

Wisdomland - God can help you make the wise choice

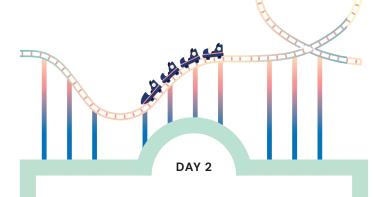
DAY 1

Read 1 Samuel 16:7

""But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider how handsome or tall he is. I have not chosen him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outside of a person. But the Lord looks at what is in the heart." (NIrV).

In our Bible story, Samuel was looking for a new king, and he saw Jesse's sons who looked strong and king-like. But God told Samuel not to look at the outside. God cares about what's inside a person's heart. God helped Samuel make the wise choice, even when it wasn't the most obvious one!

And guess what? The one God chose was David, just a shepherd boy at the time! But God saw something amazing in his heart. You don't have to be the tallest, loudest, or fastest to be chosen by God. What matters most is having a heart that loves Him.



Read 1 Samuel 16:12-13

"After Samuel met all of Jesse's older, strong sons, God told him to wait. "Are these all your sons?" Samuel asked. Jesse said, "Well, there's the youngest, David, out taking care of the sheep." And guess what? God chose David! Even though David was just a shepherd boy and the youngest, God saw his heart. When Samuel poured oil on David's head, it was a special sign that God had chosen him, and God's Spirit came upon David. God chose David to be the next king because David had a heart for God. God can help you make wise choices, just like He helped Samuel and David!" (NIrV).

HEART CHECK

On a piece of paper, draw a big heart. Inside the heart, write or draw one wise choice you could make today (sharing your toys, being kind to a sibling, listening to a grown-up). Outside the heart, draw something that might make it hard to make that choice (a grumpy face, a toy or game you want to keep all to yourself). Remember, God sees your heart and can help you choose wisely!

Read Proverbs 16:16

"It is much better to get wisdom than gold. And it is better to choose understanding than silver." (NIrV).

Imagine you're in a maze at Wisdomland, and you come to a point where there are two different choices on how to move forward. One is super shiny and looks like it leads to a pile of gold. The other track looks simple, but a sign says "Wisdom." The flashy one looks tempting. The simple one may seem too basic, even boring.

But our Bible verse tells us that choosing wisdom is much better than choosing gold or silver! Why? Because wisdom helps us make good choices, even when things are tricky. Wisdom helps us think before we act. It helps us know what God wants us to do. David, even as a young shepherd, chose wisdom when he trusted God to help him fight Goliath.

Pray today, asking God for wisdom! "Dear God, please give me wisdom to make wise choices today. Help me to listen to You and follow Your path. I love You, Amen."

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Read 2 Timothy 2:7

"God gave us his Spirit. And the Spirit doesn't make us weak and fearful. Instead, the Spirit gives us power and love. He helps us control ourselves" (NIrV).

After God chose David to be king, David went back to being a shepherd. But soon, he faced a giant problem: Goliath! Everyone else was scared, but David remembered how God had helped him before when he fought a lion and a bear. He knew God would help him again. David chose to trust God and fight Goliath in a surprising way, with a sling and a stone. God helped David in this very big moment! God's Spirit can help you make wise choices, too, no matter how big or small the challenge.

WISDOMLAND MAP

Get a piece of paper and some crayons or markers. Draw a simple "map" of your home or a place you spend a lot of time, like school or a playground. Think of two or three places on your map where you might need to make a wise choice this week, it could be your bedroom (when choosing to clean up), the living room (when sharing the TV), or the playground (when playing with friends).

For each place, draw a small picture of the wise choice you could make. Talk about your Wisdomland map with a grown-up and ask for advice on making wise choices. week. Before you try it, pray and ask God for courage! God can help you, just like He helped Moses.

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DAY 1

Read Psalm 23:1-2

"The LORD is my shepherd. He gives me everything I need. He lets me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside quiet waters." (NIrV).

David, who would become a great king, started as a shepherd. He spent a lot of time out in nature, watching over his sheep. He knew that good shepherds always led their sheep to green grass and calm water. They protected their sheep and made sure they had everything they needed. David learned that God is like the best shepherd ever! God knows exactly what we need and where to lead us. When we follow God, we're like sheep following a wise shepherd to the best, greenest pastures. That's a super smart choice!

Draw a picture of a peaceful place, like a green pasture or a quiet stream. Then write out Psalm 23:1–2 on it, hang it up somewhere you can see! DAY 2

Read Psalm 8:1

"LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in the whole earth! You have set your glory in the heavens." (NIrV).

Have you ever seen someone famous in real life? Maybe a performer, or a sports star? David became super famous after he defeated the giant Goliath! King Saul was so impressed that he invited David to play music and even lead his army. Imagine going from a quiet shepherd to being in the spotlight!

Even with all that attention, David remembered who was really in charge, God! He wrote songs, called psalms, that reminded everyone how amazing God is. He knew that its is way better to honor God than just be powerful or famous. When we focus on how majestic and wonderful God is, it helps us make wise choices, no matter if we're feeling small or if everyone is watching us.

Circle the words above in Psalm 8:1 that show how amazing God is!



A Devotional About Wisdom

There's More!

Read Psalm 18:2

"The LORD is my rock and my place of safety. He is the God who saves me. My God is my rock. I go to him for safety. He is like a shield to me. He's the power that saves me. He's my place of safety."(NIrV)

Think about a super thrilling roller coaster! Sometimes, you go through dark tunnels or twisty turns, and it can feel a little scary. You might not know what's coming next. David faced times like that too! Even after becoming a hero, King Saul got jealous and tried to hurt him. David had to live on the run, hiding in the wilderness. It was a scary and dark time.

But David didn't give up on God. He trusted God to protect him, like a strong fortress or a safe rock. When you're going through a tough or dark time, remember that God is always with you. He's your rock, your shield, your safe place. Choosing to trust God, even when things are hard, is a super wise choice!

Grab a paper plate and draw a picture of a "rock" or a "fortress" on it. Under that write "God is my safe place!" Hang it up to remind you that God is always there.

If you want to be wise, focus on God.

Read Psalm 1:1-3

"Blessed is the person who obeys the law of the Lord. They don't follow the advice of evil people. They don't make a habit of doing what sinners do. They don't join those who make fun of the Lord and his law. Instead, the law of the Lord gives them joy. They think about his law day and night. That kind of person is like a tree that is planted near a stream of water. It always bears its fruit at the right time. Its leaves don't dry up. Everything godly people do turns out well." (NIrV)

Imagine a strong, tall tree with deep roots that keep it standing firm, no matter the weather! That's what Psalm 1 says about people who follow God's ways—they're like trees planted by streams, always fresh and strong. How can we be like those trees?

Spend time with wise people: You become like the friends you hang out with. Being around those who love God helps you grow in wisdom.

Focus on God's Word: The Bible is like water for the tree's roots. When we read it, listen to it, and think about it, we grow stronger and learn how to follow God.

Pray today asking God to help you grow in wisdom! "Dear God, Thank You for giving us Your Word, the Bible, to help us grow in wisdom. Help us to spend time with people who love You and to focus on Your Word every day. Please show us how to make wise choices that honor You. I love You, Amen."

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DAY 1

Read 1 Kings 3:5

"The LORD appeared to Solomon at Gibeon. He spoke to him in a dream during the night. God said, 'Ask for anything you want me to give you." (NIrV).

Imagine you're at the most amazing theme park, "Wisdomland," and the park owner walks up and asks you, "If you could have anything, what would you want?" What would be your first thought? A lifetime supply of your favorite candy? A private ride on the tallest roller coaster whenever you want?!

King Solomon, a young king from the Bible, had the opportunity to ask for anything. God appeared to him in a dream and asked what he wanted. Solomon could have chosen tons of money, super strength to win all his battles, or even fame to be the most popular king ever. But Solomon made an incredibly smart and humble choice. He knew he was young and needed God's help to lead his people well. So, he asked God for wisdom, the ability to make good, smart choices, and understand what's truly right. God was so pleased with Solomon's choice because it showed he depended on God.

Do you want wisdom, too? Have you asked God to give you wisdom?

DAY 2

Read Proverbs 3:5

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding." (NIrV).

God wasn't just pleased with Solomon's request; He blessed Solomon with incredible wisdom, even more than he asked for! Solomon used this wisdom to rule his kingdom fairly and solve tough problems. He even wrote down many wise sayings, which we can still read today in the book of Proverbs! These proverbs are like guideposts for living wisely, teaching us about everything from being a good friend to using kind words, and even how to handle our anger. Proverbs 3:5 reminds us of a core truth: Don't rely only on your own understanding or what seems best to you at first. Instead, trust in the Lord with all your heart. He knows what's best, even when we don't, and His wisdom is perfect.

FILL IN THE BLANKS TO COMPLETE THE WISE CHOICE:

- If a friend is sad, I can ______ (comfort/ignore) them.
- If I feel angry, I can take a deep breath and _____ (yell/talk).
- When I don't know what to do, I can _____ (ask God/guess).



A Devotional About Wisdom

There's More!

DAY 3

DAY 4

Read James 1:5

"If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone and doesn't find fault." (NIrV).

You might not be a king like Solomon, but you still make important choices every single day! Should you share your favorite toy with a sibling? How should you respond when a classmate says something unkind? Should you get started on your homework right away or play video games? These are all opportunities to ask God for wisdom. The Bible promises that if you need wisdom and you ask God for it, He will give it to you generously, without making you feel bad for asking! God wants to help you make smart choices that honor Him and bless others. He might give you a new idea, a strong sense of peace about a decision, or even speak to you through the wise advice of an adult or friend who follows Him.

Before you begin something this week, maybe a school assignment, a game with friends, or even deciding what to wear, pause for a moment. Close your eyes and quietly say: "God, please give me wisdom to do my best on this, or to make a good choice." Then, listen for His guidance.

Read Proverbs 2:6

"The LORD gives wisdom. Knowledge and understanding come from his mouth." (NIrV).

This verse tells us something super special: God gives wisdom! Wisdom is like having a secret superpower to make good choices. Think about it: toys are fun, and treats are yummy. But wisdom helps you know what's right, how to be kind, and how to pick the best path. It's even better than any toy!

When you choose to ask God for wisdom, you get a treasure that helps you every day. God sent Jesus to show us the best way to live wisely—to love God and love everyone around us. Living wisely helps you have a happy life, guiding you through all your adventures!

Pray today, thanking God for wisdom! "Dear God, thank You for being so wise. Thank You that you give wisdom! Please help me make wise choices today and every day. I love You, Amen."

You can ask God for wisdom.





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DAY 1

Read Proverbs 3:6

"In all your ways obey him. Then he will make your paths smooth and straight."(NIrV).

Imagine being a king or queen! You'd get to make lots of choices for your kingdom. In the Bible, there were many kings, and they all had to make choices. Some made wise choices, like King Josiah, who was only eight years old! Even though he was young, he chose to follow God and repair the temple. His wise choices brought his whole nation closer to God.

Other kings made unwise choices, like King Rehoboam. He listened to his young friends instead of wise advisors, and his bad choice split the kingdom in two!

You might not be a king, but your choices matter too! What you say and do can shape your life and even the lives of people around you.

WISE CHOICE CHARADES

Think of a wise choice you could make today. It could be sharing a toy, helping with chores, or saying kind words. Act it out for a family member to guess.

Read Proverbs 1:5

"Let wise people listen and add to what they have learned. Let those who understand what is right get guidance." (NIrV).

Think about a roller coaster. When you choose to ride it, you have to decide to sit down, pull the bar, and trust the ride! Making wise choices is a bit like that. You have to decide to listen to good advice and trust God's plan.

Some kings in the Bible, like King Ahab, made really bad choices. He chose to worship a false god and even stole a vineyard from a man named Naboth! His choices took him on a long, "downhill" ride. King Ahab didn't listen to God's wisdom, and it led to trouble.

Get a paper out and draw a roller coaster. At the top of the biggest hill, write "Wise Choice." At the bottom of a dip, write "Foolish Choice." Now, draw arrows going up from the dip to the top, showing how a wise choice can help you climb back up!

A Devotional About Wisdom There's More! -

Read Psalm 32:8

"I will guide you and teach you the way you should go. I will give you good advice and watch over you with love." (NIrV).

God wants to help you make wise choices! He gives a lot of wisdom if you just ask Him. Sometimes, making a wise choice isn't easy, and it means pausing before you act. It's like waiting in line for your favorite ride, sometimes you have to be patient to get to the good part!

When you're not sure what to do or you feel tempted to make a foolish choice, God is always ready to guide you. He promises to teach you and show you the way. Whether it's choosing kind words, doing your homework, or being helpful, you can always ask God for His advice. He wants to help you know what's best.

"PAUSE AND PRAY"

Whenever you feel unsure about a choice or tempted to make a foolish one, pause for a moment. Say a quick prayer asking God for wisdom. Then, afterwards, pray to God, thanking Him that He gives wisdom!

Be wise because your choices matter.



Read Proverbs 4:7

"To start being wise you must first get wisdom. No matter what it costs, get understanding." (NIrV).

Being wise is super important, just like Proverbs 4:7 says! It's even more important than finding gold or silver. Wisdom helps you understand what is right and good, and how to make choices that honor God and help others. It's about knowing the best way to live and how to act in different situations.

When you choose to be wise, it makes your own life better. But your wise choices also spread out like ripples in a pond! They can make a big difference for the people around you, too. When you choose wisely, you show others a good example and help create a better path for yourself and for everyone else.

DRAW BELOW A WISE CHOICE YOU CAN MAKE THAT CAN HELP SOMEONE ELSE:

