

BASKETBALL LEAGUE DEVOTIONS

Parent Companion Guide

UPWARD
SPORTS

PRACTICE 7

WISDOM

is finding out what you should do and doing it.

KEY VERSE

**IF YOU NEED WISDOM, ASK OUR GENEROUS GOD,
AND HE WILL GIVE IT TO YOU.**

JAMES 1:5a (NLT)

Bottom Line: If you want to be wise, look before you leap.

For the last few practices, we've been talking about wisdom. Wisdom is finding out what you should do and doing it! We've talked about how all wisdom comes from God and how He will help us choose wisely when we ask for His help. I'm glad that God doesn't keep all that wisdom to Himself. He is always willing to help us make wise choices when we ask.

Proverbs 22:3 (NLT) says, "A prudent person foresees danger and takes precautions. The simpleton goes blindly on and suffers the consequences." Prudent can be another word for wise. A simpleton is someone who doesn't act very wisely.

According to this verse, wise people see danger and what? They go to a safe place, just like your kids run to "base" when they play hide-and-seek. Wise people pay attention. When they see they're going in the wrong direction, they move to a safe place, away from danger. But people who lack wisdom don't pay attention to the warning signs! They just keep going, and, well, things don't go so well.

You should always pay attention to what's ahead, and when you see danger, say "NO WAY!" and head in the opposite direction. When you aren't sure what to do or think you might be headed in the wrong direction, stop! Read God's Word, and pray to ask for wisdom. Talk to the people around you who know and follow God. Remember, if you want to be wise, look before you leap.

CONVERSATION STARTERS

(K-2nd Grade)

- What does it mean to look before you leap?
- What helps you pay attention to what is going on around you?

(3rd-6th Grade)

- Why is it helpful to plan ahead instead of jumping right into something?
- What helps you pay attention to what is going on around you?
How does paying attention help you make good choices?

(7th Grade and up)

- What are some examples of situations where you need to pay attention to what's happening around you?
- How can you become a better planner? How can wisdom help you when you don't have time to plan ahead?

GOING DEEPER

This week, read Proverbs 22:3, 21:5, and 21:29 with your child. What is the theme in these verses? Why is it important to think before you act? Share with your child about a time when you wish you had slowed down and thought carefully before acting. See if they can share an example, too. Talk with your child and see if there is anything you can do to help them feel more prepared for whatever upcoming situations they might be facing.