

2

Service
We reveal God's love by serving others.

POWER TEXT

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

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
- Student story on page 32 of this guide

OUR BELIEFS

- No. 1, The Holy Scriptures
- No. 11, Growing in Christ
- No. 22, Christian Behavior

OBJECTIVES

The students will:

- **Know** that God's Word gives practical wisdom to serve effectively in today's world.
- **Feel** grateful for the guidance given in the Bible.
- **Respond** by seeking wisdom in order to serve others effectively.

Words Fit for a King

POWERPOINT

God's Word guides our service.

The Bible Lesson at a Glance

The prologue to Proverbs tells its purpose and theme, which is partially reflected in this week's power text. The audience that Proverbs was written for is mainly young people: "Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching" (Proverbs 1:8). The book contains warnings and commands. It reveals the rewards of following its instructions and the consequences of ignoring them. Wisdom, knowledge, discipline—all begin with a reverence for the Lord. The result is a practical life of service.

This is a lesson about service.

God's Word is clear about the ways in which we can serve others.

Teacher Enrichment

"The title, Proverbs, is taken from the first words of the book. The Hebrew word translated 'proverbs' comes from the root mashal, meaning 'to be like,' 'to compare.'. . .

"Solomon wrote the Proverbs in the early years of his reign, when he was still obedient to the Spirit of God within his heart. . . . The theme of the book of Proverbs is to exalt wisdom, which is described as 'the fear of the Lord' (chs. 1:1-7; 9:10). Although wisdom has its basis in the maintenance of a right relationship with God, the book is not really a religious treatise. Much of the instruction is ethical and moral rather than spiritual" (*The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 3, pp. 945, 946). Proverbs addresses one's relationship with God (spiritual issues) through one's relationship with others (ethical and moral issues).

How important is God's Word to you? How does your relationship with Him impact the value of His Word in your life?

Welcome

Welcome students at the door and direct them to their seats. Ask them how their week has been. Encourage learners to study their Sabbath School lesson regularly, and use several minutes to debrief students on the previous week's lesson.

Ask: **What was the most interesting part of the Bible story? What activity did you find the most helpful? Which activity was the most fun?**

Invite students to share their experiences and/or the handiworks they created for Sabbath School during the week. (The leader should be familiar with the previous lesson to be able to direct the discussion.) This is also a good time to have students recite the power text.

Have students begin the readiness activity of your choice.

Program notes

LESSON SECTION	MINUTES	ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS NEEDED
Welcome	Ongoing	Greet students at door. Ask about their week.	
1 Readiness	10-15	*A. You've Got to Serve Somebody* *B. Proverbial*	long sheets of paper, markers/pens, tape/staples/tacks or some other way to hang banners proverb cards, tape
* Prayer and Praise	15-20	See page 27. Prayer and Praise may be used at any time during the program.	songbooks, world map, pushpins, offering plate/basket
2 Bible Lesson	15-20	Introducing the Bible Story Experiencing the Story Exploring the Bible	three copies of *Net Kids* script (p. 146) Bibles Bibles that include concordance, white/chalkboard, markers/chalk, concordance (optional)
3 Applying the Lesson	10-15	*Create-a-Proverb*	Bibles, paper, pens/pencils
4 Sharing the Lesson	10-15	*Door Hanger Wisdom*	Bibles, door hangers (p. 147), art supplies
* Closing		Prayer and Closing Comments Reminder to Parents Coming Up Next Week	

1

READINESS ACTIVITIES

Select the activity or activities that are most appropriate for your situation.

A

YOU NEED:
- ☐ long sheets of paper
- ☐ markers/pens
- ☐ tape/staples/tacks

You've Got to Serve Somebody

Distribute long sheets of paper (two sheets taped together) and markers/pens. Instruct the students to mount the paper on the walls of the classroom and make an acrostic using their names.

Say: **If you're a Christian, you're a servant of God and of other people. Using your name, you and your classmates will create a vertical banner. For example, Kim (or other student name) would write her name vertically on the paper in huge letters. You would go to her banner and write a word that identifies a servant-like characteristic that you see in Kim. You may write a characteristic for one letter or for all of the letters. It may get pretty crowded, so leave room for others to write. For example:**

K—Keeps everyone on track
I—Is always willing to help
M—Makes people feel special

When everyone is finished, allow the students to circulate and look at the completed banners. Leave the banners hanging for the rest of the quarter.

Debriefing

Say: **The book of Proverbs gives a good word picture of how God's people should behave. In what way have your classmates given you a mirror of yourself?** (Accept responses.) **Did you discover anything new about yourself?** (Accept responses.)

Say: **Let's say together the power text, Proverbs 2:6:**

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

Our power point today is:

God's Word guides our service.

Accommodation for students with special needs

Allow students who experience difficulty with writing/spelling to receive assistance from their peers in writing their acrostics.

B

YOU NEED:
- ☐ proverb cards
- ☐ tape

Proverbial

Write proverbs on cards, and list the Bible reference. Hang them up around the room. For example:

A lazy person is as bad as someone who is destructive (see Proverbs 18:9).

Sensible people keep quiet about what they know (see Proverbs 12:23).

Those who seek good find goodwill (see Proverbs 11:27).

Man is born unto trouble as the sparks fly upward (see Job 5:7).

Love is as strong as death (Song of Songs 8:6).

Debriefing

Ask: **How do the proverbs relate to service?** (Proverbs 18:9, being too lazy to help someone else is destructive; Proverbs 12:23, keeping quiet about what you know can preserve others' reputations; Proverbs 11:27, having a feeling of goodwill toward others comes from seeking that which is good.) Leave the proverbs hanging in your room! Say: **Let's say together the power text, Proverbs 2:6:**

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

Let's remember that

God's Word guides our service.

(Adapted from *Know Ideas: Serious Fun for Youth Groups* [Warwick, Eng.: CPAS, 1992], p. 31. Used by permission.)

Prayer & Praise

Fellowship

Report the students' joys and sorrows (pleased and troubled) as reported to you at the door (as appropriate). If they have given you permission, share one or two special items from students' Bible study during the week. Acknowledge any birthdays, special events, or achievements. Give a special, warm greeting to all visitors.

Suggested Songs

"Make Me a Servant" (*He Is Our Song*, no. 126)
"Micah 6:8" (*He Is Our Song*, no. 133)
"This Little Light of Mine" (*The SDA Hymnal*, no. 580)

Mission

YOU NEED:
- ☐ world map
- ☐ pushpins

Use *Adventist Mission for Youth and Adults* (go to www.juniorpowerpoints.org and click on MISSION) or another mission report available to you. For the mission story, have a map of the world where the students can identify the location of the mission story and compare it to where they are. You could use pushpins to mark where the mission story takes place.

Offering

YOU NEED:
- ☐ offering plate/basket

Say: **When we talk about revealing God's love by serving, we mean more than going to someone and doing things for them. Our offerings are one way we can serve.**

Prayer

Say: **Prayer is having a conversation with God. Today let's talk to God as we do to our friends.**

Close with a prayer for the students' joys and sorrows, for the birthday and other special event celebrants, as well as for the visitors.

Notes

2

BIBLE LESSON

YOU NEED:

Introducing the Bible Story

- ☐ three scripts (p. 146)

The *Net Kids*

(Note: The *Net Kids* are an imaginative way to introduce the Bible story. If you prefer not to use this imaginary element, read over the script yourself and introduce the lesson concept in your own words. Refer to Lesson 1 for background and setup information.)

Make the appropriate number of copies of the *Net Kids* script found at the back of this guide (see p. 146). Distribute as early as possible to the students you have selected. Allow practice time before using this activity. Present the skit.

Debriefing

Ask: **Why do you think proverbs are included in the Bible?** (They give practical advice.)

YOU NEED:

Experiencing the Story

- ☐ Bibles

Divide the students into two groups.

Have them read Proverbs 22:1-5, 9, 22 antiphonally (alternating verses). While they are still in their groups, ask the students to answer the following questions:

What difference would following these words make in the way you treat others? (Encourage a variety of responses.) **What are some situations in which this advice can be used?** (disasters, people in need, etc.)

Have each group choose one of the verses and think of a situation in which they would use the advice. Have them create and present a short skit based on how they would put it into practice.

3

APPLYING THE LESSON

YOU NEED:
- ☐ Bibles that include concordance
- ☐ white/chalkboard
- ☐ markers/chalk
- ☐ concordance (optional)

Exploring the Bible

List the following words on the board or on a large sheet of paper. Do not list the numbers in brackets.

speech [7]
adultery [1]
mouth [34]
wicked [80]
tongue [22]
Lord [86]
advice [7]
father [15]
gossip [6]
poverty [12]
wealth [21]
riches [8]
understanding [35]
money [3]
work [7]
joy [15]
obedience [1]
mother [11]
son [41]
daughters [1]
wisdom [50]
men [30]
man [162]
wife [17]
woman [10]

Divide the class into groups. Say: **Proverbs has a lot of practical things to say. Look in the concordance of your Bible to see how many times these words are mentioned in the book of Proverbs.** Give them several minutes to do this. Ask: **How many times did you find the word "speech" used?** (Concordances will differ. Choose one beforehand and count the times each word is used.) Write the numbers students found in their concordances or Bibles, and the numbers you found in yours. Repeat this for several words, then give the numbers listed above which were found in Zondervan's *NIV Complete Concordance*. Ask: **After doing this exercise, what can you conclude about the book of Proverbs?** (It contains practical, down- to-earth, useful information for today.)

Say: **Let's say together the power text, Proverbs 2:6:**

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

Accommodation for students with special needs
Guide students who experience difficulty with this activity to participate in groups where they would receive assistance from their peers.

YOU NEED:
- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ paper
- ☐ pens/pencils

Create-a-Proverb

Say: **You will notice that most proverbs consist of a command or a warning and a reward for obedience or a consequence for disobedience.**

For example [read or write on the board]: **Proverbs 3:1, 2.**

Command: My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart,

Reward: for they will prolong your life many years and bring you peace and prosperity.

And Proverbs 6:10, 11.

Warning: A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest—

Consequence: and poverty will come on you like a thief and scarcity like an armed man.

Write at least one proverb of your own for people your age that includes a command or warning and reward or consequence. For example:

Command: Come to Sabbath School on time,

Reward: and you will enjoy great fellowship, engaging learning activities, and insightful experiences connected to God's Word.

Debriefing

Ask: **What difference does it make in how you view King Solomon's proverbs after writing your own?** (He was really wise, practical, etc.) **What is our power point?**

God's Word guides our service.

Accommodation for students with special needs
Allow students who experience difficulty with certain aspects of writing to work with capable peers who could assist them in this activity.

4

SHARING THE LESSON

YOU NEED:
- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ door hangers from pattern (p. 147)
- ☐ art supplies

Door Hanger Wisdom

Allow students to share the insights they gained during the past week about ways they could be involved in serving others.

Ask: **Did you have a chance to talk to an adult, asking for ideas of ways you could serve others? What could you do at home, in your church, at school, in the community to help others?**

Distribute blank door hangers (see pattern on page 147). Have the students each choose a proverb that talks about service, which they would like to demonstrate in their life. Have them write it on the door hanger. After they have written their proverb, they may decorate the door hanger. Encourage them to hang the proverb on their bedroom door or in a place where they can see it.

Debriefing

Say: **What difference will it make if you choose to live by this proverb?**

Let's remember that

God's Word guides our service.

Closing

Prayer and closing comments:

Ask God to help your students apply the words of wisdom found in the proverbs as their guide to serve others.

Reminder to parents:

Say: **Check out the student Bible study guide to find Parents' Pages for your use in family worship, or however you wish to use them to spiritually guide your children. You may listen to the podcast of the lesson online at www.juniorpowerpoints.org/podcast.php?channel=1.**

Coming up next week:

Say: **Solomon saves a baby. We reveal God's love by serving others fairly.**

Notes

Student lesson

Words Fit for a King

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 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 faithfulness 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 is really pure and upright?' [Proverbs 20:11]."

" 'To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice' [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 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."

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

POWER TEXT

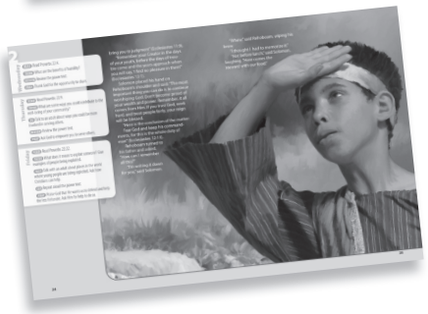
"For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding" (Proverbs 2:6).

POWER POINT

God's Word guides our service.







Sabbath

DO Do the activity on page 19.

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.

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.