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## Forward

The *Way of the Wise* is a study for children on wisdom and foolishness. This curriculum contrasts the foolish person and the wise person by discussing the characteristics of each. It also teaches that the way of the foolish ends in destruction, but the way of the wise leads to life. This series uses the book of Proverbs to encourage children to pursue wisdom and to shun folly.

Lesson 1: *Jesus, the Sure Foundation* (Matthew 7). The first lesson begins by establishing a key difference between the wise and foolish person: Wise men listen to and obey the words of Jesus; foolish men do not listen to and obey the words of Jesus. Children will learn that those on a solid foundation are safe and will live, but those on a sandy foundation will perish. The lesson teaches that standing on a sure foundation is very important, but that everyone is born in sin on a sandy foundation. Jesus is the only sure foundation.

Lesson 2: *The Path that Leads to Life* (Proverbs 4). The second lesson illustrates that there are two paths in life. The *Way of the Wise* leads to heaven, and the *Way of the Foolish* leads to destruction. Students will see that the Bible warns us to follow the *Way of the Wise* and to avoid the *Way of the Foolish*. The lesson also teaches that Jesus is the only way to enter the *Way of the Wise*.

Lesson 3: *Wisdom and Foolishness* (Acts 4-5). The third lesson seeks to distinguish between wisdom and foolishness. Children will learn that wisdom is loving what is good and right and acting on that love, while foolishness is loving what is bad and wrong and acting on that love.

Lesson 4: *A Call to Wisdom* (various Proverbs). The fourth lesson focuses specifically on wisdom. Students will learn that wisdom is beautiful and brings happiness. Wisdom needs to be in the heart, not just in the head. They will also learn that those who are children of God are called to a life of wisdom.

I have designed these lessons to enable you to teach the Bible expositively. The idea is to have the kids read the passages in their own Bibles and the teacher explain the scriptures and give good practical applications that are age-appropriate. My goal is to ensure that children learn that God's Word is exciting and meaningful and that teachers teach sound doctrine!

Even though I've scripted the lessons, I don't expect teachers to read my lesson materials verbatim to the children as they teach. My lessons are meant to provide the details you need to get background information and some suggestions for child-oriented personal application. Once you know and understand the Bible lessons for yourself, you'll be ready to teach your class.

The two-column layout of this book is designed so that you can copy and cut the pages in half to fit into your Bible. When the children observe that you are teaching right out of the Bible, rather than from a curriculum book, it validates God's Word and gives your teaching more authority.

For additional lesson reinforcement ideas refer to *Tips and Tricks — Making Children's Bible Lessons Come to Life*, available from my website: <https://www.freechildrensministrylessons.com/>

I pray that you will use these lessons for God's glory by teaching the Bible as an entire plan by a systematic and connected study of the Word.

*Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. (Mark 10:14)*

*Sheila Scroggins*

Sheila has had over 35 years' experience in teaching children and has several other lesson series available. You may contact her by eMail at: [ccuv-ChildrensMinistry@usa.net](mailto:ccuv-ChildrensMinistry@usa.net) for more information.

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