

Bible Ninja

LESSON SNAPSHOT

BOTTOM LINE:

We need to listen to the wisdom of our elders.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will pick an adult leader or parent they want to thank for teaching them this week.

KEY PASSAGE:

Proverbs 4:10-15, The Way of Wisdom

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, like all martial artists, become successful because they learn from their teachers. They respect their masters and seek out wisdom. Fools trust only in their own ideas. Kids will learn that there is great value in following the wise instruction of others.

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for the parents and teachers who guide us.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

Bible Ninja

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:

Pick out some kids at random from the crowd and see who can recite the memory verse. Then repeat it all together.

SMALL GROUP:

Without putting the verse on display or looking it up, see how many kids can recite the memory verse.

Bible Ninja

SKIT

YES, MASTER

ITEMS NEEDED:

None

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

2M

CHARACTERS:

Wise Master - A ninja warrior

Eugene - A wannabe ninja

The Master and Eugene enter.

MASTER: Eugene-san, you have worked hard the last three weeks. You have grown as a person and learned much about the ways of the ninja. I am proud of all you have accomplished.

EUGENE: Really? Thanks, Master!

MASTER: But, Eugene-san, you still have much to learn.

EUGENE: I do?

MASTER: A true ninja always has much to learn. There is more I can teach you about being quick, being strong, and being stealthy.

EUGENE: Is that so?

MASTER: There are things you can learn about proper diet and exercise.

EUGENE: You don't say?

MASTER: And then there are other things to learn. Ninja things. Like nunchuck skills. Sword skills. Throwing star skills.

EUGENE: Oooh, holding back on all the cool stuff, huh?

SKIT

MASTER: But if you are going to learn these things, you must learn this above all else. You must listen to your master. You cannot rely on your own wisdom. You must rely on mine.

EUGENE: Well.... okay then.

MASTER: Okay?

EUGENE: Yeah, okay. You want me to rely on you? I will.

MASTER: Really? Just like that?

EUGENE: Well what are you acting so surprised for? You want me to be a good student, right?

MASTER: Of course.

EUGENE: Then why wouldn't I listen to you?

MASTER: You haven't listened to me before. You thought you could do it all on your own.

EUGENE: Hey, a guy can grow up, can't he?

MASTER: Eugene-san, you are not merely growing up. You are growing wise.

EUGENE: I am?

MASTER: I am truly proud of you. With an attitude like that, you can become a great student, and in doing so, become a great ninja.

EUGENE: You really mean it?

MASTER: I mean it.

EUGENE: Even better than Snake Eyes from GI Joe?

MASTER: Even better than him!

EUGENE: Then teach me, master. Whatever you have to say, I'm all ears.

Bible Ninja

OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

ITEMS NEEDED:

A plate of veggies

How many of you guys eat veggies every day? If you're not eating veggies, why not? Veggies are full of good vitamins and minerals. A healthy diet should have plenty of veggies in it, and the more veggies you eat, the better shape you will be in when you grow up.

How many of you who eat veggies every day do so because your parents taught you? A wise parent teaches their kids to eat right, and a wise child not only listens, but does what they are told.

God has given us parents to teach us all sorts of wisdom. They will teach you how to be a good friend, how to choose your friends wisely, how to eat right, how to stay in shape, how to seek help when you need it, and most importantly, how to love God. God wants us to listen to the parents, the teachers, the coaches, the pastors, and other adult leaders in our lives. He wants us to listen to their wisdom so that we can become wise ourselves.

If you have a wise adult or two in your life, thank God for them, and let them know you appreciate all they've done for you. Never stop listening to their wisdom and advice.

Bible Ninja

LARGE GROUP GAME

NINJA SAYS

ITEMS NEEDED:

None

INSTRUCTIONS:

Choose four players for this game. This will be a game similar to Simon Says, but it will be Ninja Says. An adult leader will be the Ninja and instruct the kids to strike various ninja poses and do ninja moves - all the while trying to trip them up when he/she doesn't say "Ninja says." The last one standing is the winner - and a true ninja!

VARIATION:

Keep the game simple and easy for younger kids, but really get creative if you have older kids playing. Or speed up the game to see if they can keep up.

WHAT'S THE POINT?

God wants us to listen to and follow our leaders.

Bible Ninja

LARGE GROUP LESSON

BOTTOM LINE:

We need to listen to the wisdom of our elders.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will pick an adult leader or parent they want to thank for teaching them this week.

KEY PASSAGE:

Proverbs 4:10-15, The Way of Wisdom

INTRO:

Whether we're talking about ninjas from the Far East, ninjas from a comic book like GI Joe, or ninjas who also happen to be teenagers and mutants and turtles, all ninjas have a few things in common. Ninjas have cool weapons. They have cool costumes. Ninjas are wise and disciplined, and as we've learned the last three weeks, ninjas are quick, strong, and stealthy.

But there's one more thing all ninjas have in common. In fact no ninja can exist without this one key thing. Can you guess what it is?

Every ninja has a master! Every ninja has an older, wiser teacher who has taught them the way of the ninja. The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles became heroes because of a rat named Splinter. The GI Joe ninjas Snake Eyes and Storm Shadow had a master who taught both of them how to be ninjas. You may not see the master in every ninja movie or every ninja story, but in real life and in fiction, the master is always behind every good ninja.

People who want to become ninjas aren't born that way. It takes many years and a lot of discipline to learn to fight, to move, and to strike like a ninja. Ninjas rely on their masters to teach them these fundamentals. If a student is unwilling to listen to their master, what do you think will happen? The master will kick them aside and refuse to teach them. And knowing how ninjas are, the master will probably give them a good hard kick on the way out the door.

Every good student is willing to listen to their teachers. If you want to learn math, you listen to your school teacher. If you want to learn basketball, you listen to your coach. If you want to be wise, you will listen to the wise leaders God has placed in your life.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

We will listen to the wisdom they have to share with us, and we will apply that wisdom to our lives!

READ PROVERBS 4:10-15

MAIN POINT:

King Solomon makes several speeches like this one throughout the book of Proverbs. Over and over, Solomon urges the reader to listen up. He warns the reader to obey what he says and remember his teachings. Solomon didn't write this book for himself. He wrote it so his children, and people like us today, can be wise like he was.

God has given us all teachers, mentors, pastors, coaches, and yes parents to teach us about life. He has given us adult figures who can share their life experiences and the lessons they've learned. I know we don't always seem like we have it all together, and honestly, we don't, but adults have much to teach kids about life, and faith, and wisdom.

God wants all of us, even us grown ups, to find and follow wise teachers. He wants us to listen to them so we can grow our own faith and become wise.

DRIVE IT HOME:

As we wrap up our lesson series on Bible Ninjas, we want to talk about the masters we have in our lives. All of you here are students, and we, your children's ministry team, are masters, sharing the faith we have and the knowledge we have so you can know Jesus. You also have parents at home, teachers at school, coaches and other mentors who are there to share their wisdom with you.

Your mentors can also teach you a lot of knowledge. They teach you information about science, math, good health, good sportsmanship, the proper technique for shooting a basketball, and so much more. We could try to discover all these things on our own, but why? God has given us adults to teach us these things so that we can grow our knowledge.

When we are willing to listen to the advice of our elders, we can also gain wisdom. How many of you have had an adult tell you a story about when they were a kid and they messed something up? Stories like that are wisdom. They teach us right and wrong, and they can help us to make better choices than the adults who came before us. We can gain wisdom just listening to anyone who is willing to start a story with, "When I was a kid..."

Now you could go try to make all the same mistakes that your parents made as kids, but why go the hard way? Why try to rediscover every truth and fact for yourself when you can learn it from the adults in your life who've already learned the right and wrong ways to do things? You can save yourself a lot of trouble by listening to those who are wiser than you.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

Fools trust their own understanding and reject the teachings of others, but the wise know when to listen and when to apply what they hear to their own life.

Every ninja needs a master. Every believer needs a mentor. Kids need mentors. Adults need mentors. We are all constantly learning from one another. Listen to your parents, your teachers, and everyone who is willing to share wisdom with you. Listen and you yourself will become wise!

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for the parents and teachers who guide us.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

Bible Ninja

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

ICEBREAKER:

What is one thing an adult has taught you in the past week?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Proverbs 19:23

Without putting the verse on display or looking it up, see how many kids can recite the memory verse.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Play a smaller game of Simon Says with your group, letting one of the kids be the leader.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Proverbs 4:10-15

Who does it sound like Solomon is writing to?

What does Solomon tell his son to do?

Why does Solomon say we need to obey our teachers and parents?

Who is one person who has really helped you gain wisdom?

What can you do to thank that person this week?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help us to listen and learn from the people you have chosen to teach us wisdom.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

Bible Ninja

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

ICEBREAKER:

What is one thing an adult has taught you in the past week?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Proverbs 19:23

Without putting the verse on display or looking it up, see how many kids can recite the memory verse.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Play a smaller game of Simon Says with your group, letting one of the kids be the leader.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Proverbs 4:10-15

Why does Solomon say we need to obey our teachers and parents?

What are the dangers in not listening to our elders?

What will happen if we do take wisdom from others?

Who is one person who has really helped you gain wisdom?

What can you do to thank that person this week?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help us to listen and learn from the people you have chosen to teach us wisdom.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

Bible Ninja

POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

WORD SCRAMBLE

Unscramble the names of these special people who can help us gain wisdom.

HMOETR

Mother

CHEAERT

Teacher

AREHTF

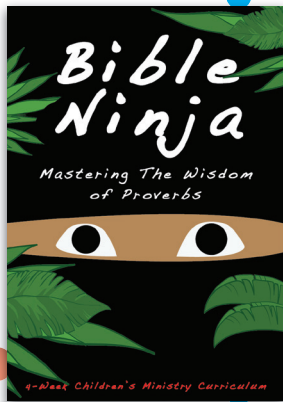
Father

SOTRAP

Pastor

CCAHO

Coach



MAKE IT STICK

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

Bible Ninja Lesson 4

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: WISE



IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

Ninjas, like all martial artists, become successful because they learn from their teachers. They respect their masters and seek out wisdom. Fools trust only in their own ideas. Kids will learn that there is great value in following the wise instruction of others.

Proverbs 4:10-15, The Way of Wisdom



HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

Share some wisdom that you gained from a parent, teacher, or coach when you were a kid. Share with your kids if you still have any mentors helping you to grow and learn to this day.



AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- Why is it important to listen to the wisdom of other people?
- Who are some of the "masters" God has given you to teach you wisdom?
- What are some wise things you have learned from adults?



AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

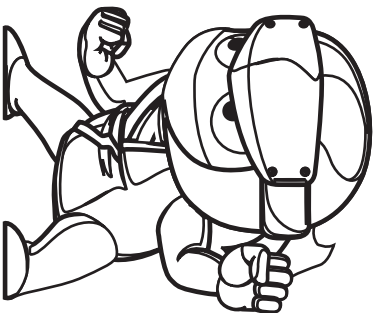
"Having respect for the Lord leads to life. Then you will be content and free from trouble." Proverbs 19:23 NIRV



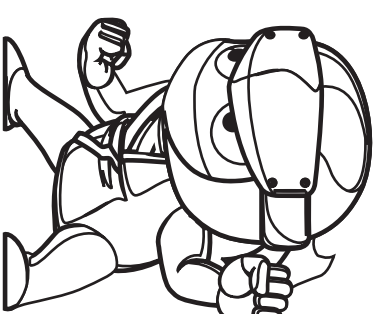
PARENT TIME:

What you need to know:

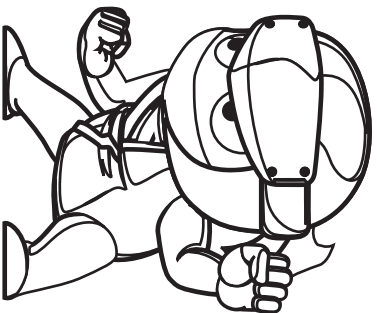
Everyone needs mentors and teachers to help them grow. Even adults. If you don't have someone leading or teaching you, ask God to send a mentor who can share their wisdom with you. Pray that you can be a good teacher to your kids, and ask God to give them more wise mentors as they continue to grow.



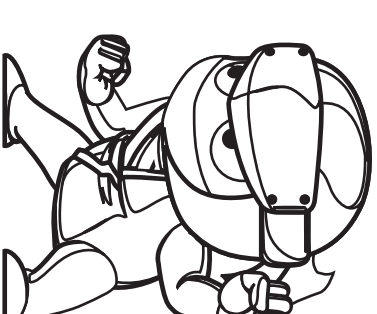
"Having respect for the Lord leads to life. Then you
will be content and free from trouble."
-Proverbs 19:23 NIRV



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



"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."
-Proverbs 19:23 NIRV

Bible Ninja

CRAFT ACTIVITY

Have the kids make an origami swan, and have them write a thank you note on the swan for someone special who has helped them to become wise.

Here's a simple how-to on making origami swans:

<http://www.instructables.com/id/How-To-Make-An-Origami-Swan/>