

# Wisdom is finding out what you should do and doing it.

Read James 3:17

DAY

1

## Winning With Wisdom

Play a game of Mother May I. The goal of this game is to make the right number of steps to get to the end first. Just like we need wisdom to help us make the right choices in life, you will need to figure out how many actions will get you to the end.

**Remember that thinking before you act will help you get ahead.**

DAY

2

## Stop and Think

Grab a red piece of paper or if you don't have red paper grab a red crayon or marker. Using your supplies make a red stop sign. Inside of your stop sign write: "STOP and think before you act." If needed, cut it out or simply post it somewhere that you need a reminder to think before you act.

**Know that you can always do the right thing if you try.**

DAY

3

## New Opportunities

Read Proverbs 22:3. Think about a time in your life that you did something unwise. Talk to your adult about what you could have done differently.

**Look for opportunities to make the wise choice.**

DAY

4

## Heavenly Help

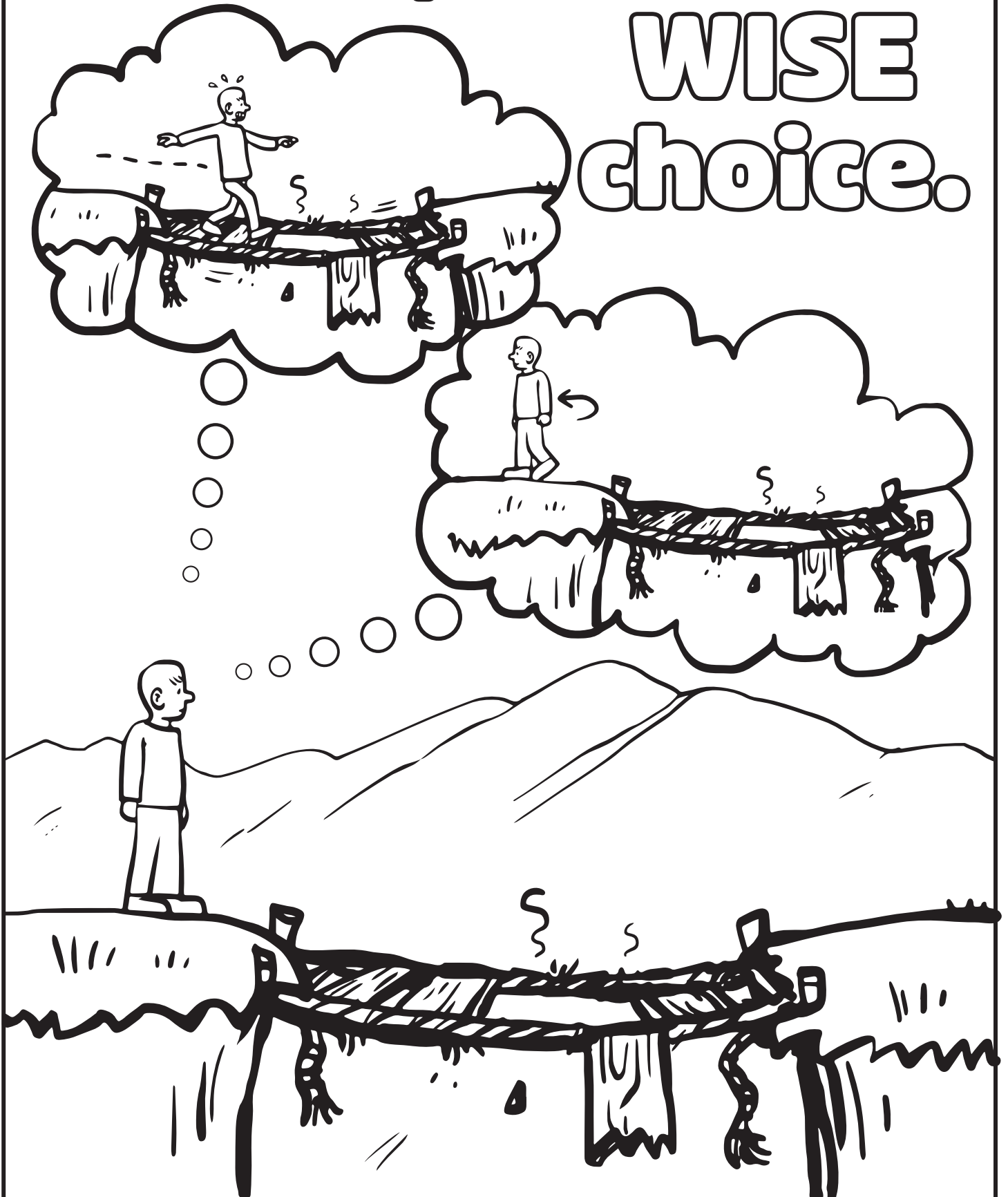
What are some things that keep you from making the wise choice? When doing the right thing is hard, talk to God about it. Pray this:

Dear God, Help me to stop and think before I act. It is sometimes hard for me to make the wise choice when I am .....

..... (name a place or moment for you when it's hard) Help me make wise choices.

**Think before you act.**

# Color the picture of the **WISE** choice.





# Wisdom is finding out what you should do and doing it.



## DAY 1

### Read Proverbs 22:3

Do you love to go to the movies? One thing that can make a good movie great is the soundtrack. The music in a movie provides clues to tell you what's about to happen. If you turned the sound to mute, the viewing experience just wouldn't be the same.

Wouldn't it be awesome if right before something bad was about to happen, there was music playing to tip us off? While we don't have automatic soundtracks playing in our heads, we can watch for clues that danger is ahead. That's why we have to pay attention, listen, and observe. And when it looks like you're heading towards a situation where you might do or say something that's unwise, stop! Don't go any further. If you want to be wise, stop and think before you act.

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**Ask an adult** if you can watch a scene or two from your favorite action movie. As you watch the action on screen, push the mute button every once and awhile. How does it change your viewing experience? Read today's verse and then pray together. Ask God to help you pay attention and think before you act so you can be wise.

## DAY 2

### Read Proverbs 10:19

Have you ever done something wrong and tried to cover it up with a made up story to avoid getting caught? Sometimes one lie can lead to another lie which leads to another lie and so on and so on. And before you know, you've created such a tall tale that even you can't remember what you said.

Words can definitely get you into trouble! It's better to stop yourself before you let that story fly from your lips. Because adding more and more words won't help the situation. Only the truth can do that. That's why we should stop and think before we speak.

Gather with your family and look up this verse. Discuss the questions below. Then challenge each person around the table to stick out their tongue, hold it between their thumb and index finger and try to recite the verse!

#### Questions:

- ➔ How can more words lead to more trouble?
- ➔ Why do you think it's important to think before you speak?
- ➔ What happens when we aren't careful with our words?

### DAY 3

## Read Psalm 94:8-9

### Did you know?

- ➔ The human eye can see approximately 10 million different colors.
- ➔ The hardest bone in your body is the temporal bone in your inner ear.
- ➔ The eye muscles are the fastest muscles in your body.
- ➔ The smallest bones in your body are located in your ears.
- ➔ The pupil of the human eye expands as much as 45 percent when you look at someone you love.

Our eyes and our ears are amazing parts of our bodies! God gave us our eyes and ears that we could hear and see the world around us. They help us spot if danger ahead. When you see something dangerous, when you hear trouble coming, a wise person pays attention!

God doesn't want us to live like foolish people. He wants us to be wise! The same God who gave you those blue or brown eyes and those ears that stick out from your head is the source of all wisdom. He gave you a mind to think to avoid making choices that harm you or those around you. Remember this week to use those eyes and ears to pay attention, to stop and think before you act.

### DAY 4

## Read Proverbs 4:25

Raise your hand if you like to ride a bike? You can put your hand down now.

When you ride a bike, where's your focus? On your feet as you pump the pedals? On your friend riding next to you? No way! To safely ride your bike, you must keep your eyes forward. Keeping your eyes on the road helps you avoid any dangers ahead.

When it comes to living wisely, we have to pay attention to what's ahead of us. Just as you would turn your bike to avoid a pothole in the road, keeping our eyes focused on what's ahead can help us move or adjust when we see danger coming. When we pay attention with our eyes forward, when we think before we act, we can avoid saying or doing something unwise.

Grab a white crayon and an index card. Write the words EYES FORWARD in big letters on the front of the card. Color over the white crayon with a marker to reveal the words you've written. Write "Proverbs 4:25" on the back. Place this card inside your bike helmet as a reminder to pay attention to what's ahead so you can make wise choices.

**Think before  
you act.**

Journal

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.



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August 2021

Week Three 4th-5th



Day 1

After watching, write one thing that:

1. You liked:

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2. You learned:

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3. You'd like to know:

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Go to [bit.ly/SundaysAtHomePreeteen](http://bit.ly/SundaysAtHomePreeteen) and watch this week's episode of The So & So Show.

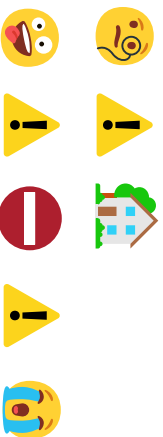
Even if you already saw it at church, feel free to check it out again!



## Day 2

### Read Proverbs 22:3

Can you interpret these two sentences written in emoji?



... see multiple warning signs before crash and burn.

The wise person only has to see the danger once before realizing it's time to get to safety—to remove themselves from the situation. But the childish, or foolish, person might see multiple warning signs before crash and burn.

Proverbs 22:3, you are right! Wise people see danger and go to a safe place. But childish people keep going and suffer for it.

If you guessed that it was the words of

## Day 3

**Solomon's words in Proverbs 22:3 makes a great prayer for wisdom in your own life—and a reminder to think before you act.**

Personalize the prayer with a situation where you need wisdom to remove yourself, include your "safe place" (this could be holding your tongue—literally—or sitting with a different group of friends or getting off the computer), and then pray it out loud.

Dear God, I want to be a wise person who sees danger and goes to a safe place. Please help me see the danger in ..... , and when I do, to ..... . Please help me to stop so I won't ..... and suffer for it. In Jesus' Name, I pray, amen.

## Day 4

**One of the areas all of us can use more wisdom in is with our words.**

There's not a person on earth who hasn't said something they regretted at some point. Often it's our tongues that see the danger signs and keep going. Like when you are hanging around with friends talking bad about another person or when you talk back to your parents.

Much of the wisdom in the book of Proverbs deals with the things we say. God knew this was an area we'd all need a lot of help with! Solomon wrote in Proverbs 13:3, *Anyone who guards what he says guards his life. But anyone who speaks without thinking will be destroyed. (NIV)*

Who is someone you talk to on a regular basis with whom you should practice "seeing danger" and guard what you say? Get a sheet of paper and draw a stop sign. Then write the person's name in the middle (where it would normally say, "STOP") in block letters. Use a red marker or colored pencil to color in the area around the person's name. Cut out the stop sign and tape it somewhere you'll see it to remind yourself to guard what you say around or to this person.

## Day 5

**What could keep you from being wise?**

We live in a world that tell us doing things fast, and doing several things at once, is the way to go. But go too fast, and stop paying attention, and before you know it, you could be making some un-wise choices.

Stop, think, act. This could be another way of writing King Solomon's wise words in Proverbs 22:3. These are the steps that a wise person takes to live out God's wisdom.

Find a corner of your Wisdom Wall that has some space and draw three graphics that represent STOP (a stop sign), THINK (a brain), and ACT (a check mark). Color them in, and as you do, ask God to help you slow down this week so you can STOP, THINK, and ACT with wisdom.

