

# Our Father's Wisdom (Children's Bible Lesson) Proverbs 1:8-9

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June 15, 2010



This lesson is intended for use on Father's Day weekend. It focuses on the book of Proverbs and how children should listen to their fathers as a source of wisdom in their lives. It was prepared with children's church in mind, but could be modified for Sunday School or other ministry settings. Be sure to check out our [free coloring sheets about Fathers](#) and [Father's Day craft ideas](#).

**Bible Passage:** Proverbs 1:8-9

**Bible Story Title:** Our Father's Wisdom

**Target Age Group:** 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders

**Target Time Frame:** 20 minutes

**Original Teaching Context:** Children's Church or Sunday School

**Printer Friendly Bible Lesson:** [\[print\\_link\]](#) this lesson plan

**You Can Help:** Please leave your feedback and suggestions for this lesson plan. Others will benefit from your ideas. [Click here to respond](#)

Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching, for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck. Proverbs 1:8-9 ESV

**Learning Objective:** The children will learn about wisdom and how their fathers are a source of wisdom for them.

**Materials Needed:** Maybe some props for use during the “hook” depending on what situation you choose to act out.

**Hook:**

1. The teacher asks the rhetorical question, “What is wisdom?”
2. The teacher then acts out or pantomimes an age appropriate dangerous situation, such as touching a hot stove, crossing a street without looking, or riding their bike without a helmet. Then asks, “Would this be wise?”
3. “So, what is wisdom?” The teacher then asks for input from the children.
4. “Wisdom is knowing how to live life the right way. Sometimes another word for wisdom can be knowledge because when you are wise you **know** how to live life the way God would want you to live.”

**Look:**

1. “Let’s look in at what the Bible says about wisdom. Open your Bibles to Proverbs 1:8-9.”
2. Read aloud the Bible passage.

**Book:**

1. “Verse eight tells us to hear your father’s instruction. What is instruction?” Take input from the children.
2. “What does ‘forsake not’ mean when talking about our mother’s teaching?” Take input from the children.
3. “So, in Proverbs 1:8-9, God is telling us to listen and remember what our parents teach us.”
4. “Verse nine says they are a graceful wreath and ornaments about your neck. Who are ‘they’ in this verse? ‘They’ are your parent’s instruction and teaching.”
5. “The graceful wreath and ornaments about your neck means being wise will bring you honor as you live a wise life following the teaching and instruction of your parents.”

**Took:**

1. “Why should we listen and remember what our parents teach us?”
2. Take some input from the children.
3. “In Deuteronomy 6:5-7 it says.” Read it out loud.

4. “In Deuteronomy, God commands your parents to always be teaching you when sitting in your house, when going on a walk, when going to bed at night, and when you wake up in the morning. In Proverbs, God tells children to listen to the teaching of their parents.”
5. “God tells us that when we listen to our parents and remember what they have taught us, we will become wise.”
6. “Today is Father’s Day and we need to remember that God gave us a gift when He chose who would be our father here on earth. God wants us to listen to our fathers. Today you can give a gift to your father by listening to him and the wisdom he has to share with you.”

**Tips:**

1. Some other dangerous situations to use during the “hook” could be sticking a paperclip in an electrical outlet, talking to a stranger, or taking candy from a stranger. If possible include some of the children in your pantomime. They would love to participate and children love seeing their friends perform!
2. If you want to have a deeper or longer teaching time for older children, include Proverbs 1:7 also. With this verse you can discuss how fearing the Lord is where wisdom begins. Teach the children how we cannot be wise until we first know Christ and fear the Lord.

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# Games and Lesson Introduction

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**Lesson Opening:** Here are a few potential activities to try in conjunction with a Father's Day lesson. Choose one or two to open your session, or sprinkle them in with the lesson itself, or after it. (note: most of these elements could be used at home or in a larger group setting).

Here are some activities to get kids thinking...(select the best ones for your audience and age group):

- Whose dad is that? Display pictures of several celebrities and their fathers. See if kids can guess which dad belongs with which well-known individual. Additionally, match pictures of students with their fathers (obviously, this is a bit easy if the lesson is taking place at home...)
- Patriarch parade...list several famous fathers in the Bible, and test student knowledge to see if they recall which went with individual sons. Make this a matching test, or for extra challenge provide only the father or son names. Consider fathers like Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, David, Zechariah (John the Baptist's dad), and Joseph (Foster father to Jesus).
- Have kids describe their fathers. Start with physical attributes, such as appearance or body type; but then focus on inner characteristics and qualities that make dads special. Encourage kids to name any male role model in their lives, in case biological fathers are not as involved.
- Mom versus dad...besides the obvious (male and female), how are dads and moms different? Invite students to brainstorm things that each parent does uniquely.
- Reflecting the Father...a lot of times, people comment on how our appearances or behaviors might be similar to our parents. Look at pictures or talk about traits that illustrate this. Discuss how our lives as Christians should reflect Godly characteristics, as He is our Heavenly Father.
- Enjoy some "Dad's" brand root beer, and have students take one for their fathers!

Discuss with students how God loves us as a Father. He invites us to call Him Father, and wants us to have a special relationship with Him as such. We are in His family, and that makes us brothers and sisters in Christ.

**Ask:** In what ways does God show Himself as father? How is he like our earthly fathers? How is he different?



# Introduction Game Time

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For early arriving students, we suggest a simple Bible Sword Drill game could be played using to look up the verses you will use later in the lesson.

- Proverbs 4:1,
- Proverbs 6:20,
- Proverbs 13:1,
- Proverbs 15:20,
- Proverbs 23:22,
- Colossians 3:20,
- Ephesians 6:1,
- Exodus 20:12

**Activity Option:** Father Abraham song and motions

Once the class is assembled you can introduce the topic by leading them in this silly song. The idea is to repeat several times with increasing speed. As body parts are called out they will need to be moved throughout the rest of the repeats!

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*FATHER ABRAHAM, HAD MANY SONS;  
MANY SONS HAD FATHER ABRAHAM,  
AND I AM ONE OF THEM,  
AND SO ARE YOU,  
SO LET'S JUST PRAISE THE LORD, RIGHT ARM  
[REPEAT ALL BUT THEN ADD THE FOLLOWING ONE AFTER EACH TIME]  
.... LEFT ARM  
.... RIGHT LEG  
.... LEFT LEG  
.... HEAD  
.... TURN AROUND AND SIT DOWN*

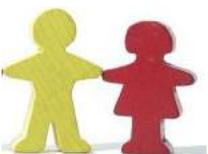
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# Children's Prayer Moment

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Dear God,  
Thank you for caring for us  
Your promises are true  
We know you will always provide  
Thank you for being our Father  
Help us to trust in your Word  
Thank you for your love  
We love you, God!  
In Jesus name, Amen!



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# Bible Verses about Our Father God:

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Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. <sup>30</sup> But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. <sup>31</sup> Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. <sup>32</sup> So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, <sup>33</sup> but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven. -**Matthew 10:29-33**

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. <sup>15</sup> For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” <sup>16</sup> The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs— heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

-**Romans 8:14-17**

<sup>26</sup> Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? <sup>27</sup> And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? <sup>28</sup> And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, <sup>29</sup> yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. <sup>30</sup> But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? -**Matthew 6:26-30**



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# “Great Dads Make Us Glad”

## Craft Ideas for Father’s Day

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Happy Father’s Day! While cards may not be as flowery or fancy as those we create for Mother’s Day, there are a lot of fun items that lend themselves to dear old dad. There are definitely abundant options when it comes to more “masculine” elements: tools, camping, golf, cars...here are a few possible suggestions to consider when coming up with fun and simple crafts for fathers. Add personal and creative flair as suits you, and have fun creating trinkets and presents for dads!

\*Note: Encourage students to make items for another male role model, if biological fathers are not as much a figure in their lives.

### Bible Verses or Craft Captions to Consider...

*“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. -Exodus 20:12*

*For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” -Romans 8:15*

*If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him! -Matthew 7:11*

*Dad’s toolbox is full of wonderful things! Some of them include...*

*I am “tied up” with love...Happy Father’s Day!*

*Dad ROCKS! Thanks for who you are!*

### More Teaching [Ideas for Father’s Day](#) at Church

- Print our [Father’s Day Sunday School Lesson](#)
- Browse [Popular Bible Verses for Father’s Day](#)
- Download our [Father’s Day Coloring Pages](#)
- See a [demonstration of this craft](#) and more [Father’s Day ideas](#) on YouTube



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# Craft one: “Dad’s Toolbox”

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## You will need:

- Construction paper or card stock
- Markers, stickers, or other decorating materials
- Scissors
- Envelopes or boxes
- Foam or felt pieces (optional)



## Procedure:

1. Trace “tool” shapes onto pieces of paper or felt, drawing outlines of things like hammers, saws, screwdrivers, or other tools.
2. Cut out the various “tools” and add extra decorations, if desired.
3. Write on the “tools” positive attributes of dad, or turn them into coupons for special chores or time with dad.
4. Decorate the envelope or box/container to reflect the “toolbox” theme.
5. Place the paper or fabric tools inside the box/envelope. Deliver to dad for Father’s Day!



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# Craft Two: “Dad Rocks!”

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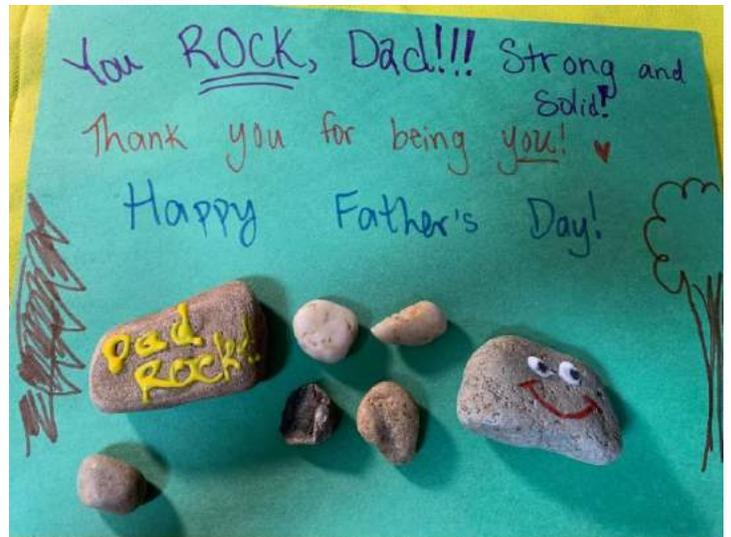
## You will need:

- Craft rocks, or real stones (various sizes)
- Construction paper or fabric (background)
- Glue
- Puffy paint or acrylic paint
- Extra decorations (googly eyes, etc.)
- Permanent markers
- Markers or crayons (optional)



## Procedure:

1. Choose a few rocks, in assorted shapes and sizes.
2. Decorate rocks with paint, fabric paint, or permanent markers.
3. Add extra decorations as desired, such as pom-poms, google eyes, glitter, or stickers.
4. Decorate paper (or small bags or boxes) with captions and notes, and a “backdrop” if desired.
5. Place rocks within the “framework” of the decoration and present to remind fathers that “dad rocks!”



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# Craft Three: "Tied up Card"

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## You will need:

- Construction paper or fabric
- Scissors
- Glue
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils
- Extra decorations (stickers, glitter, etc.)
- String, pipe cleaner, or ribbon



## Procedure:

1. Cut paper or fabric/cloth into the shape of a tie.
2. Decorate tie-shape as a card, adding captions, words, and messages.
3. Add stickers or other extra decorations as desired.
4. Attach to a small jar of candy or bottle of soda, or simply attach a string or pipe cleaner to hang as decoration.





This lesson was prepared by [Kristin Schmidt](#), who serves at the Epiphany Lutheran Church in Castle Rock, CO.

She has shared her teaching gifts through *Ministry-To-Children* since 2014 and now serves as our lead curriculum writer.

Kristin has a professional background in elementary and pre-school education. A graduate of Biola University, she holds a Master of Education and will receive the Master of Theology degree from Concordia University, Irvine, California, in May

2020. Kristin grew up in southern California and lived the past 10 years in Georgia. She is a long-distance runner and voracious reader.

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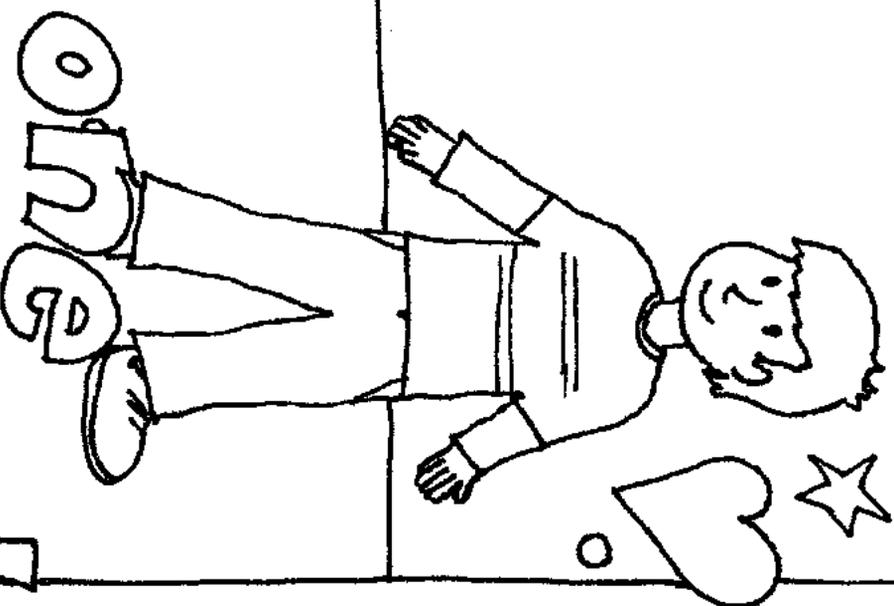
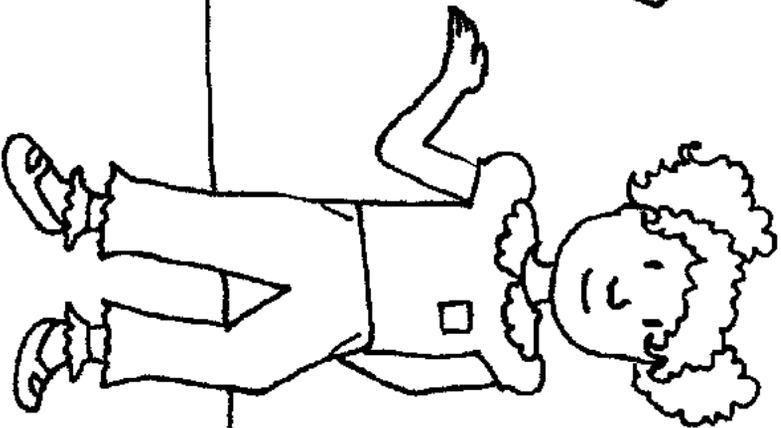
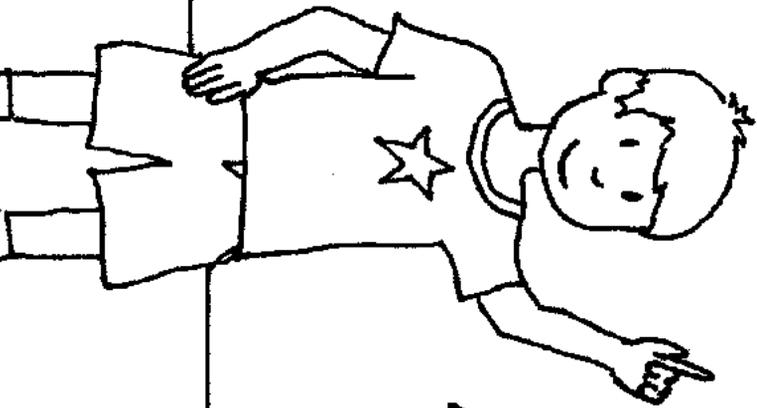
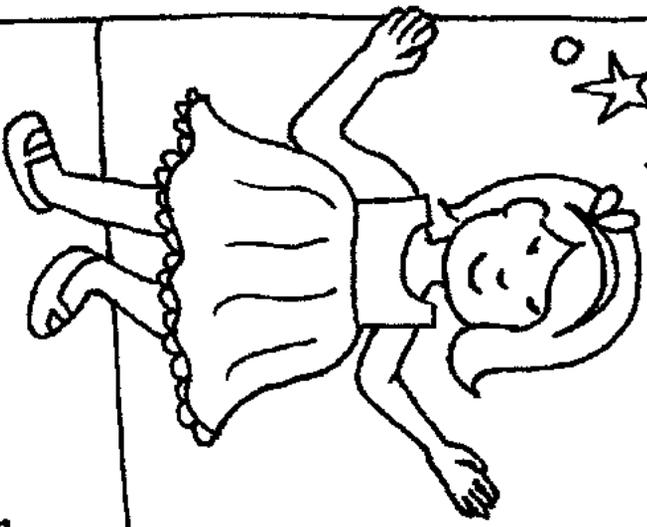
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God is the best



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