# — DECEMBER 3-

# **A New Leader**



"O-ba-ma!"
"O-ba-ma!"

The crowd in Grant Park that November night when President Obama was elected to office cheered with great enthusiasm as he took the podium. They were clapping their hands and shouting with great joy because the first African American President was elected. There were tens of thousands of people from across the world to witness this great moment in history.

Patty and her friends were there that night, holding up the handmade posters they created in the campaign office. The seventh graders had helped in the campaign when a volunteer came to their school requesting youth workers. Of course, they were too young to vote, but they went door to door in their neighborhood passing out literature. They met a lot of people and learned the details of running a campaign for a leader you trust. That summer, they sponsored a car wash to donate money to the campaign.

"Yes, We Can!"

"Yes, We Can!"

"Yes, We Can!" The sea of people shouted as President Obama delivered his victory speech. Many were shedding tears of joy; others were excited to see a new leader in the White House. This new leader would bring fresh ideas; he was well-qualified for the highest office in the country. The girls felt in some small way that they were partly responsible for Obama's victory.

# In My Heart

"Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises. For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise" (Psalm 47:6–7, NIV).

# **WORD!**

Psalm 47, NIV—Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. 2 For the Lord Most High is awesome, the great King over all the earth. 3 He subdued nations under us, peoples under our feet. 4 He chose our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob, whom he loved. 5 God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the Lord amid the sounding of trumpets. 6 Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises. 7 For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise. 8 God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne. 9 The nobles of the nations assemble as the people of the God of Abraham, for the kings of the earth belong to God; he is greatly exalted.

## **SIDEBAR**

#### God's Rule over the Nations

Christians believe that our God is sovereign. What does this mean? This means that our God is superior and far above all others. He is supreme in power, rank, and authority. It means He answers to no one because He is the answer. Our God cannot be compared to anyone or anything, because He is in a class all by Himself. In the Bible, He is often called the God of gods and Lord of lords. He rules. The word "sovereign" defines Him as better, greater, advanced, and elevated above all.

#### **How to Praise God**

- **1.** Express words of gratitude like "Thank You", "I praise You", and "You are good."
- **2.** Express praise with your hands by clapping or waving.
- **3.** Express praise by singing songs of adoration, worship, and love.

# **GOT IT!**

### **A. God Deserves Adoration**

Use Word! to help you list 4 things expressed concerning the Lord in "Word!" that deserve praise.

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B. I've (	Got A Praise!
	Write three things God has done for you.
(step 2)	Get into small groups and develop raps that praise God for personal and group victories.
(step 3)	Share your rap with the class. This

is called corporate praise: one

that involves everyone.

# JAM SESSION

#### **Good Leaders**

Good leaders provoke people to give accolades because they bring joy when good things are accomplished. Most people want to tell someone that they did a good job. Patty and her friends were excited about the new leadership of President Barak Obama. He worked hard and gained the confidence of his followers. If you were elected to the presidency, would you be a good leader? What are some qualities of a good leader?

Like Patty, her friends, and many other Americans, people look for good leaders whom they can honor. What style of leadership might we celebrate, and how might we celebrate it? Do you think of God as a leader? The writer of Psalm 47 calls God a leader and describes how people joyfully respond to God's sustaining leadership.

# JAM ON IT!

#### **I Appreciate You**

This week, think about a family member who you think is a good leader. Write them a short note of thanks and appreciation for their good leadership. Start with "I appreciate your..."

# **LAST JAM**

Good leaders should be celebrated!

QU	EST	ONS	FOR (	CLAS	5	
Use th	is space t	o write dow	n questions	you have a	about this	lesson.

# Smart Move!



Il jokes about lawyers aside, attorneys are a vital part of buying a home. Real estate attorneys use their expertise to review contracts before you sign on the dotted line. Lawyers represent you at the closing when you're signing final loan documents. They make sure your legal rights are protected during such an important investment.

An attorney-at-law is an officer of the court and is required in the United States to pledge to observe the United States Constitution and the constitution of the state in which s/he practices law. Each state regulates the training and qualifications of attorneys. Usually, students go to a four-year university to earn a bachelor's degree, which is followed by law school, and finally, a clerkship or apprenticeship, varying from one to two years, in the office of a practicing attorney. Alas, there is an examination in law before being admitted to the bar.

The attorney then specializes in a particular field of law—in this case, real estate law. Other lawyers become corporate attorneys (business), criminal attorneys (speaks for itself), international attorneys (international law—nice money!), civil rights attorneys (protect rights under the constitution), and so on. Some folks think they don't need an attorney, especially if they've purchased a home before. But the Bible says, "He who trusts in himself is a fool, but he who walks in wisdom is kept safe"—Proverbs 28:26. Or, in the words of a more contemporary proverb: "the man who has himself for a lawyer has a fool for a client."

# In My Heart

"Blessed is the man who finds wisdom, the man who gains understanding." (Proverbs 3:13, NIV)

# WORD!

Proverbs 2:1-5; 3:1-6, 13-18, NIV—Attorneywise

Proverbs 2:1—My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, 2 turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, 3 and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, 4 and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, 5 then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.

#### **A Binding Agreement**

**Proverbs 3:1**—My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, **2** for they will prolong your life many years and bring you prosperity. **3** Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. **4** Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man. **5** Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; **6** in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

#### **Case Closed!**

**Proverbs 3:13**—Blessed is the man who finds wisdom, the man who gains understanding, **14** for she is more profitable than silver and yields better returns than gold. **15** She is more precious than rubies; nothing you desire can compare with her. **16** Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor. **17** Her ways are pleasant ways, and all her paths are peace. **18** She is a tree of life to those who embrace her; those who lay hold of her will be blessed.

## **SIDEBAR**

### **The Book Of Proverbs**

The book of Proverbs is power packed with wisdom and knowledge. Proverbs are words of wisdom that are universal and can be applied to life's situations and people everywhere. The range of subjects addressed in Proverbs goes from friendship to business dealings, to nature, to a closer walk with God. Much of the book of Proverbs was written by Solomon, who was endowed with great wisdom by God and recorded his observations on life in over a thousand proverbs.

# **How To Study The Book Of Proverbs**

This is gonna sound just too easy, and we've said it before: Proverbs has 31 chapters, so at the rate of one chapter a day, it would take a month to read Proverbs. So . . . . in addition to your daily devotions, read one chapter of Proverbs each day for the rest of your life.

#### **GOT IT!**

#### A. Better Than Silver And Gold

Look back at WORD! to help you with these paraphrases.

١.	if you seek her as silver, and search for
	her as for
	··································
2	In all thy ways
۷.	In all thy ways
	Him, and he shall
	, your
3.	Blessed is the man who finds
	and the man who
	gains
4.	For her proceeds are better than the
	profits ofand her
	gain than fine

#### **B. Spread The Wisdom**

Your leader will give you paper, pencils, and coloring pencils or markers. Get together in small groups and make a flyer encouraging others to read the book of Proverbs. Based on what you read in WORD! how would you market Proverbs?

# JAM SESSION

# **Grand Estate—Digging Through The Treasure Box**

The book of Proverbs can help you get a line on living wisely and making wise decisions. It's a veritable treasure chest of good, juicy stuff! Just as REALITY CHECK suggests a real estate attorney in the purchase process of a home, seeking the wisdom of God in EVERYTHING is even wiser. Check back in WORD! and choose a particular verse that really hits home with you personally. Share with the group how that verse can really help you in day-to-day living.

# **JAM ON IT!**

Oh, Wise One!

This week, monitor the advice you give others as well as the decisions you make. Use the book of Proverbs this week to help you share and use wisdom in all you do. Share results next session.

# **LAST JAM**

Believers must seek and rely on the wisdom of God in all things.

Use this space to write down questions you have about this lesson.

# **QUESTIONS FOR CLASS**

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