

Education and Character



Week Seven

inTro



Read This Week's Passage:
Proverbs 4:5–15

WISDOM AND CHARACTER

Although the Bible speaks of God's wisdom as a hidden treasure above the highest heavens (Job 28:21), it also commands us to get it at all cost. There is a healthy tension between the unreachability and the mandate to acquire wisdom. In fact, throughout Scripture we find many promises regarding this great virtue. Perhaps one of the greatest revelations about wisdom is that the God of wisdom is so willing to give it: "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him" (James 1:5).

But what is wisdom and how does it differ from knowledge? How does it intersect with character? Why is it important in the work of education? In this week's study, we will seek to answer these questions and provide clarity between these often seemingly abstract notions.



inScribe

Write out Proverbs 4:5–15 from the translation of your choice. You may also re-write the passage in your own words, outline, or mind-map the chapter.



Go back to your scribed text and study the passage.

Circle repeated words/phrases/ideas

Underline words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you



Draw **Arrows** to connect words/phrases to other associated or related words/phrases

What special insights do your marks seem overall to point to?



Memorize your favorite verse in Proverbs 4:5–15. Write it out multiple times to help with memorization.

What are the seven qualities of wisdom found in this text and which one most resonates with you?



Read more at www.inverseible.org/edu07-3

A large grid of small dots for writing notes.



After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks seem to point to overall?



What questions emerge after studying this passage? What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

How diligent have you been in your search for wisdom? How can you start?



Read more at
www.inverseible.org/edu07-4



What relationship do the following verses have with the primary passage?

- Proverbs 3:5-7
- Deuteronomy 8:1-6
- John 6:1-58



What other verses come to mind in connecting education and character?

Review your memorized verse from Proverbs 4:5-15.

A large grid of dotted lines for writing answers.



Meditate on Proverbs 4:5-15 again and look for where Jesus is.



In what are other ways do wisdom and Jesus parallel? In what ways are they different?

What is He saying to you through these texts?

How do you see Jesus differently or see Him again?

Prayer: How do you respond to seeing Jesus in this way?



Read more at
www.inverseible.org/edu07-6



Review the memory verse.
How does it apply to your
life this week?



After this week's study of
the chapter, what personal
applications are you convicted
of in regard to character?

What practical applications
must you make in your school,
family, workplace, and church?

A large grid of small dots for writing answers.



Read more inSight from the
Spirit of Prophecy at
www.invisible.org/edu07-7



Share insights from this week's memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.



What other qualities of wisdom do you see from the main passage?

Delineate Ellen White's hierarchy of the components for true education. How does this resonate with your experience?

How can knowledge-only education be dangerous?

Evaluate your educational experience thus far in light of this week's study.

Contrast the motivation for service in the selfish and selfless sense. How can the former be avoided?

How is character development "the most important work ever entrusted to human beings"?

How can you apply this week's principles of education to your educational experience?