is a bubbling brook.

**Proverbs 19:8**

He who gets *wisdom* loves his own soul; he who cherishes understanding prospers.

**Proverbs 19:11**

A man's *wisdom* gives him patience; it is to his glory to overlook an offense.

**Proverbs 21:11**

When a mocker is punished, the simple gain *wisdom*; when a wise man is instructed, he gets knowledge.

**Proverbs 21:30**

There is no *wisdom*, no insight, no plan that can succeed against the LORD.

**Proverbs 23:4**

Do not wear yourself out to get rich; have the *wisdom* to show restraint.

**Proverbs 23:9**

Do not speak to a fool, for he will scorn the *wisdom* of your words.

**Proverbs 23:23**

Buy the truth and do not sell it; get *wisdom*, discipline and understanding.

**Proverbs 24:3**

By *wisdom* a house is built, and through understanding it is established.

**Proverbs 24:7**

*Wisdom* is too high for a fool; in the assembly at the gate he has nothing to say.

**Proverbs 24:14**

Know also that *wisdom* is sweet to your soul; if you find it, there is a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off.

**Proverbs 28:26**

He who trusts in himself is a fool, but he who walks in *wisdom* is kept safe.

**Proverbs 29:3**

A man who loves *wisdom* brings joy to his father, but a companion of prostitutes squanders his wealth.

**Proverbs 29:15**

The rod of correction imparts *wisdom*, but a child left to himself disgraces his mother.

**Proverbs 30:3**

I have not learned *wisdom*, nor have I knowledge of the Holy One.

**Proverbs 31:26**

She speaks with *wisdom*, and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

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