

MAKING WISE CHOICES

11TH GRADE

OBJECTIVE

Equip your student to make wise decisions in all areas of life by grounding them in God's truth and helping them build discernment, self-control, and confidence in their identity in Christ.

WHAT TO KNOW

By 11th grade, students are carrying more independence and are facing bigger, more complex decisions—relationally, socially, academically, and spiritually. They're also surrounded by influences that may challenge or distract them from God's best. It's important to create consistent space for conversation—not just about what choices to make, but how to make them. Help your student recognize that wisdom doesn't mean perfection—it means seeking God, learning from mistakes, and moving forward with faith and clarity. Remind them they don't have to figure everything out on their own. God generously gives wisdom to those who ask, and He's always present to guide and strengthen them.

TRUTH FROM THE BIBLE

If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault...
James 1:5 NIV

God is generous with wisdom when we ask sincerely.

Do not be conformed to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind...
Romans 12:2 NIV

Wise choices begin with renewed thinking and aligning with God's will.

Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character." 1 Corinthians 15:33 NIV
The people we surround ourselves with will shape our decisions and future.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding ... and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5–6 NIV
Wisdom means trusting God even when we don't see the full picture.

You were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies. 1 Corinthians 6:20 NIV
Every decision we make reflects how we value the God who gave everything for us.



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TALK ABOUT IT

- What's the hardest kind of decision you've had to make recently?
- How do you usually decide what's "right" or "best"?
- When have you learned something from a mistake you've made?
- Who do you turn to when you're unsure about something?

Talk through the kinds of pressures they're navigating—from peers, media, or expectations. Use personal examples of how you've grown in decision-making over time, even through failure. Encourage them to be honest, think ahead, and ask for help when needed. Help them identify values they want to live by and how those values can guide their choices.

LIVE IT OUT

Help your student take steps toward wise decision-making by talking through something they're currently facing. Brainstorm the options and possible outcomes together. Identify a few personal values that can serve as filters for future choices, and talk about how friendships or dating relationships might influence those decisions. Set simple goals for staying focused, resisting temptation, or managing stress in healthy ways. This might also be a good time to revisit boundaries around media, technology, or social situations that could cloud their judgment. Wise choices build a strong foundation for the future. Let them know every decision—big or small—can shape their story, and God is already at work in each part of it.

PRAY TOGETHER

Your student is facing more adult-sized decisions than ever before. Let this be a moment where you remind them they're not alone. Pray with them for wisdom, clarity, and the courage to follow God—even when the path ahead isn't easy.

"God, thank You for being the source of all wisdom. Help me to trust You in every decision I face. Show me what is right and give me the strength to follow You, even when it's hard. Shape my heart and mind so I can make choices that honor You. Amen."

