



Wise

MAIN IDEA

- **God causes everything to work out perfectly.**

MEMORY VERSE

*O LORD, how manifold
are your works!
In wisdom have you
made them all;
—Psalm 104:24a*

SCRIPTURE

- 1) Genesis 28, 37, 39-46
(selected portions)
- 2) Genesis 50:20
- 4) Psalm 104
(selected portions)
- 4) Proverbs 2:6
- 5) James 1:5



LESSON SUMMARY

In commenting on Psalm 104:24, the famous 19th century preacher Charles Spurgeon said the following:

They (creation) are all his works...they all display his wisdom... They are wisely made—each one fits its place, fills it, and is happy so doing. As a whole, the “all” of creation is a wise achievement, and however it may be chequered with mysteries, and clouded with terrors, it all works together for good, and as one harmonious piece of workmanship it answers the great Worker’s end.¹

Spurgeon’s comment evokes the image of God as a master puzzle-maker, creating and fitting together diverse pieces in order to reveal His perfect plan in creation. But His wisdom does not end there. And, as He does in creation, God displays His perfect wisdom in all of history and in each person’s life. In this lesson, through the familiar story of Joseph, we helped the children recognize and understand this wonderful attribute of God.

PRAYER POINTS

As you review this lesson with your child, pray...

- *that the Lord would use this lesson to help your child increasingly to “lean not on his or her own understanding,” but look to the Lord in His perfect wisdom.*
- *for God to grant a growing measure of wisdom in our lives as we seek to walk in His ways, trusting Him in all circumstances.*



AS YOU WALK BY THE WAY

- Carefully look at an interesting natural object, such as an agate, flower, pinecone, animal, etc. Point to the complex design of the object. **How does the object reflect the wisdom of its Creator?** Read portions of Psalm 104 together, and then sing a song of praise, such as the hymn, *This is My Father’s World*.
- Review some key events from the life of Joseph found in Genesis 37-41. **Did some of the things that happened to him seem**

1. Spurgeon, Charles. *The Treasury of David: Spurgeon’s Classic Work on the Psalms, Vol. V* (Funk & Wagnalls, 1885), 10.

"bad"? Which ones? How did the end of the story prove that God caused everything to work out just as He planned?

Read Joseph's words to his brothers from Genesis 50:20. Why was it important for Joseph to trust God in every circumstance of his life, especially when "bad" things happened? Is there something that has happened to you that does not seem as if it will work out right? How can you trust God this week with that situation? How can knowing that He is wise help you to trust Him more?

- Explain that God has some characteristics that He shares with no one else. No one else but God had no beginning and is eternal. But God has some characteristics that He chooses to give to people. Read Proverbs 2:6 and James 1:5. How can a person become wise? (e.g., Psalm 19:7; Matthew 7:24; Proverbs 3:7) Explain that the wisdom that God gives will result in a person trusting God's plans and doing things God's way.

ACTION STEP

This week, use The ABCs of God Game Cards to review the words, meanings, and verses for Questions, Incomprehensible, Yahweh, Eternal, Creator, Glorious, and Wise.

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

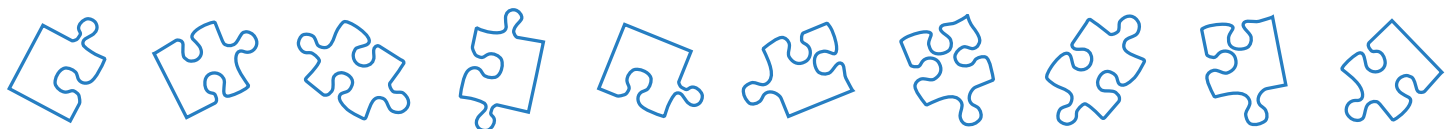
Starting with the "L", circle every other letter in the list to find the missing letters to complete the verses. Then, match the numbers to reveal the secret message.

L M O F R W D T Y I O G U S R K W E O Y R N K J S C
W Z I R S I D H O K M A M B A V D M E Q A S L O L Y

O 1 2 3 , how manifold are 4

5 ! In 6 have you 7

8 them 9 ;—*Psalm 104:24a*
10 11



Secret Message:

T 4 7 11 T G 1 3 5 10 9 8 2 6 !