

CALVARY CHAPEL OF PHILADELPHIA

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

3RD-5TH GRADE

TEACHER'S PACKET

SUNDAY MORNING

Study 1

Wise Counsel



Wise Counsel

The Objective is the key concept for this week's lesson. It should be the main focus of the study.

These are the key verses that you will find helpful in teaching your study this week. The "Main passage" is the basis of the study, where the other verses support the objective of the lesson.

There is a memory verse for the students that relates to every study. If a student can memorize the verse for the following week you may give them a prize from the "reward box" found on your cart.

An introductory activity or question that will settle the class, draw their attention to the study and prepare their hearts for God's Word.

Objective This study will look at why asking for advice is good, and where we should turn to look for advice.

Key Verses

The key verses for this week are found in the study itself.

Memory Verse - Proverbs 11:14

"Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in the abundance of counselors safety is found."

Hook

Write the words, "Dentist, Soccer Coach, Fireman" on the board.

Ask the students to choose which of those three people they would speak to if:

They wanted to learn how to play soccer.

They had a toothache.

There was a fire in their living room.

Why would they speak to that person and not the other people?

This week, we'll be looking at the importance of seeking wise counsel. This will set the stage for our verse-by-verse study through the Proverbs. We'll go over several verses dealing with why we should ask for advice and who we should turn to for help. The layout of this week's packet is a little different, as the "Book" and "Look" sections are really being dealt with at the same time.

Asking for Advice

One of the clear themes of Scripture is that people make mistakes. With the exception of one or two people (who still sinned and had their own problems, Scripture just doesn't record them), everyone in the Bible falls, fails, and flops. At some point everyone in the Bible makes a mistake. This is why it is so important that when we make decisions we should seek godly counsel and advice.

The world tells you that you should follow your heart, but in fact the Scriptures tell us that this is the worst thing we can do. Our heart is not to be trusted. In the three verses listed here, we see that our own desires and our own thoughts betray us, that when we try to do things on our own, we get into trouble, but when we seek wisdom and good counsel, we find safety.

Ask for help

- Proverbs 28:26 – Whoever trusts his own mind is a fool, but he who walks in wisdom will be delivered.
- Jeremiah 17:9 – The heart is wicked and deceitful above all things.
- Proverbs 11:14 – Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in the abundance of counselors safety is found.

2 Kinds of advice

2 Kinds of Advice

- Proverbs 25:19 - Trusting in a treacherous man in time of trouble is like a bad tooth or a foot that slips.
- Proverbs 27:9 - Oil and perfume make the heart glad, So a man's counsel is sweet to his friend.

The Scriptures also tell us that there are two kinds of advice: good, helpful advice that blesses us, and bad, harmful advice that leads us astray.

So the question we have to ask is: Where should we turn for good advice? Who should we ask for good, wise, Godly counsel?

The Wisdom of Experience

Where do we find good counsel?

Old People!

Job 12:12 - Is not wisdom found among the aged? Does not long life bring understanding?

doesn't make sense to ask someone about German Shepherds if they have only ever owned cats! This is also true if you are having trouble at school, or having issues with a friend. Asking people who are older than you, who have experience in life, is a great place to start to seek wise counsel.

In 1 Kings 12, King Rehoboam ignored the advice of his wise older counselors and listened to his friends. His friends didn't have experience in running a nation or dealing with people, but the older counselors did. Because Rehoboam didn't listen to advice from experienced men and instead listened to bad advice from his friends, there were disastrous consequences that affected the whole nation. There was a split in the country, a war, and people lost their lives. It was terrible. It all could have been avoided if he had listened to good counsel instead of bad.

Of course, we don't just listen to anyone who is older than us. God has placed certain people in our lives to shepherd and to guide us. The primary example of this is our parents. Scripture tells us to listen to our parents because our parents love us and want us to be safe and healthy. Parents will not give you deliberately bad advice, and neither will a number of other important older people that God has put in your life. You might turn to a grandparent or an aunt or uncle. You might ask your pastor or teacher for advice on certain issues. Think about the wise people that God has put in your life and lean on their experience when you need help.

Where do we find good counsel?

The Bible

Psalms 119:105 – Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

2 Timothy 3:16 - All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness

One of the best places to seek advice is to ask people who have experience with whatever situation you are dealing with. If you are thinking about buying a German Shepherd dog for your family, it makes sense to ask someone who has owned a German Shepherd about how that dog will behave. It

Where do we find good counsel?

Your Parents!

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land."

The Scriptures

All advice, even the advice given to us from our parents and grandparents, should be filtered through the Word of God. If any advice or information we are given goes against the Scriptures, then we know that it is bad advice. We see in these verses that God has given us His Word to lead us and to guide us. God cannot lie and He has blessed us with His Word to help us to live.

Seek the Lord

The LORD through prayer

James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

Lastly, we are told that we can go directly to the Source itself. James (among many other places) tells us that we have access to the Source of all knowledge and wisdom, God Himself.

We see that God gives wisdom generously to all who ask. He doesn't find fault or condemn us because we don't already know the answer or the right way to do something. God knows our weaknesses and promises to help us in those things.

It's important to seek advice and good counsel. Our heart and our emotions are deceitful. We find good counsel in our parents and experienced older people whom God has placed in our lives. We find the best counsel in Scripture itself. Lastly, we can approach God and go to him directly whenever we are in need.

TOOK

As a class, memorize Proverbs 11:14.

Have the students share about the people in their lives that they trust to give good advice.

Give them an opportunity to share a time when someone gave them good advice that helped them in a certain situation.

Pray: Thank the Lord for putting people around us who love us and want to help us in our walk with Him. Praise Him for His word that lights up our path and ask Him to give us wisdom and understanding for the things we are dealing with right now.

Parent Question: Where can we find good advice and godly counsel?