

# WISDOM

Finding out  
what you should do  
and doing it



WEEK  
3

## READ PROVERBS 12:18

DAY 1

Have you ever heard the phrase “think before you speak?” Thinking BEFORE you speak is really hard to do. Most of the time, when we’re upset or frustrated, we want other people to know it and feel the same way. So we say something unkind, whether we really mean it or not, to make ourselves feel a little better. But the problem is that words CAN hurt you. When you say something without thinking, you can’t take it back. Even if you were just joking. Once a hurtful word has been spoken, the damage is done.

But there is a better way. Careless words hurt, but when you carefully choose your words they have the power to heal. It’s all about pausing and thinking BEFORE the words come out of your mouth. So the question is, will you stop and think so that your words bring healing instead of hurt?

Write Proverbs 12:18 on another card. On the other side, draw the outline of a small sword. Inside the outline, glue or tape small pieces of tin foil on the blade part of the sword. Then decorate the handle. Underneath the sword write out this week’s bottom line—if you want to be wise, think before you speak.

**THANK** God for reminding you today to choose helpful words.

## READ PROVERBS 18:13

DAY 2

How many times do you interrupt your parent or teacher in a day? Guess a number. Would the grown up say that the number you guessed is right? You probably don’t mean to interrupt them. It’s hard to stop and listen sometimes when you feel like you have something to say.

But the truth is, grown ups have important things to say too. And when you interrupt them, you might be missing out on a chance to learn something that might make a real difference in your situation. Wait and listen completely before you speak. Don’t be a fool and interrupt. A wise person listens before answering.

Grab another card to add to your flipbook. Write Proverbs 18:13 on one side. On the other side, write the word “LISTEN” in large block letters. Decorate the letters to help you remember to listen before answering this week!

**ASK** God to help you be wise by LISTENING before answering this week.



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## READ PROVERBS 6:2

DAY 3

Have you ever been caught telling a lie? When you tell a lie, it's only a matter of time before the truth comes out. And now, because you lied, you're not just in trouble for whatever you did wrong, you're in trouble for lying about it too.

God has a better way. He doesn't want your words to get you in trouble. Think before you speak, choose your words carefully, and make sure you are honest. If you're honest, you won't have to worry about being tangled by the words of your mouth. Being honest doesn't guarantee that there won't be consequences when you mess up. But being truthful about your mistake from the very beginning means that the people around you can trust you. And that is WAY better than being tangled in a thoughtless lie.

Write Proverbs 6:2 on a new card to add to your Proverbs flipbook. On the other side, cut out or draw a small piece of rope or twine and tape it down to remind you not to be tangled by your own words.

**LOOK** for opportunities to be honest this week so you can build trust.

## READ PROVERBS 10:19

DAY 4

Words can definitely get you in trouble. And when you're making up a reason for doing something wrong, often more words can equal MORE trouble. The best thing to do is to stop yourself and think before letting that story fly from your lips. Adding more and more words won't help the situation. Only the truth will. So work hard to think before you speak and control your tongue.

Add another card to your Proverbs flipbook. Write out Proverbs 10:19 on one side. Flip the card over and write "WORDS" in small block letters all over the back of the card, as many times as you can. When finished, draw the outline of a pair of lips over the text to remind you to think before you speak.

**KNOW** that God wants you to show wisdom by controlling your tongue.

If you want to be **WISE**,  
think before you speak.

