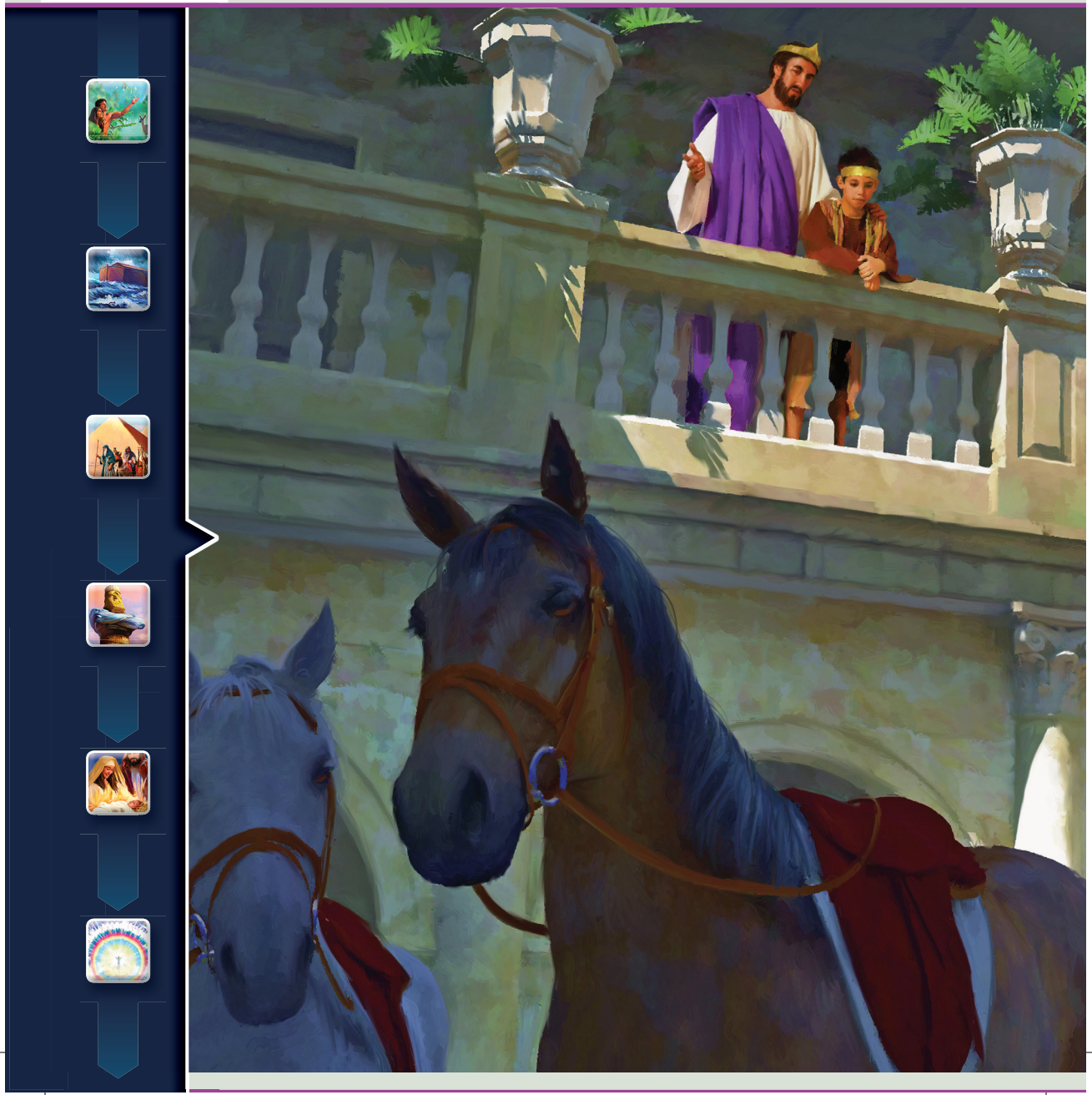
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Words Fit for a King

Key References: Proverbs 22:1-5, 9, 22; *Prophets and Kings*, chap. 1, pp. 33, 34; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 4, pp. 159-161; Our Beliefs nos. 1, 11, 22



powertext

"For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding" (Proverbs 2:6).

powerpoint

God's Word guides our service.

Sabbath

DO Do the activity on page 19.

Have you ever needed help to assemble something because the instructions were so complicated? There's good news for you. The Bible has instructions for our lives that are easy to understand. Let's visualize a conversation between a wise father and his son.

"Your Highness," Solomon's steward said to Prince Rehoboam, "the horses are ready. The king wants you to come to his quarters."

"All right!" shouted Rehoboam happily. He hadn't been able to spend much time with his father since Solomon became king. If they were taking the horses, they would be far away from court business for a long time.

As they rode away from the palace, they urged the horses into a gallop, leaving the steward far behind. After a couple hours of hard riding, the horses loped toward a favorite stream near some trees. Rehoboam and Solomon slid to the ground so the horses could quench their thirst. The king and his son strolled along the stream, each lost in his own thoughts.

Finally Solomon asked, "Do you know what is the most important treasure in the world?"

"Wisdom," said Rehoboam.

"That's right. And do you know how you can obtain it?"

"God gives us wisdom if we ask, just as He has given it to you," replied Rehoboam after some thinking.

"I'm glad you know this, my son," Solomon said, nodding. "One day you will be king," he said. "You will inherit great wealth, but keep this

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Sunday

READ Read Proverbs 22:1 and this week's story, "Words Fit for a King."

REVIEW Review the power text, Proverbs 2:6.

PRAY Praise God for the ways He cares for you.

Monday

READ Read Proverbs 22:3.

SEARCH Look up the words "insight," "prudent," "prudence," "discretion," and "discerning." List the definitions in your Bible study journal.

APPLY Think of ways you could adopt these attributes and allow wisdom to guide your decisions.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God to help you understand and practice what you learn this week.

Tuesday

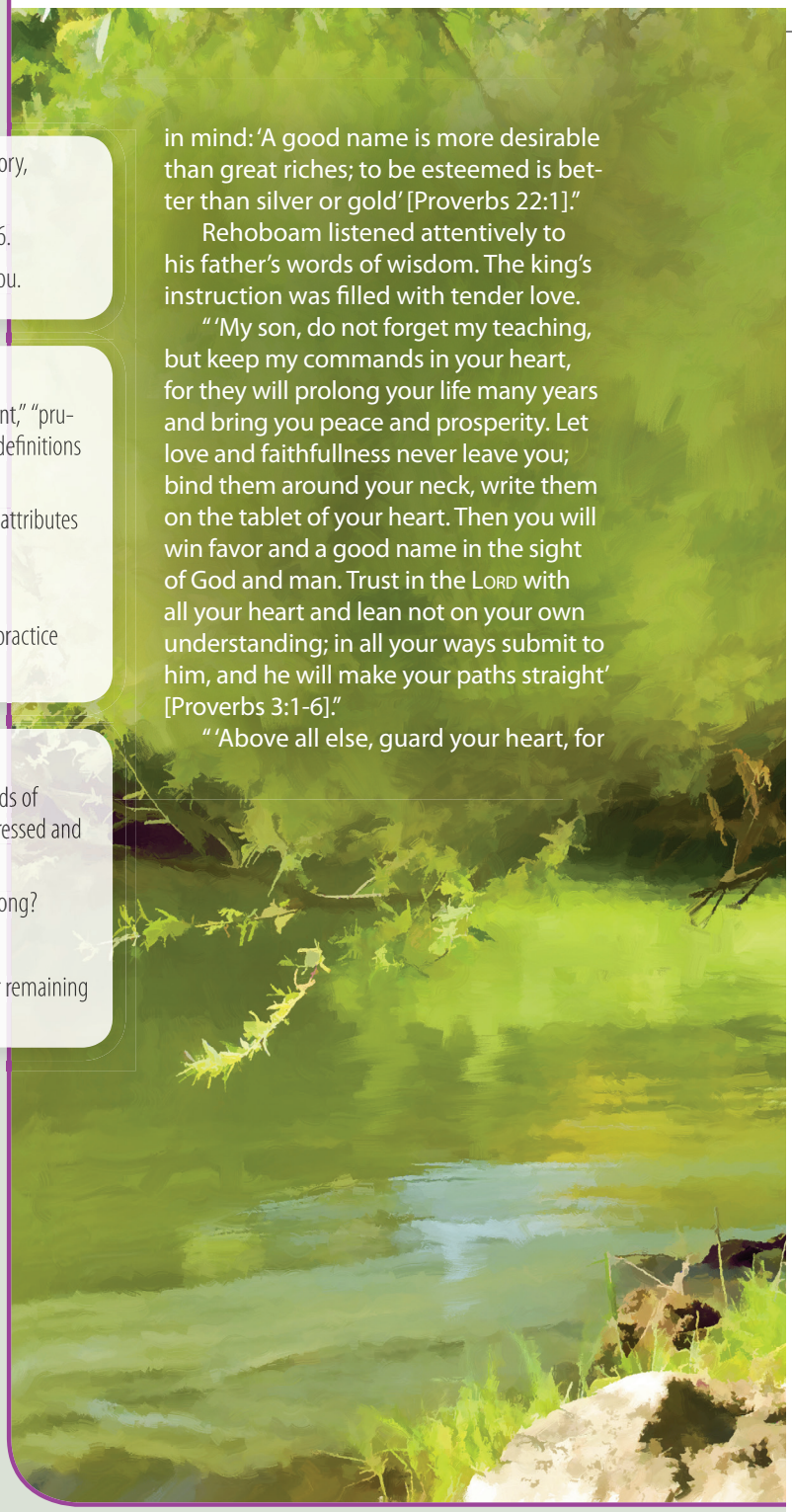
READ Read Proverbs 22:1-5.

LIST List in your Bible study journal four kinds of people to whom Solomon's proverbs are addressed and what each receives from heeding them.

THINK To which group or groups do you belong?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Talk to God about becoming part of or remaining in one or more of these groups.



in mind: 'A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold' [Proverbs 22:1]."

Rehoboam listened attentively to his father's words of wisdom. The king's instruction was filled with tender love.

"'My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you peace and prosperity. Let love and faithfullness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight' [Proverbs 3:1-6]."

"'Above all else, guard your heart, for

everything you do flows from it' [Proverbs 4:23]."

"'Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and he will establish your plans' [Proverbs 16:3]."

"'How much better to get wisdom than gold, to get insight rather than silver!' [Proverbs 16:16]."

"'Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward them for what they have done' [Proverbs 19:17]."

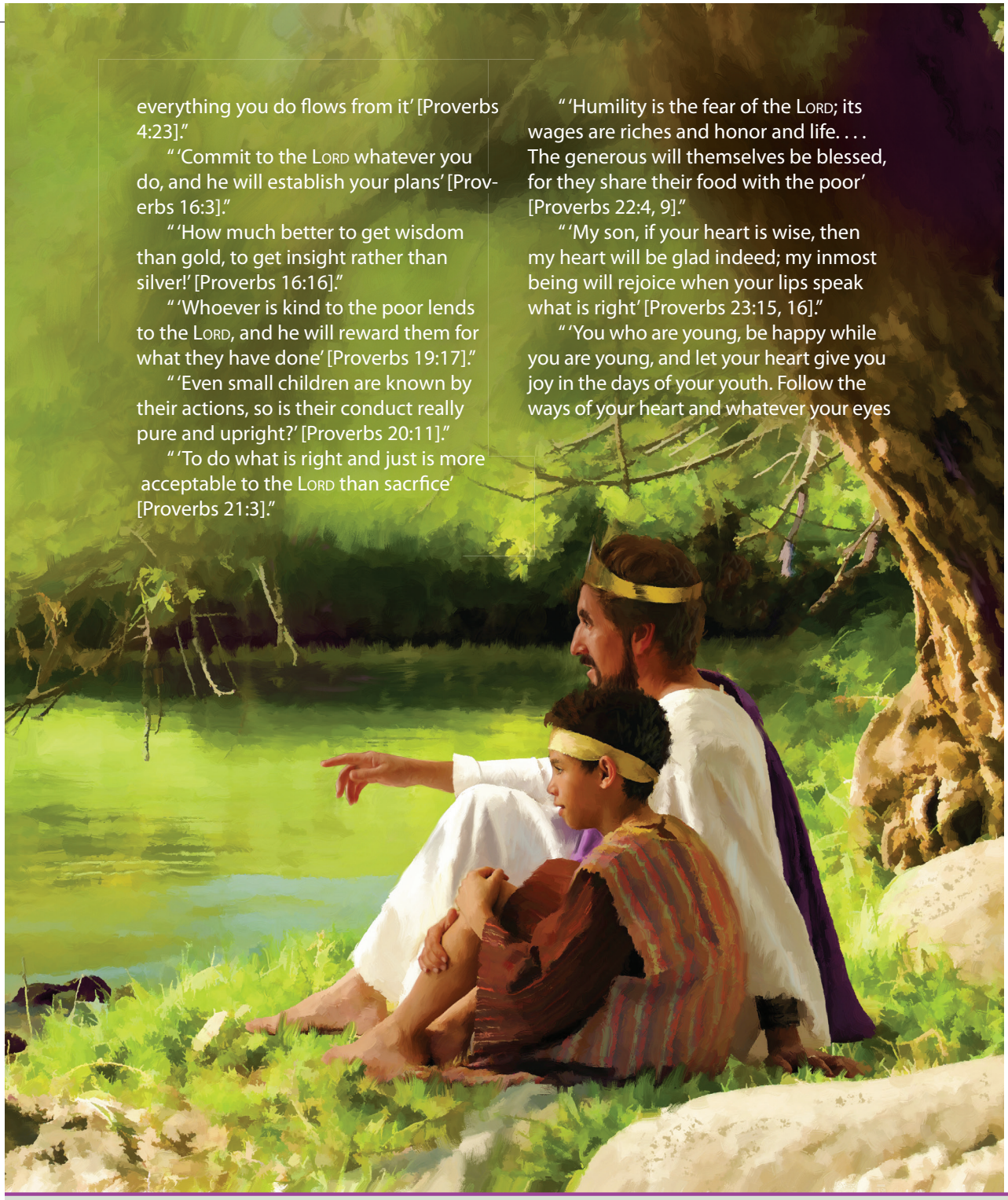
"'Even small children are known by their actions, so is their conduct really pure and upright?' [Proverbs 20:11]."

"'To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrfice' [Proverbs 21:3]."

"'Humility is the fear of the LORD; its wages are riches and honor and life. . . . The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor' [Proverbs 22:4, 9]."

"'My son, if your heart is wise, then my heart will be glad indeed; my inmost being will rejoice when your lips speak what is right' [Proverbs 23:15, 16]."

"'You who are young, be happy while you are young, and let your heart give you joy in the days of your youth. Follow the ways of your heart and whatever your eyes



2

Wednesday

READ Read Proverbs 22:4.

THINK What are the benefits of humility?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God for the opportunity to share.

Thursday

READ Read Proverbs 22:9.

THINK What are some ways you could contribute to the well-being of your community?

DO Talk to an adult about ways you could be more involved in serving others.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God to empower you to serve others.

Friday

READ Read Proverbs 22:22.

THINK What does it mean to exploit someone? Give examples of people being exploited.

TALK Talk with an adult about places in the world where young people are being exploited. Ask how Christians can help.

SAY Repeat aloud the power text.

PRAY Praise God that He wants us to defend and help the less fortunate. Ask Him for help to do so.

see, but know that for all these things God will bring you into judgment' [Ecclesiastes 11:9]."

"'Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, "I find no pleasure in them"' [Ecclesiastes 12:1]."

Solomon placed his hand on Rehoboam's shoulder and said: "The most important thing you can do is to continue worshiping God. Don't become proud of your wealth and power. Remember, it all comes from Him. If you trust God, work hard, and treat people fairly, your reign will be blessed.

"'Here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind' [Ecclesiastes 12:13]."

Rehoboam turned to his father and asked, "How can I remember all this?"

"I'm writing it down for you," said Solomon.

"Whew," said Rehoboam, wiping his brow.



"I thought I had to memorize it."

"Not before lunch," said Solomon, laughing. "Here comes the steward with our food."

PUZZLE 2

GEAR UP!

Instructions: Start at "All" and read the verse that tells us the value of Scripture. You may travel from square to square, up, down, forward, backward, but not diagonally. End at the verse reference.

God	of	All	Scripture	is	God-breathed
may	servant	the	that	so	and
be	and	training	in	righteousness,	is
thoroughly	correcting	rebuking,	teaching,	for	useful
equipped	for	every	good	work.	(2 Timothy 3:16, 17, NIV)