

How do you know what's wise?



KNOWLEDGE

LEARNING SOMETHING NEW SO YOU CAN BE BETTER AT WHATEVER YOU DO

DAY 5

If you have a dry erase marker, head to your bathroom mirror and write the numbers 1-4. (If you don't, grab a sheet of paper and follow the same directions, then just hang it somewhere you can see it.)

THEN WRITE THESE WORDS.

- 1. READ
- 2. PRAY
- 3. TALK
- 4. THINK

Any time you have a tough decision to make, think through it using these four steps. First, think back on Bible verses you have READ, or use a Bible app to look up verses that might apply to the decision you're facing. Next, PRAY and ask God for wisdom. If you're still not sure what to do, TALK to a trusted friend who follows God. Lastly, if you're still struggling to make a wise choice and you haven't found anything in the Bible that you feel like applies, THINK about what you know about Jesus and what He might have done in the same situation.

Sometimes the wise choice is fairly obvious, but sometimes it's not. Thankfully, God has given us lots of tools to help us make wise choices!

DAY 1

Go to Pinelake.org/family-resources/ and watch The So & So for this week.

SO & SO TOP 3

After watching, write one thing that . . .

- 1) YOU LIKED: _____
- 2) YOU LEARNED: _____
- 3) YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW: _____

DAY 2

READ LUKE 4:1-13

Match these verses with the ones quoted in Luke 4:1-13.

DEUTERONOMY 6:13

PSALM 91:11-12

DEUTERONOMY 6:16

DEUTERONOMY 8:3

LUKE 4:12

LUKE 4:4

LUKE 4:11

LUKE 4:8

Now go back and read the Deuteronomy and Psalm passages. Do they in fact match up?

They do! Jesus had spent His whole life studying God's words, so when the time came, He knew how to make the wise choice.

Discovering what's in the Bible can help you make the wise choice, too.

DAY 4

We can discover what's in the Bible by reading it, which is always a good idea. But admittedly, it's a pretty big collection of books, and sometimes it can feel overwhelming when you try to find verses that you know will help you make wise choices. Today, you're going to discover what God says by asking others which of His words they have found most helpful!

Grab a notebook you always have with you at school, or even just a sheet of paper that you can keep in your pocket or backpack. Then go around and interview several people you know who follow God and read their Bibles.

Ask them what their favorite verse is, especially one that has helped them make wise choices (be sure and ask them how the verse has helped them).

Then write out that verse on your paper. Continue until you have a few, then circle one or two that seem especially helpful to you as you think about the days ahead. Store the paper

DAY 3

Go back and read Luke 4:9-11. Verse 11 is a quote of Scripture, but here's where it gets tricky. In this case, it wasn't Jesus quoting God's Word, it was actually the enemy. God's Word is meant to encourage, to make us more like God, and to give us wisdom. It's not meant to be a weapon, which is how the devil was using it against Jesus.

But Jesus knew what the enemy was up to. And He had just spent 40 days praying and hanging out with God in the wilderness. He was completely tracking with His Father, so He knew that the devil was using His Father's words against Him.

There may be times that we feel tempted to make bad decisions by the world, by situations where we're just worn down, or even by people who act like they have our best interest in heart. But we can know the wise choice to make when we are connecting with God on a regular basis through His Word and in prayer.

Go back and read Psalm 91:11-12 as a prayer, remembering that God intended these words as a beautiful, encouraging truth:

"Dear God, thank You for the promise you give us through Psalm 91:11-12, that 'The Lord will command his angels to take good care of you. They will lift you up in their hands. Then you won't trip over a stone.' (NirV) This week, help me to make time to connect with You and Your Word, and then help me to use Your Words and Your power to make wise choices. In Jesus' Name, I pray, amen."

or notebook somewhere you can easily access. Bonus points if you can memorize one of the verses that is new to you!