

Lesson 8: The Wise Man

Objectives: Students will...

- 1) Learn the story Jesus told about the wise man who built his house on the rocks instead of sand
- 2) Learn what that story means by doing a demonstration with rocks and sand and a color page
- 3) As part of learning about wisdom students will become wiser by learning the books of the Old Testament including activities and singing songs.

Accommodations: How will I accommodate individual needs of students? See Lesson 1 for ideas

Supplies:

Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)

- Bible(s)
- Markers/Pencil Crayons
- Pens/Pencils
- Attendance Chart (See Template)
- Stickers for Attendance
- 2 paper cups
- 1 medium size flat rock
- 1 small bowl
- 1 cup or two of moist sand
- Pitcher of water
- 1 medium to large casserole dish or plastic tub
- Wise Man Color page – one per student
- Books of History Bookmark and Checklist – one per student four on a page – print on cardstock
- Writing out Books of the Bible Activity Sheet – one per student
- Words of Wisdom Drawing Sheet – one per student
- Old Testament Books Display Sheet – one for student to see – from previous lesson

Optional:

- Treats to hand out to everyone for trying to recite the Old Testament Books
- Books of the Bible Circle Game
- Chalk or Masking Tape – to make big circles
- Snack: Chocolate Chip Cookies one per child
- Napkins for snack one per child
- Juice or water and cup one per child
- Easel or Chalkboard for everyone to see and a marker or chalk

Lesson:

1) Introduction to Lesson

5-10 minutes

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming.

Take attendance (using attendance chart supplied).

Say: God says there is a way to be wise and we are going to study the Bible to discover how we can be wise and why it is important. Today we will learn a story Jesus told about a wise man and foolish man who built homes. We will see the results of both men and see what we can learn from Jesus' story to help us be wiser!

First, let's all turn to 2 Timothy 3:14-17 in the New Testament. Raise your hand if you need

a Bible. Ask someone to read these verses aloud or ask the children to go around the room each reading a verse from 14 to 17. Then ask the following questions.

Discussion Questions:

In verse 15, what are the Holy Scriptures able to do? Make you wise for salvation through faith.

What does "all Scripture" mean? Every part of the Bible. All of it.

What does all Scripture is "God-breathed" mean? Because God Himself inspired the writers of the Bible, everything in it is exactly what God wants us to have. We can trust in it as coming from God.

All of Scripture is useful for what? Teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training.

Will knowing the Word of God help you do good works? Why? Allow for answers.

2) Be a Wise Builder Learning Activity

10 minutes

This activity will show why Jesus said it is wise to build our foundation on solid ground - His Word!

Before class, take slightly moistened sand and fill a small bowl. Draw windows and a door on two paper cups.



Read the event of Jesus Parable the Wise and Foolish Builders from Matthew and Luke

Matthew 7:24-29

The Wise and Foolish Builders

²⁴ "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

²⁸ When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, ²⁹ because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law.

Luke 6:46-49

⁴⁶ "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? ⁴⁷ As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like. ⁴⁸ They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. ⁴⁹ But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete."

Ask the children to gather around you and then do the following while reading the script below: During class, you will put the empty casserole dish or plastic tub on the table so that all the children can see it. Then you will take the small bowl with the sand in it and tip it upside down inside the casserole dish to make something like a small sandcastle. Do not worry if a little crumbles. Place the medium size rock at the other end of the casserole dish. Then place a paper cup house on both the sand and the rock. You will then pour water over both the bottom part of the rock and the sand to show how a house built on a solid foundation can withstand the heavy storms. *Make sure you pour the water by the sand to help it "destabilize" quicker.

Say to the children, **"Do you believe that anyone could be so foolish that he or she would build a house on top of sand?"** (Take one of the paper cups and place it on top of the sand.)

Wiser people will build their house on a good foundation. (Take the second cup and place it on top of the rock.)

Which house do you think will last, and which one do you think will wash away? You know the Bible tells us in Matthew 7:24-27, "Anyone who hears the words of God and puts them into practice is like the wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock." (Take the pitcher of water and pour a little water on the rock – not the cup.)

Jesus then said, "But anyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash." (Take the pitcher of water and pour a little water on the sand and the house will fall.)

Ask the following questions:

Why is it important to put God's Word into practice? Because that is a strong foundation to becoming wiser.

How do we put God's Word into practice? Do what the Bible says: examples go to church, read our Bibles, pray, etc.

Can anyone give any examples on how some people may be building their lives on a foundation of sand? Examples might include people who don't go to church or do bad things like steal.

What are some ways we can build our lives on the rock? Do the things the Bible states.

Who did Jesus say was wise? Those who follow Jesus and puts His Words into practice

Who did Jesus say was foolish? Those who did listen or follow Jesus because they would have no foundation to help them in times of trouble.

So let's remember to build our life wisely on the foundation of God's word!

3) Writing out the Books of the Bible and Practice

10 minutes

Hand out the Writing Page of the books of the Old Testament Bible on it, and read through the first five descriptions and at the end of each description ask a child to raise their hand and say what book it is (they are in order) Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. Help the children by having them open their Bibles to the front where the table of contents is which includes the name of each Old Testament Book. Have them write these first five books out one a time as you go through.

*You can also display the books of the Old Testament Display Sheet so kids can refer to that as well.

Next is the History, Poetry, Major and Minor Prophets section. Again, using their Bibles, have the children write out each book in order. At the end sing the books of the Old Testament with them and then have them go through each answer and check to make sure it is correct and spelled correctly. Praise them for their hard work!

(The books of the Bible can be learned using many tunes; one tune is to use the A-B-C song. A-B-C-D-E-F-G – but instead of singing the alphabet you sing Genesis-Exodus-Leviticus –Numbers

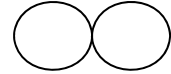
H-I goes with Deuteronomy. *See song below.

For other tunes, you can also use One little, Two little, Three little ladybugs instead. Or, if you have another tune in mind and it works go for it! The idea is to help the children learn the books of the Bible.)

Tell the children, **make sure you practice this week. Look at the Table of Contents in your Bible and practice singing the song so you can be prepared for next time if you needed any more practice.**

4) Optional - Books of the Bible Physical Game for Kids 10-15 minutes

Tell the kids that they are going to practice learning the Books of the Old Testament. Find a large area to play and either using chalk – if drawing on a sidewalk outside, or using Masking Tape if using a place inside a classroom or hallway - make two large circles beside each other.



- Make the circles large enough for all the kids to stand within.
- Label one box “P” for Books of Poetry and the other “M” for Books of Major Prophets.
- Explain to the kids they should stand in the area that matches the name of the Bible books you are about to say – randomly pick words from the list below – making sure you can say which circle they should be in to see who “wins”. If you prefer not to make it competitive you can just let the children re-join if they get it wrong and move to the right circle and then continue playing
- For books not in the Old Testament they should stand outside both boxes

Books of Poetry

Job
Psalms
Proverbs
Ecclesiastes
Song of Songs

Books of Major Prophets

Isaiah
Jeremiah
Lamentations
Ezekiel
Daniel

Books of the New Testament (this is when they should stand out of both circles)

Matthew Mark Luke John Acts Romans 1 and 2 Corinthians Galatians

Ephesians Philippians Colossians 1 and 2 Thessalonians 1 and 2 Timothy

Titus Philemon Hebrews James 1 and 2 Peter 1, 2,3 John Jude Revelation

5) Bookmark Check List - History to Major Prophets 10 minutes

Have one bookmark to hand out to each child, but don't hand out bookmarks or pencil crayons just yet. Tell the children, **“to help us see how much we have remembered of the first 22 books of the Bible I will ask each one of you to recite the first 22 books – you can say them or sing them. When you are finished I will hand you a bookmark and you can check off all the books you got correct from the Books of History, Poetry, and Major Prophets! You can then write your name on the bookmark and color it while we go through the whole class. IF you haven't memorized all the books that is ok, this bookmark will help you remember to practice this week and give you a chance to put a checkmark on the books once you do remember them! Let's get started, can I get a volunteer?”** Go through class, if someone is shy, have them wait and then quietly say it to you at the end when the other kids are busy coloring, if a child is new or can't remember any, practice by saying the book first and then have them repeat it, praise them and then say the next book and have them repeat, do this a few times until they can say all 5 to 22 books in a

row correctly depending on where they are stuck. Praise them and as an option you can hand out a treat to everyone who tried their best – (that should be everyone 😊)

Once a child has recited the books aloud to you, give them a bookmark and pencil crayons so they can checkmark and color their bookmark.

6) Words of Wisdom Drawing Sheet

15 minutes

Hand out one sheet to each child along with pencil crayons. Read the instructions on the page and let them draw a picture of something they have learned this quarter about God and His Bible and how they have gained wisdom because of it. Give ideas if needed to help them along such as:

Today's lesson – building home or life on Jesus' Word the Rock.

Past lessons – Wisdom means hope for a blessed, purposeful, fair, just, right, Godly life.

Wisdom means doing something with what we learn from God's Word not just knowing it. Etc.

7) Wise Man Color Page

10 minutes

Hand out color page to each child along with crayons. Allow them to color and if desired, ask them questions about the story and about making wise decisions. Or practice singing the song of the Old Testament books while coloring so they can remember.

Remind them to put their name somewhere on the page before moving on to the next activity.

8) Optional – Snack: Smart Food – Chocolate Chip Cookie

5 minutes

Hand out a cookie along with a glass of water or juice to each child. Explain that, "**earthly wisdom says that chocolate is a brain food – dark chocolate improves focus and concentration.**

We know that chocolate comes from the cocoa tree which God created and since we are talking about wisdom, it makes sense to eat a snack known for its brain boosting powers!

Have a napkin for children to clean their hands. Discuss questions and examples of how we can be wise, while snacking!

9) Song

5 minutes

The Wise Man Build His House

The wise man built his house upon the rock.

The wise man built his house upon the rock.

The wise man built his house upon the rock,

And the rains came tumbling down.

The rains came down and the floods came up,

The rains came down and the floods came up,

The rains came down and the floods came up,

And the wise man's house stood firm.

The foolish man built his house upon the sand.

The foolish man built his house upon the sand.

The foolish man built his house upon the sand.

And the rains came tumbling down.

The rains came down and the floods came up,

The rains came down and the floods came up,

The rains came down and the floods came up,

And the foolish man's house went splat!

So build your house on the Lord Jesus Christ!

So build your house on the Lord Jesus Christ!

So build your house on the Lord Jesus Christ!

And the blessings will come down.

The blessing will come down as the prayers go up.

The blessing will come down as the prayers go up.

The blessing will come down as the prayers go up.

So build your house on the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Books of the Old Testament – Sung to the Alphabet Song Tune 2 times

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers
Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges
Ruth, 1 and 2 Samuel, 1 and 2 Kings, 1 and 2
Chronicles.
Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther and Job,
Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes.

Song of Songs, Isaiah, Jeremiah,
Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel.
Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah,
Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk
Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi!

10) Close in prayer

*If desired, ask the children if they have any prayer requests and write them down to help you remember. Then ask all children to bow their heads and fold their hands to pray. Start below if you need help and then add the other prayer requests of the children.

Thank you God that you have given us the chance to be wise and to learn what wisdom is. Thank you that we can look to You and Your Son Jesus for examples and look to others in the Bible as well that were wise. Thank you for Your Bible that guides us and gives us the answers we need. And we pray that You will help us all to be wise, to make wise decisions, to seek You and find You and to follow You all the days of our lives. Help us to be good examples to others and let them see Your love and kindness in our lives. Help us remember that to be wise means to follow Jesus and obey Your commandments. Give us wisdom Father, and it is in Your Son's precious name that we pray this, Amen.

Thank you for serving Christ in this way!