

Bible Ninja

LESSON SNAPSHOT

BOTTOM LINE:

Be righteous, and do not rush into anger.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will make a plan to stop and keep themselves from being “quick” to make the wrong choice.

KEY PASSAGE:

Proverbs 14:7-19, The Foolish Person

MEMORY VERSE:

“Having respect for the Lord leads to life. Then you will be content and free from trouble.” Proverbs 19:23 (NIRV)

SUMMARY:

Ninjas are quick. They move quickly, and they strike quickly. Fools are quick to get angry and to mock others. Kids will learn that we should be quick to seek righteousness.

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help us to be quick and chase the things that matter most to you.

In Jesus’ name,

Amen

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MEMORY VERSE

*"The fear of the Lord leads to life; then one rests content, untouched by trouble."
Proverbs 19:23 NIV*

"Having respect for the Lord leads to life. Then you will be content and free from trouble." Proverbs 19:23 NIRV

LARGE GROUP:

Have the kids read the verse together. Read it normally, then in a whisper, then really, really loud!

SMALL GROUP:

Ask the kids what they think the writer was trying to say when he wrote these words. Then ask them how this verse is connected to today's lesson.

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SKIT

ROUND HOUSE KICK

ITEMS NEEDED:

Ninja costumes

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

2M

CHARACTERS:

Wise Master - A ninja warrior

Eugene - A wannabe ninja

Eugene is in the back of the audience as Wise Master enters and bows to the audience.

MASTER: Welcome, students. I am Wise Master. Welcome to your journey to becoming ninja warriors. The way of the ninja is not an easy one. It takes much practice and discipline. But it is a journey well worth the patience and time. When you become a ninja, you will be wise. And, you will get to use cool stuff like throwing stars and nunchucks. But first, before we can do anything, we must learn—

EUGENE: Hey! Wise guy!

MASTER: Who disturbs the Master?

EUGENE: I did!

MASTER: And you are?

EUGENE: I'm Eugene. I paid twenty bucks for this lesson and fifty for this cool ninja outfit. So why don't you hurry up and teach me how to do a roundhouse kick to the face?

MASTER: Eugene, you must learn patience.

EUGENE: Patience? How long is that gonna take?

SKIT

MASTER: Ninjas are quick to move, and quick to strike, but slow to speak. A ninja moves quickly after wisdom not anger.

EUGENE: Yeah? Well a wise karate instructor better be quick about teaching me to do a roundhouse kick to the face, or this guy's gonna be quick about demanding a refund.

MASTER: Eugene, if you want to be a ninja, you must be calm.

EUGENE: If you wanna good review on Yelp, you must teach me to roundhouse kick to the face.

MASTER: Eugene, step forward.

EUGENE: All right! Finally.

Eugene runs up to the stage.

MASTER: Eugene, do you think you can take Wise Master down?

EUGENE: Are you kidding? I'll knock your block off.

MASTER: Then go ahead. Knock my block off.

EUGENE: Really?

MASTER: Yes. Really.

EUGENE: Okay, shrimp! Time to teach you a lesson.

Eugene swings. Master ducks and stomps Eugene's foot.

EUGENE: Ow!!

MASTER: You see the foolishness of Eugene. He is quick to get angry, and now, his foot hurts.

EUGENE: And now you're face is gonna hurt!

MASTER: Eugene, you are chasing the wrong thing.

EUGENE: *(mocking)* You are chasing the wrong thing!

SKIT

MASTER: You mock wisdom.

EUGENE: You mock wisdom.

MASTER: You should be quick to be wise.

EUGENE: Be quick to be—

Wise Master grabs Eugene's nose and twists it.

EUGENE: Ow! Ow! Ow! Ow!

MASTER: Eugene, you can choose the path of the righteous or the path of the fool.

EUGENE: Okay! Okay! I'll be wise! I'll be wise!

The Master lets go of Eugene.

MASTER: Congratulations, Eugene, you have taken your first step on a new path.

EUGENE: That's great, but Master? I can't smell.

MASTER: Your sense of smell will return in a few days. Give or take a month.

EUGENE: Teach me, Master. Teach me the ways of the ninja.

MASTER: Come, Eugene. We have much to discuss.

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OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

ITEMS NEEDED:

Carrots

Frozen cheese sticks

If you wanted a quick snack, which of these would you reach for? Both of these are quick. The cheese sticks need to be heated up in a microwave, but that only takes a few minutes. Not long at all.

It doesn't take much time at all to prep carrots either. You wash them, you peel them, and you slice them. In the same amount of time as it takes to cook cheese sticks, you can have carrot sticks ready.

You can be quick to cheese sticks, or you can be quick to carrot sticks. I wonder which one a ninja would choose. Any guesses?

If you are wise, you'll choose the carrot sticks. They're all natural, and they are much healthier than the fried, microwaved cheese sticks. Wisdom teaches us which is better.

We all have a choice to choose righteousness or foolishness. We can follow God, or we can reject him and mock those who do. God wants us to pursue righteousness so that we can grow closer to Jesus.

When it's time to be quick, move toward righteousness. Ask God to show you the way, and make the wise choice.

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LARGE GROUP GAME

MUSICAL SEAT NINJA WARRIOR

ITEMS NEEDED:

Chairs

INSTRUCTIONS:

Choose five players for this game. Set up four chairs in a circle, facing out. Play a game of musical chairs, using the song “Kung Fu Fighting” or something else that just screams, “Ninja!” See who can be the quickest to claim the final seat.

VARIATION:

A game of hot potato can substitute for musical chairs.

WHAT’S THE POINT?

Be quick to pursue righteousness.

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LARGE GROUP LESSON

BOTTOM LINE:

Be righteous, and do not rush into anger.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will make a plan to stop and keep themselves from being “quick” to get angry.

KEY PASSAGE:

Proverbs 14:7-19, The Foolish Person

INTRO:

What do you think of when you hear the word ninja? That probably depends on what kind of ninja you like best. In cartoons, movies, comic books, and TV shows ninjas have been everything from super heroes to kids. You might have even heard of a quartet of ninjas who were teenagers. And mutants. And turtles.

Some people like the traditional ninja, with his black outfit, black mask, and a sash loaded down with weapons. Ninjas carry everything from throwing stars to samurai swords. They move quietly through the night and carry out their missions without ever being noticed.

Ninjas are cool because they are so secretive and mysterious. They move with stealth. They can climb straight up walls, slip in and out of buildings without ever being noticed. They wear masks, they hide in the shadows, and they work in secret.

There's another word that may come to mind when we think of ninjas: wisdom. Like all warriors from the Far East, ninjas are trained to be wise, to be patient, to consider all options and make the best choices. Ninjas may move quickly and strike quickly, but they don't always act quickly. They know all the options, they consider the consequences, and they make the wise choice so that they can fulfill their mission.

For the next four weeks we are going to look at the Bible's book of wisdom, Proverbs. And with a little help from the wise and dangerous ninjas, we're going to learn how to make wise choices ourselves. Today we're going to see that we have a choice to be wise or foolish. We're going to see that God has already shown us the right path to follow.

READ PROVERBS 14:7-19

LARGE GROUP LESSON

MAIN POINT:

King Solomon is credited as the author of most of Proverbs. The wisest man who ever lived, Solomon knew that we all have a choice. We can choose foolishness, or righteousness. Solomon wanted to urge his listeners to choose righteousness.

Solomon reminds us that people who choose the foolish ways of the world do not realize they are fools. They laugh and mock people who choose God's way. But verse 12 makes it clear: there is a path that seems right to a man but ends in death. If we follow our natural desire to be sinful, the road leads to death. If we choose righteousness, we will find new life.

Foolish thinkers are quick to choose the wrong way. They are quick to speak, quick to get angry, quick to make the wrong choice. God wants us to listen to Solomon. He wants us to choose righteousness!

DRIVE IT HOME:

Righteousness is a really big word, isn't it. Does anyone know what it means?

Righteousness is not just being right. It's being right with God. It means we are wise people. It means we make wise choices. It means we are honest, and never deceitful. It means we obey God's Word and love him above all else.

Righteous people are like ninjas because they never lose their focus on God. Just as a ninja lives by the ninja way at all times, staying sharp and focused on their mission, we stay focused on Jesus. We don't get distracted by the things of this world. We don't rush in to make foolish choices. We are slow to speak and quick to follow Jesus, no matter what.

Solomon reminds us that as righteous people, we can expect others to mock us. They may make fun of us for obeying God and not going with the crowd. That's a sure sign we have made the right choice, and it should strengthen our decision to follow righteousness.

Verse 15 reminds us that wise people give thought to their choices while simple people believe anything. Don't believe just anything, and never just follow the crowd. Trust God. Trust the Bible. Bury this book of wisdom in your heart, and let it be your guide.

Don't be quick to anger, or to selfishness, or to foolishness. Ask God to make you wise like a ninja. Ask him to help you become righteous!

LARGE GROUP LESSON

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help us to be quick and chase the things that matter most to you.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

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SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

ICEBREAKER:

What do you think of when you hear the word ninja?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Proverbs 19:23

Have a second round of musical chairs, or play a game of hot potato to get everyone moving quickly.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Give each kid a chance to demonstrate their ninja skills by doing a ninja pose!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Proverbs 14:7-19

What does the author say about wise people?

What does he say about foolish people?

What does it mean to be righteous?

Why is it so easy to get angry and lose your temper?

What is one thing we can do to keep ourselves from making a rash decision in anger and choose righteousness?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Show us how we can be righteous and wise.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

Bible Ninja

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

ICEBREAKER:

What do you think of when you hear the word ninja?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Proverbs 19:23

Have a second round of musical chairs, or play a game of hot potato to get everyone moving quickly.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Give each kid a chance to demonstrate their ninja skills by doing a ninja pose!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Proverbs 14:7-19

What does Solomon say about foolish people?

Why do foolish people mock wisdom?

What does it mean to be righteous?

Why is it so important to choose God's way?

What is one thing we can do to keep ourselves from making a rash decision in anger and choose righteousness?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Show us how we can be righteous and wise.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

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POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

FILL IN THE BLANK

Stay away from a _____, for you will not find knowledge on their lips.

FOOL

The house of the _____ will be destroyed, but the tent of the upright will flourish.

WICKED

There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to _____.

DEATH

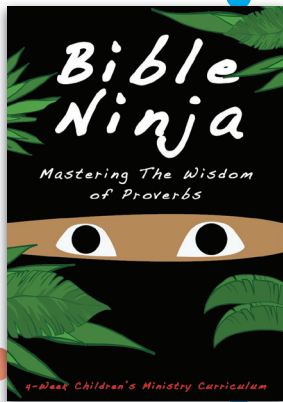
The simple believe _____, but the prudent give thought to their steps.

ANYTHING

Evildoers will bow down in the presence of the good, and the wicked at the gates of the

_____.

RIGHTEOUS



MAKE IT STICK

5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With your Kids

Bible Ninja Lesson 1

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: QUICK



IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home: Ninjas are quick. They move quickly, and they strike quickly. Fools are quick to get angry and to mock others. Kids will learn that we should be quick to seek righteousness. Proverbs 14:7-19, The Foolish Person



HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

Ask your kids what happens when they make quick decisions? What happens when someone hurts them and they quickly decide to hurt back? Or how do they make the decision to become angry so fast? How can you all choose righteousness instead of a quick temper?



AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- What does it mean to be righteous?
- Why is it important to follow righteousness and not worldly thinking?
- What is one thing you can do to slow yourself down when you feel like getting angry so you always make the best choice?



AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

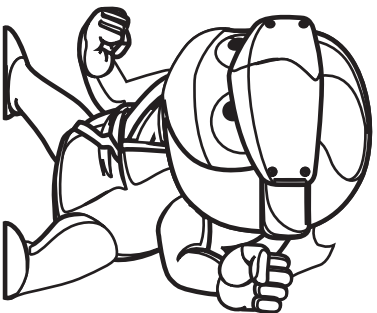
"Having respect for the Lord leads to life. Then you will be content and free from trouble." Proverbs 19:23 NIRV



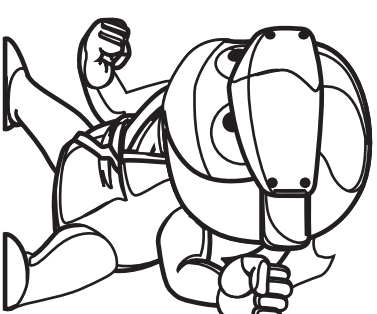
PARENT TIME:

What you need to know:

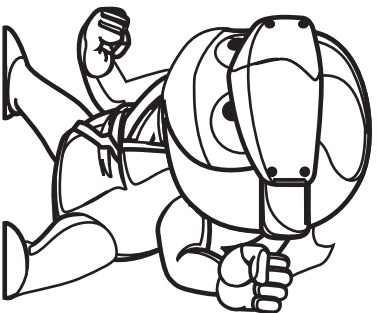
Encourage your kids to spend some time reading the Bible this week. No better way to find and pursue righteousness than by reading the Bible and learning to follow Christ.



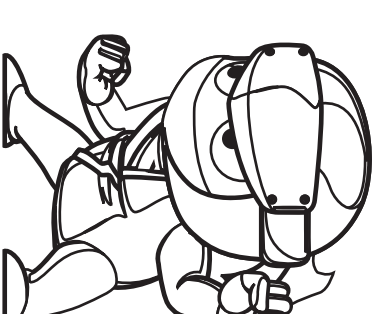
"Having respect for the Lord leads to life. Then you
will be content and free from trouble."
-Proverbs 19:23 NIRV



"Having respect for the Lord leads to life. Then you
will be content and free from trouble."
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"Having respect for the Lord leads to life. Then you
will be content and free from trouble."
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"Having respect for the Lord leads to life. Then you
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CRAFT ACTIVITY

Have the kids create a “scroll of wisdom” using ordinary paper or butcher paper. Have the kids write or draw something to remind them to follow God’s path and not the world’s. Finish by rolling up the scroll and taking them home.