

The Wisdom of God

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 139,
the Family + Faith page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 279

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Define wisdom as a gift from God that helps us understand the purpose and plan for our life
- Appreciate the Wisdom books in the Bible for their guidance for faithful and wise living
- Discuss several proverbs and their life applications
- Recognize the wisdom of Solomon and Job
- Understand that we are called to seek God's wisdom in our own lives

Read the **Consider This** feature. What thoughts or reactions do you have to the opening question?

Parents, Consider This: *All the books of the Bible reveal God's wisdom in a special way because they unfold his plan for the human family. As we come to hear God's Word, we come to understand that his wisdom surpasses all human knowledge. As a family, explore one of the Wisdom books of the Bible; Psalms, Job, Proverbs, Sirach, Ecclesiastes, and Wisdom. See what might speak to your family at this time. Much of the material may sound like common sense. The books address common human concerns and do so in recognizable human ways.*

Read these other sections on the Family + Faith Page.

- *Your Child Learned.* This highlights some of the content of Sacred Scripture and Tradition in the lesson.
- *Children At This Age.* This will help you to understand how your child processes and learns at this developmental level.



Let's Sing: These songs connect the session topics and can be downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

- Holy Spirit
- We Are Marching

INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

After gathering the supplies that you will need, find a quiet place to be with your child. This is a sacred time—a time when you will be present to each other and to the Lord. You may want to light a candle as you begin.



Let Us Pray Invite your child to make the Sign of the Cross. Read aloud the verse from the book. Help your child to respond.

Say: Solomon's wisdom arose from what he himself admitted that he didn't know. His prayer confesses that his greatest wish is to be given a gift of understanding, so that he might share it with God's People. Today's reading shows God's response.

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The Wisdom of God
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Guide your child through the Preparing for God’s Word Ritual you learned in the Introduction Session or play Track 1 of the *Songs of Scripture* CD.

- Proclaim God’s Word in the Parchment Paper box on the page.
- Maintain several moments of silence.
- Ask: What did you hear God say to you today?

Invite your child to respond and also share what you heard.

Now, look at the *What Do You Wonder?* box.

Say: Like Solomon, we continually need to grow in our faith. We need to try over and over again, to better know and understand the God whom we love and who loves us more.

Invite your child to respond to the questions. Prompt what else they might wonder about wisdom.

DISCOVER: Learning God’s Truth

Turn to Page 132,
God Gives Wisdom
Vivos en Cristo, Page 265

Summarize the introductory paragraph.

Have your child silently read the biography of Saint Hildegard of Bingen.

Invite your child to tell you the topics Hildegard wrote about.

Ask: Who were some of the people that learned from Hildegard’s writings? (*nobles, scholars, and religious people*)

Point out that we can all learn from people who have wisdom. Review the definition of the Catholic Faith Word, **wisdom**, on page 133.



Do the gold-star activity.

Turn to Page 133,
Wisdom Writing in the Bible
Vivos en Cristo, Page 267

Tell your child that the Hebrew people valued wisdom so highly that it is often mentioned in the sacred writings.

Have your child read the first two paragraphs.

Ask your child how he or she seeks wisdom. Discuss how we know that our sources of wisdom are reliable.

Read aloud the Proverbs on the page. Alternate reading with your child.



Do the gold-star activity.

Discuss the possible meanings of the Proverbs and which Proverbs you have found to be true in your lives.

Activity

Have your child complete the Share Your Faith activity.

Parents, Consider This: *The Book of Proverbs is a collection of poetry compiled in the fifth century, B.C. Its purpose is to teach wisdom. It is based on the principle that “the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.” There is much valuable advice for parents, children, and families in this book. Explore the wisdom of this book of the Bible together as a family.*

Turn to Page 134,
The Wisdom Books
Vivos en Cristo, Page 269

Have your child silently read the first two paragraphs. Then have them summarize what they read and tell you about it.



Proclaim the Scripture “Solomon’s Request.”

Discuss why Solomon would ask for an understanding heart.

Read aloud the last paragraph and discuss the questions at the bottom of the page.

Turn to Page 135,
A New Way of Seeing
Vivos en Cristo, Page 271

Ask your child to name a popular belief that he or she thinks is true and another one they think is false. Point out that a belief may be popular, but may or may not be consistent with what we know from Scripture.

Read aloud the first two paragraphs to introduce the Scripture passage.



Have your child read the Scripture, “The Story of Job.”

Discuss the two questions at the bottom of the page.

LIVE: Living Our Faith

Turn to Page 136,
Our Catholic Life
Vivos en Cristo, Page 273

Read aloud the two introductory paragraphs.

Activity

Invite your child to find a quiet place to think about a decision they might make and to follow the steps for making a wise decision based on the steps on this page.

Parents, Consider This: *One of the most important parts of making decisions is identifying the consequences of one’s actions. When you have to make a choice, ask yourself: How will this choice affect me? How will this choice affect others? Am I willing to accept responsibility for the possible consequences, positive or negative? Discuss this process as a family and teach it to your child.*

Turn to Page 137,
People of Faith
Vivos en Cristo, Page 275

Turn to Page 139,
Family + Faith Page and
conclude with the Let's Pray
prayer on this page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 279

Read the paragraph about Saint Thomas Aquinas.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Talk about what helps a person become wise.

Parents, Consider This: *It's important to form our children in the common language of prayer. We encourage you to pray the Hail Mary (see Page 322), during your night prayer this week.*



To access and send an eAssessment to your child, go to the Student and Family section of aliveinchrist.osv.com.