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SAMPLE

Week 6: A Wise Person Controls His Mouth

Memory Verse:
Proverbs 29:11

	#1 - A wise person thinks before speaking.
	#2 - A wise person's words are few, not many.
	#3 - A wise person's words are honest.
	#4 - A wise person's words are not argumentative.

Day 1

Read Proverbs 15:28

This verse tells us that a righteous, or wise person, does what before talking and giving answers? They think carefully before speaking.

Read Proverbs 29:11

This verse tells us that the fool does just the opposite of the wise man. Rather than thinking before speaking, he just blurts out whatever he is thinking.

How can we apply this to our everyday life? Stop and think before you speak, and don't be in a hurry to give an answer. It's okay to pause and give it some thought before you say anything.



Key #1 – A wise person thinks before speaking.

Practice memory verse and Key #1.

Activity

Fill up a balloon for each of the kids, but don't tie them. Give one to each child as you finish filling it, and tell them not to let the air go out of them.

After they all have a balloon, tell some of them to let the air out and let the balloon go. As the balloons goes flying across the room, explain how that is a good example of a foolish person being quick to speak. They just let their words come rushing out with no control over them.

Now ask another child to just slowly start letting a little bit of air out of their balloon. After they have let a little of it out, tell them to STOP! Explain how being slow with your words enables you to control what comes out of your mouth.

Prayer

Lord, help me to be slow to speak, and take my time before answering people or saying things. Let me control my mouth and be wise with my words.

DAY 2

Read Proverbs 17:27

This verse tells us that a wise person uses words with restraint, or spares his words. He simply controls his mouth, and doesn't talk too much.

Read Proverbs 10:19

Here is the verse in a few different versions, just to give you the idea that it is trying to make:

"In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise."

"When there are many words, sin is unavoidable, but the one who controls his lips is wise."

"Too much talk leads to sin. Be sensible and keep your mouth shut."

The idea of the verse is that if you talk TOO much, you are going to say things you shouldn't and sin. It's best to speak less, rather than more. If you want to be wise, listen more than you talk, and think before you speak.

 **Key #2 - A wise person words are few, not many.**

Practice memory verse, and Key #1, 2.

Activity

Fizzy Pop - Find a place to make a mess, and shake a bottle of pop. While shaking it, talk about how there are times when we want to just spew out words when we are angry, or when we think someone is wrong about something.

Once we start, it's hard to stop talking when we should, so we go on and say things that get us in a mess. We hurt people's feelings, or get in trouble with our parents when we fail to restrain our words.

Take the top off the bottle of pop, and let the fizz go all over making a mess.

Encourage them to come to you or go to God when they are losing self-control, so they don't "make a mess" by hurting others with their words, or getting into trouble with them.

Prayer

Father, help my words to be few rather than many, so they won't lead to sin. May I control myself when I want to talk more than I should, or get upset and start to say things I shouldn't.

Day 3

Read Proverbs 12:22, Proverbs 13:5

Why is it important to speak words that are honest and true? Because God hates lying. Also, a righteous or wise man hates lying.

Sometimes you may do something that was wrong, and then lie about it thinking that no one saw you do it, and therefore you can get away with it. However, God sees what you do, and He is listening when you tell that lie. Lying always leads to more lies, and eventually you get caught and get punished.

One of the punishments that comes from not speaking the truth, is that you can no longer be trusted. Once you have lied a couple of times or more, your parents and others start to wonder if they can believe you. They find it hard to trust you once you have broken that trust with untruthfulness. Do people think of you as an honest person?

 **Key #4 - A wise person's words are honest.**

Practice memory verse and Key #1,2,3.

Activity

Play "Two Truths and a Lie." Have each family member think of three statements to share, two truthful and one not. The rest of the family guesses which statement is the lie. Teens can share anecdotes about events at school such as, "My friend got in trouble with the principal because she walked out before assembly was dismissed." Younger children can make simple statements such as, "I didn't wear my blue sweater today because I couldn't find it." (from ehow)

Prayer

Lord I want to be known for being honest with my words, and not for lying. Help me to tell the truth, and to always remember that you are listening to everything I say.

Day 4

Read Proverbs 20:3

Here's another way to say that: Avoiding a fight is a mark of honor; only fools insist on quarreling.

Read Proverbs 18:6

This verse is simply saying that a fool keeps on and on with his words, hoping to stir up a fight. If you are wise, you will control your tongue and cease from strife (arguing and fighting). You will be the peacemaker.

The best way to avoid getting into arguing and fighting is to respond with a soft answer, rather than being so proud that you just have to get the last word in.

 **Key #4 -A wise person's words are not argumentative.**

Practice the memory verse, and four Keys.

Activity

Make two charts. Label one "Peaceful Words" and the other one "Arguing Words".

Ask your kids to name words that will bring arguing and strife. Write them on 3 x 5 cards as they name them.

Then have them name words that can be used to avoid arguing. Write those words down on 3 x 5 cards.

If needed, give the kids ideas to get a good list of words for each.

After writing them all down, have the kids work together to clue them on to the correct poster.

Prayer

Lord please help me to put my pride aside when I want to argue, or prove that I am right. Help my words to bring peace, rather than strife.

Day 5

Practice the memory verse, and four Keys together.

Have each child say them to you separately. Give "treasure" for chart when they can complete them correctly.

SAMMY

Week 6 Coloring Page

