

Lesson 8 / January 19, 2025

Always Say a Prayer

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as
STEP 1

**Lesson 8****Focus:**

Praying can help me make wise choices.

Lesson 8**Bible Basis:**

Mark 3:13-19a;
Luke 6:12-16

Lesson 8**Memory Verse:**

If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who give generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.
—James 1:5

Students will explore making choices and seeking guidance before making decisions through an activity.

Materials:

- Projector (or screenshared document)

Prior to class, pull up this menu link below in a Google Chrome window:

https://www.panerabread.com/content/panerabread_com/en-us/menu/categories/sandwiches.html

Right click anywhere on the page and click “translate”. Then, select “French” from the list of languages to translate the page into.

More instructions on this feature can be found here:

<https://support.google.com/chrome/answer/173424?hl=en&co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop>

Once all your students have arrived, invite them to participate in an activity.

Imagine you are going out to lunch with your family after this, and you have to choose your meal from this menu.

Using the tip above, display the following online menu for your students in French:

https://www.panerabread.com/content/panerabread_com/en-us/menu/categories/sandwiches.html

➤ **Are any of you having a hard time making a selection? If so, why?** (Accept all reasonable responses.)

Unless you know French, it will be challenging to choose a meal because you can't understand the choices!

Then, change the “Google translate” language to English.

➤ **Now that the page is in English, would it be easier to make a lunch selection?**
(Accept all reasonable responses.)

It is easier to make a food selection when the menu is in a language you speak! If you had to choose a meal without being able to read it, you might end up with something you didn’t like—or even with something you’re allergic to! Being able to read the food menu allows you to make a wise choice!

We make decisions all day long. Before you arrived at Sunday school this morning, you had already made a number of decisions—what to wear, what to bring with you to church, whether to wear a coat, which door to use to enter the building, where to sit when you arrived in the classroom. We make countless decisions all day long!

Many of the decisions we make are simple and are made quickly to allow us to move through our day; we are faced with a choice, and we can decide without needing to spend a lot of time in thought. We make a lot of our decisions on our own without needing to rely on others to help us figure out which choice to make.

There are also situations that we encounter that either benefit from or require advice or help from others. Some of those situations can be simple, like with our candy choice this morning—in order to get the right candy for your partner, many of you needed your partner to tell you which candy to choose.

But we can also encounter situations or decisions that are much more challenging than which candy to choose or what to wear. We can face situations that are uncertain, challenges that seem too hard to get through, or difficulties that are scary. It’s in those moments that we find ourselves seeking help from others.

While He was on earth, Jesus faced situations in which He had to make choices that would impact His ministry. Let’s look at what He did to work through a challenging situation.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher’s guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

Always Say a Prayer

for use as
STEP 4 

Lesson 8**Focus:**

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Luke 6:12-16

Lesson 8**Memory Verse:**

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Materials:

- Internet access
- Whiteboard and markers
- “In Need of Wisdom?” worksheet printouts (1 per student; worksheet found at the end of this document)
- Pens/pencils/markers

Before class, print out enough In Need of Wisdom worksheets so that each student has a copy. Worksheet can be found at the end of this document. If your class is meeting online, email the template to families to print for their students ahead of time.

Our lesson today allowed us to see Jesus as He wrestled with the huge task of choosing His disciples. Jesus wanted wisdom and direction from God so much that He spent an entire night in prayer. Jesus’ example is one we should always strive to follow; He showed how immensely important it is for us to always seek wisdom and direction from our Heavenly Father.

Use the following link to display today’s memory verse and ask a volunteer to read it aloud.
<https://dailyverses.net/2018/4/12>

How incredible is that? God isn’t stingy in giving wisdom to people who ask Him how they can make the best choices. Our verse tells us that God gives wisdom “without finding fault.” He doesn’t look at our past mistakes—foolish choices we’ve made previously—before He decides whether or not we deserve to receive wisdom from Him. What an encouraging promise!

When life feels easy and worry-free, it can be easy to say, “I’ll always remember to pray when I find myself in a challenging situation.” However, when those challenging moments hit and we find ourselves struggling to know what to do, we may forget our commitment to pray. It can be helpful to have an easy way to remind ourselves what we should do when we need wisdom.

Distribute supplies (or invite students to have them ready at home). You may want to display the worksheet on an overhead screen (or screenshared document) so all your students can see what you are referring to as you point it out to them.

An acronym uses letters to help us remember a phrase or idea in a simple, easy way. You are probably familiar with the acronym ASAP, which commonly stands for “As soon as possible.” To help us remember the importance of prayer when facing a challenge, we can use ASAP to help us remember to “Always Say a Prayer.”

Point out to your students where the words “Always Say a Prayer” should be written on their worksheet. Give the students time to reflect on their own lives and whether they are facing a challenging decision for which they need wisdom and direction from God. Instruct students to use the box at the bottom of their worksheet to write a prayer to God, asking Him to generously give the wisdom He promises.

When students have finished their prayers, come back together as a group to close in prayer: **Father God, You take such good care of us! You know us so well, and You know that when we have tough choices to make and hard challenges to work through, we need Your help. Thank You for the promise of wisdom; thank You for giving it to us when we ask. Thank You for not holding our past mistakes and poor decisions against us! Your wisdom is a generous gift that we desperately need. Help us to follow Jesus’ example in remembering to always pray and lean on You as we walk through the choices and decisions that come our way. Thank You for loving us, for caring for us, and for knowing our needs. We love You, Lord. In Jesus’ name, amen.**

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IN NEED OF WISDOM???

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