

### Children's Sunday School

*Sunday's from 9:45 – 10:30am*

Children's Sunday School with Kim Ridenour is offered in-person and virtually every Sunday from 9:45-10:45am for children ages 6-18. For more information, contact Kim Ridenour at [miskim@myactv.net](mailto:miskim@myactv.net) or the Church Office at 301.739.7244. Those wishing to participate virtually can join by Zoom by going to <https://zoom.us/join> or calling 301.715.8592, and when prompted, enter Meeting ID: **865 7471 1577** and Passcode: **YouthSS**.

### Children's Church

*Available In-Person Only*

Children's Church is available during worship for those worshipping in-person after the Children's Moment is over in Sunday Worship.



### Worship @ 11 am Sunday Mornings in-person at



Zion Reformed United Church of Christ  
201 N Potomac Street  
Hagerstown, MD 21740  
[www.ZionReformed.church](http://www.ZionReformed.church)

or virtually at <https://zionreformed.church/sermons>

## Hearing God's Word:

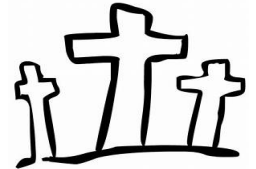


Today in church we learned that we can choose to live for God and not let arguments or wrong motives get in the way. We also blessed our prayer blankets filled with prayers, blessings, and hope to comfort those in need. Some of the scriptures we explored today included Psalm 1; James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; and Mark 9:30-37.

### True Wisdom

(James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a, *International Children's Bible*®, ©2015 by Tommy Nelson Inc)

Is there anyone among you who is truly wise and understanding? Then he should show his wisdom by living right. He should do good things without being proud. A wise person does not brag. But if you are selfish and have bitter jealousy in your hearts, you have no reason to brag. Your bragging is a lie that hides the truth. That kind of "wisdom" does not come from God. That "wisdom" comes from the world. It is not spiritual. It is from the devil. Where there is jealousy and selfishness, there will be confusion and every kind of evil. But the wisdom that comes from God is like this: First, it is pure. Then it is also peaceful, gentle, and easy to please. This wisdom is always ready to help those who are troubled and to do good for others. This wisdom is always fair and honest. When people work for peace in a peaceful way, they receive the good result of their right living. Do you know where your fights and arguments come from? They come from the selfish desires that make war inside you. You want things, but you do not have them. So you are ready to kill and are jealous of other people. But you still cannot get what you want. So you argue and fight. You do not get what you want because you do not ask God. Or when you ask, you do not receive because the reason you ask is wrong. You want things only so that you can use them for your own pleasures. So give yourselves to God. Stand against the devil, and the devil will run away from you. Come near to God, and God will come near to you. You are sinners. So clean sin out of your lives. You are trying to follow God and the world at the same time. Make your thinking pure.



## Family Reflection: Delight in God's Word



Who here likes to read? I love to read. Books are often filled with amazing stories that take us to far-off places. *[Have each family member share their favorite book. If someone doesn't have a favorite book, that's perfectly okay. Just say "pass."]*

Books are great because they can teach us things and tell exciting stories. Who is your favorite character in a book?  
*[Take turns answering and commenting on some of the characters.]*

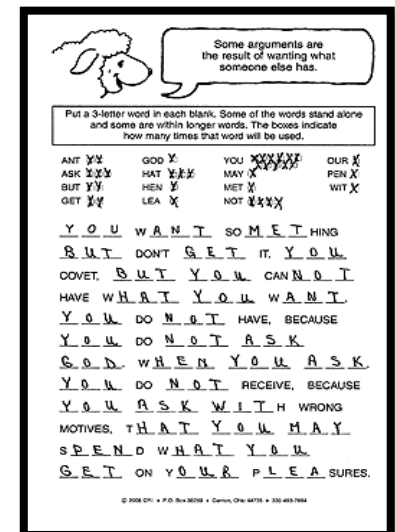
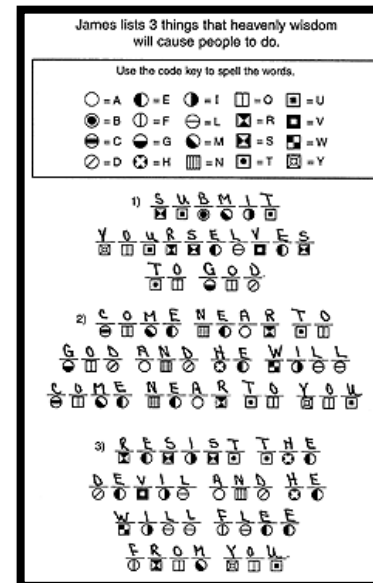
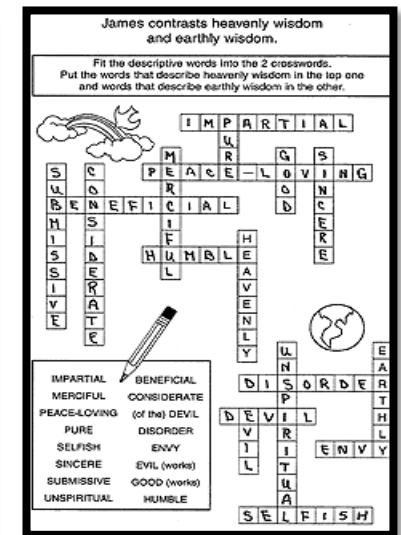
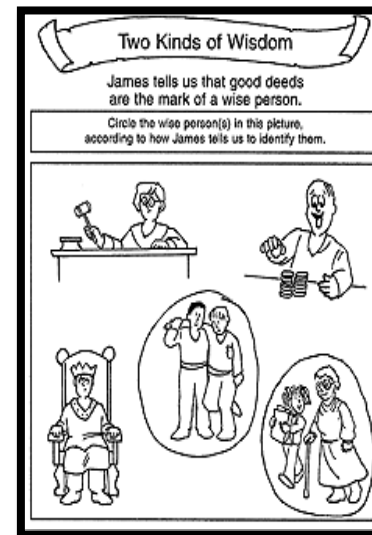
I love to read, and one of my favorite books actually changed my life.

Now this book, the Bible, is God's Word and is life-changing. Everyone say, "God's Word." The Bible is the greatest book of all time. It contains God's words to us, and they're helpful to lead, comfort, instruct, and encourage us. The Bible provides us with God's direction, comfort, hope, and more. It is a roadmap for us from God.

The Bible is made up of 66 books. There are 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament. Despite there being so many books in the Bible, God's Word tells one great story. The story of the Bible is all about the one true God who created everything and loves us so much that He sent His Son Jesus to save us. That's why the Bible is the most amazing book. No matter how many times you read it, God can always teach you something new.

Psalm 1 tells us to delight in God's Word, so remember just as we get excited about the next book in our favorite series, we can learn to get excited about God's Word and enjoy hearing what God has to say to us.

## Answer Key:



# Delight in God's Word

"Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on God's law day and night.



c r k n w j e f u e a l n n z  
 n l e a l b j n o t h k l j a  
 w i l p e u a r s a p j i o t  
 t r e e s v s n u t k f v p k  
 v h x t j o t j o i l q h e o  
 k d n o b d r u e d q q g u p  
 k s s l z y d p t e u a f k w  
 a t e t w e v l h m a e r t s  
 j m a a l d j e g l o g n j w  
 r b t i s x c e i e t i u r f  
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 t r w g v z v y n q z z t d f  
 w w m k s c g t l a x n j f a  
 n h m v h v a i t a l p z c m

delight  
 leaf  
 righteous  
 tree

fruit  
 meditate  
 season  
 water

law  
 prosper  
 stream

## Family Discussion:

A theme of this week in some way is "words". In Psalm 1, we are instructed to delight in God's Word, and in our epistle reading in James, we are given guidance about how to use our own words. Our words can cause others to feel loved or unloved, accepted or not. Words can change our emotions within our hearts and minds too.

### A Question for Adults to ask Children:

*How does your body feel when you are angry?*

Talk about the difference between feeling an emotion and acting on it. There are things in the world that will make us angry because they are wrong – it is how we respond that matters.

### A Question for Children to ask Adults:

*What do you do to help yourself calm down when you are angry?*

A great opportunity to talk about stress management tools available to us like a meditative walk, stress-relief balls, a personal "timeout" and so forth.

## A Prayer to Say Together:



Dear God,

Thank You for Your Word, the Bible. We are grateful that You love us so much that You sent Your Son, Jesus, and that You tell us all about it in the Bible. Help us make time for Your Word and take delight in it.

We also pray that You help us to only use loving words when we speak so that our neighbors know Your love through our words and actions.

Amen.

## Family Activities:

Here are some activities you can do together as a family and discussion ideas to explore God's Word together.



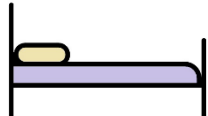
**Follow the Leader:** James 4:7 warns us to give ourselves to God completely, to live in a way that pleases God rather than following the examples of the world. Take turns being the leader, and you could talk about how we can follow the example of Jesus in our own lives.

**Plant Some Seeds:** James 3:18 says "People who work for peace in a peaceful way plant a good crop of right-living." Why not try planting some seeds together as a family? You could go on a walk in nature and try to find some seeds to plant or try using some seeds from fruits or vegetables you eat during the week.



**Connect with God Together:** Complete this activity to let out your anger and give any problems or events that caused it to God.

Write or draw on a piece of paper the things that have made you angry. Crumple up the paper, stomp on it, rip it apart, destroy it. And then, ask God to take away your anger.



**Anger Challenge:** Ephesians 4:26 reminds us to remove negative emotions before we go to bed. Why not challenge yourselves as a family this week to let go of negative emotions at the end of each day with a short time of prayer and listening to God as part of your bedtime routine?



Some arguments are the result of wanting what someone else has.

Put a 3-letter word in each blank. Some of the words stand alone and some are within longer words. The boxes indicate how many times that word will be used.

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James lists 3 things that heavenly wisdom  
will cause people to do.

Use the code key to spell the words.

○ = A	◐ = E	◑ = I	◻ = O	◼ = U
◉ = B	◕ = F	◔ = L	◕ = R	◼ = V
◔ = C	◑ = G	◑ = M	◕ = S	◼ = W
◕ = D	⊗ = H	▮ = N	◼ = T	◕ = Y

1) ◕ ◼ ◉ ◑ ◑ ◑ ◑

◕ ◻ ◼ ◕ ◕ ◑ ◔ ◼ ◑ ◕ ◕

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2) ◔ ◻ ◑ ◑ ◑ ◑ ◑ ◑ ◑ ◑ ◑ ◑

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Don't say cruel things and don't tell lies. Do good  
instead of evil and try to live at peace [delighting in  
the Lord].

~ Psalm 34:13-14 ~



## Two Kinds of Wisdom

James tells us that good deeds are the mark of a wise person.

Circle the wise person(s) in this picture, according to how James tells us to identify them.



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**SECRET CODE!**  
**HTWM18**

James contrasts heavenly wisdom and earthly wisdom.

Fit the descriptive words into the 2 crosswords.  
Put the words that describe heavenly wisdom in the top one and words that describe earthly wisdom in the other.

IMPARTIAL	BENEFICIAL
MERCIFUL	CONSIDERATE
PEACE-LOVING	(of the) DEVIL
PURE	DISORDER
SELFISH	ENVY
SINCERE	EVIL (works)
SUBMISSIVE	GOOD (works)
UNSPIRITUAL	HUMBLE