

PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 4.4: Understanding

JOURNEY

WITNESSES

► SCRIPTURE READING

1 Chronicles 12:23-37

SUMMARY:

Consider the nation of Israel: Israel wanted a king. They got Saul. But in order to flourish as the nation God had intended, they would need something better. They would need David. Despite David's strong backing of military might to become the next king, without a degree of wisdom his efforts would have been severely impaired. Enter the people of Issachar. Along with military might, you need intelligence. You need people who understand the situation, the times, the culture, etc. Without wisdom and understanding, enthusiasm and strength can only take you so far.

As people on mission for Christ, we, of course, must have enthusiasm, confidence, and strength. But we must also have wisdom and understanding. We must be students of the world around us. That means we have to get beyond our own comfort zone and learn about people unlike us and embrace these people as children created by an almighty God. It is not enough to simply know the gospel and how to talk about Jesus. We must continually seek to learn more about the people around the world and in our own backyard. We need to be able to step into any context and be ready to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

► DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Talk to me about the most interesting thing you learned from this week's lesson.
- What do you think about most when you have the opportunity to share your faith?
- What are some questions you use that help you get to know other people?
- Whom do you know that is really good at listening and asking questions to get to know others?
- Tell me your next steps based on what you've learned. How can I help?

► CORE VERSE

Proverbs 4:7

► CORE CONCEPTS

I must continually learn and understand more about the cultures and contexts surrounding me.

Wisdom: Accumulated experience and knowledge used with good judgment