

Cycle A

Thirty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time



build. plant. grow.
the word this week

Lectionary #154

Reading I: Wisdom 6:12-16

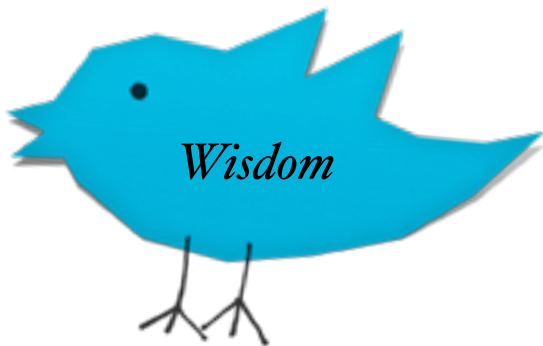
The Book of Wisdom is about the qualities of **wisdom**. Throughout this Book, we encounter *Lady Wisdom*, who is defined as resplendent and unfading. These words indicate that **wisdom** seeks out those who desire her and will go to any lengths to accompany the one who wishes to be her life partner. **Wisdom** is one of the virtue's that assists us on life's journey.



ordinary
time

Reading 2: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

In this First Letter of Saint Paul to the Church at Thessalonica, we hear him **wisely** remind the people that as believers, they should hold fast to the hope that those who have died are not forsaken. The **wisdom** of our faith tells us to trust the fact that it is the Risen One who brings about our own resurrection. Living in hope is indeed a **wise** decision, as is speaking words of hope to a community experiencing the physical loss of someone to early death.



Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

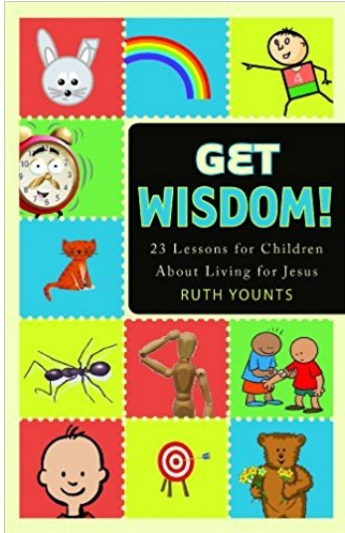
Often this passage from Saint Matthew's Gospel is referred to as the parable of the **wise** and foolish virgins. The message being conveyed is that we are called to be ready for the coming of the Lord. Those who live **wisely** will be ready to be greeted by the Lord, whereas those who have not attended to their relationship with God will be saddened when they find they are unprepared to be with the Lord. Light is a dominant symbol in this story, and the reader can see that those who have their lights burning brightly are those who are **wisely** prepared, while those with dimmed flames have not kept themselves on fire with faith.



lectionary
reading



children's
story



Get Wisdom!

Written by Ruth Younts

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character
education
activity

Get Wisdom!

This book was designed for parents, teachers, and religious educators. Throughout the text, there are 23 lessons and activities to assist in educating the young hearts and minds about the importance of **wisdom**. Each of the lessons is presented in a simple format with illustrations that will capture the imagination and attention of the students. The book is absolutely Christ-centered and will be a resource that can be gone to time and again for planning purposes. Although it is written for children, it can be adapted for all ages.

Activity: Get Wisdom!

Any and all of the activities and lessons included in the book, *Get Wisdom!*

**Knowing yourself is the
beginning of all wisdom.
-Aristotle**

**wisdom (wiz-duh m)-
noun- the knowledge of
what is true and right
coupled with just
judgment as to action
and discernment**



case study

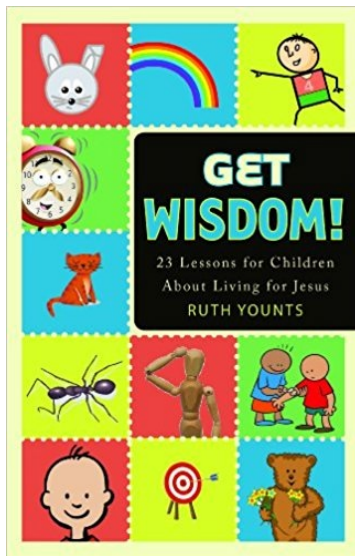
**Look.
Feel.
Know.
Act.**

What could you do today?

If you feel brave enough to face some decisions or actions that did not go as you planned, have a discussion with your parents and ask them to help you better understand how you could have done things differently. It is in reviewing our past and learning from it that we become **wiser**. This takes courage because people would often rather forget about past mistakes when it is really in looking and learning from them that we come to understand how to do better in the future. **Wisdom** is something God offers to us, but it is a journey that we must embark on with God. We have to do our part and God will always do his part.

Look Feel Know Act

Wisdom is something we can learn every day by examining our lives. We are asked to look deeply at the words we use with others and the effect that these words have. We are also called to examine our actions and the outcomes of those actions. Whether positive or negative, we can learn a lot from them. When we have done something good or bad, there are certain feelings within us that indicate if we have made a good or bad choice. We are compelled by **wisdom** to ask for forgiveness for any harmful words or actions, and we are compelled by **wisdom** to celebrate our growth in goodness and virtue.



Throughout the Old and New Testament, there are many phrases, proverbs, stories, and parables that can teach us how to live **wisely**. The beauty of the Scriptures is that they will teach us different things at different times in our lives. We are called to get **wisdom** and to seek it out as it is one of the best friends that we will have in life.

This is the Serenity Prayer, developed by theologian philosopher Reinhold Niebuhr in 1951:

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.



**closing
tool**



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