

READ MATTHEW 13:23

DAY 1

Ask a parent if you can have a popcorn snack sometime today, and while you eat it, read this!

Jesus' parable about the sower shows us the importance of making our hearts ready to receive His words. If we really want to learn more about God and grow in our relationship with Him, we have to be willing to put in the time to grow! If we don't do what we need to do, we'll be like a popcorn kernel that never gets popped—and what can you really do with that? On the other hand, if we spend time reading God's Word, praying and going to church—and if we are willing to follow through on the things we discover—it's like eating a delicious bowl of popcorn. Fully living and enjoying life!

THANK God for giving you a soft heart that's ready to receive His words.

READ PROVERBS 1:7

DAY 2

If you really want to gain knowledge, you must begin by having respect for the Lord. But foolish people hate wisdom and training.

Have you ever tried to do something complicated without reading the instructions or getting help from an expert? Even athletes have trainers who are experts in exercise and nutrition and help them be the best that they can be. Who is someone you trust as an "expert" in the basics—someone who makes wise choices, trusts God no matter what, and treats others well? Reach out to that person today and ask them for some advice on how you can grow. Maybe even ask if they would mentor/train you to be the best that you can be at The Basics!

ASK others for help as you grow in The Basics.

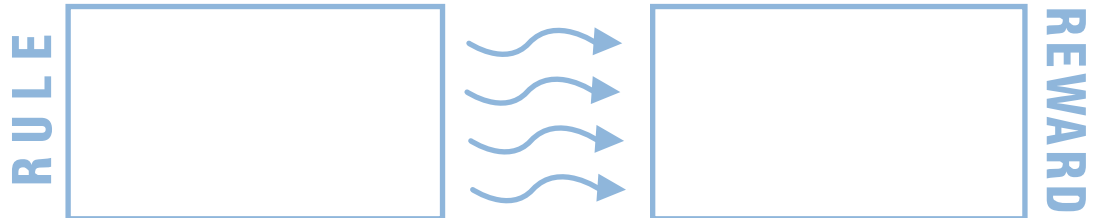
READ LUKE 11:28

DAY 3

What are some of the rules you follow?

- At school?
- At home?
- At church?

Now, what are some of the rewards of following those rules?



If you get stuck, ask your family and friends for ideas. God says that we'll be blessed when we hear God's Word and we do what He says. Blessings are like rewards. Write down any blessings that you can think of on your map to remind yourself of the good that can come from practicing WISDOM and following God's rules.

LOOK for ways to put God's Word into practice this week!

READ 1 PETER 2:1-3

DAY 4

What is your favorite food? Do you remember the first time you had it? Do you find it easy to just have one bite of that food, or does one bite make you want more and more?

As you read God's Word and start to see what it has to do with your everyday life, you'll begin to want to read and understand it more. Ask an adult what their favorite part of the Bible is and when they first read it. Why do they like it so much?

Draw a picture of your favorite food and a part of the Bible you want to check out near the word *WISDOM* on your map to remind yourself that when you hear God speaking to you through the Bible, it can be hard to stop reading!

KNOW that God wants you to know more about Him and what He's done.