

Discipleship Tools

In a season of live streaming and canceled children's programs, may the following questions and activities guide you in helping your children apply the sermon.

Ecclesiastes 9:11-10:20

If you miss the live stream, you can view the sermon [here](#).

Sermon Discussion

Preschool

1. Do we know what is going to happen tomorrow or the next day? Who does know?
2. What does it mean to be wise? What are some wise choices you can make this week?
3. What should you do if you make an unwise (or a wrong) choice?

Younger Kids

1. Was there ever a time when something made you feel sad or scared, maybe because you didn't know what was going to happen next? How should we respond when bad things do happen?
2. What do you think it means to be wise? What are some examples of unwise (or foolish) choices? How could this person have made a wise choice instead? What should we do when we realize we act foolishly?
3. How do you think God can help you to be wise?

Older Kids

1. Can you think of a time when something unexpected and difficult happened? How did you/ could you have trusted God in that time?
2. Can you think of a time when you've made a foolish decision? Why did you make the choice you did? What happened? If you could redo the situation, what would you do differently?
3. When is a time when you've made a wise decision, but it was hard to do?

Christ Connection

How does this text point us to Jesus?

Preschool: Trusting in Christ as your Lord and Savior is the wisest decision you can ever make.

Elementary: We can face the uncertainties of life and the reality of death because we know that God is good and that Jesus saves us. In Jesus are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. If we want wisdom, we need to seek Jesus (Colossians 2:2-3).

Activity

Play "Wise or Unwise"

We have included a list of scenarios (you can make up your own as well). Tell your kids the scenario and ask if the decision made was wise or unwise. This may be a good time to talk about decisions that you and your family make at home that are wise (or even unwise!). You can talk about past decisions that you or your kids have made and ask if they were wise or unwise (being careful not to shame).

For extra fun, make wise/unwise voting cards using card stock, glue, and popsicle sticks. Cut out two squares, write wise on one and unwise on the other. For younger preschoolers use happy and sad faces. Then glue the cards back to back with a popsicle stick in the middle.

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Wise or Unwise Scenarios

1. When Jill was at a friend's house, the friend started playing a video game that Jill's mom would not have approved of. Since she knew it was wrong, she left the room right away and did not participate in the video game.

Wise or not wise? (Wise)

2. Robert wasn't prepared for the test, so he asked a friend if he could cheat off her test.

Wise or not wise? (Not wise)

3. Gracie had a lot of friends. Some of them didn't always do what was right. So she decided to hang out more with the friends that helped her follow God.

Wise or not wise? (Wise)

4. Brandon knew he was wrong when he took his friend's toy, so he returned it and asked for forgiveness. He never stole anything again after that!

Wise or not wise? (Wise)

5. Sarah was angry that Gracy was bragging about beating her again in soccer. Sarah talked to Gracy and told her that it hurt her feelings. Gracy didn't realize this and said she was sorry.

Wise or not wise? (Wise)

6. Sam knows he shouldn't spread rumors about his classmates, but he likes how everyone listens to him, so he keeps doing it.

Wise or not wise? (Not wise)

7. Nate likes to play with Laura, but he's been noticing that Laura has been lying a lot lately. Nate told Laura that lying goes against what God teaches, and people won't trust her if she keeps lying. Laura said she didn't care.

Is Sara acting wise or not wise? (Not wise)

8. One of Josh's classmates looked lonely on the playground. So Josh asked him if he wanted to play.

Wise or not wise? (Wise)

9. At recess, Wendy's classmate told her, "Don't talk to Bethany. She's weird and she laughs funny. Let's ignore her." Wendy was afraid to speak up for Bethany, so she went along with Wendy's advice to ignore her.

Wise or not wise? (Not wise)

10. Clinton and Sam are good friends. When a new boy moves into the neighborhood, Clinton's dad suggests they should invite the new kid over to play basketball. Clinton and Sam are shy, and they prefer to play alone. But they take Clinton's dad's advice anyway and end up having a great time.

Wise or not wise? (Wise)

11. Jesus was fasting in the desert for 40 days. God did not want him to eat any food. Satan came and tempted Jesus by telling him to eat. But Jesus obeyed God the Father and did not eat. Wise or not wise?

(Wise)

12. Susie realized that she is a sinner and is in need of forgiveness. She hears and reads about Jesus in her bible, and trusts in Jesus for the forgiveness of her sins and decides to follow Jesus. Wise or not wise (wise)