



Please do not send this newsletter back to Crossroads.

“Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise!
It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its
provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest.”

– Proverbs 6:6–8 (NIV)

In this edition of *Just for Students*, you will find encouragement to read and pray with a focus on gaining wisdom. The book of Proverbs contains wise sayings to apply to our lives. The ant in the proverb above understands the importance of planning and perseverance. As we enter the fall season, we prepare for winter, when the days are colder and shorter. During these days, it can be easy to become discouraged or to feel that God is far away. This fall and winter, as we read through the books of Job and Ecclesiastes, continue to seek God, His presence, and His wisdom in everything you do.

A Message from Crossroads' President, Joe Pryor

One of the most powerful illustrations of surrender in the Bible comes from Jesus Himself. In the Garden of Gethsemane, facing imminent death, Jesus prayed, “Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done” (Luke 22:42). Here, Jesus exemplifies perfect surrender to God’s will—even in the face of suffering.

In our world, surrender is often viewed as weakness and defeat. Jesus reversed this perception when He chose, in the face of death, to obey the Father’s perfect will. Because of His surrender, death was defeated, the penalty for sin was satisfied, and we can have eternal life as joint heirs with Jesus. Surrender to His perfect will today and enter into God’s grace.

Sharing Your Faith through Crossroads

It is not always easy to share our faith in Jesus with others. Some people will become hostile or reject us because of our faith. Sometimes a less direct approach is needed. Sharing a Spread the Word card is a way to encourage someone you care about to start their own journey to meet God and experience His grace. If a friend is curious about Crossroads, share your own experience with the program.

Explain to your friend how the mentorship program works:

- Crossroads sends you a Bible study lesson.
- You complete the lesson and send it back to Crossroads.
- Crossroads sends you the next lesson and forwards your completed lesson to a mentor.
- As you complete the next lesson, a mentor reviews your previous lesson and mails it back to you along with a letter of encouragement.

Be sure to tell your friend about the encouragement you have received from your mentors through their spiritual guidance, feedback, and personal letters.

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Crossroads on Pando: Crossroads has content on most prison tablets through the God Behind Bars Pando App. Search for Crossroads on your tablet and subscribe to our content. Recommend the Crossroads Pando App content to others at your facility. They will find movies, podcasts, and videos that explain the Crossroads program and how to get involved.

Scripture Reading and Prayer Guide: Job and Ecclesiastes

In the book of Job, intense testing by God brings Job to an understanding of God's greatness. Most of us have gone through times when we felt like we lost everything. God can use those seasons to bring us to the end of our own understanding and force us to rely on Him.

Job lost his possessions, his family, his health, and even his will to live. But in the end, he gained an understanding of God's greatness and his own inability to fully comprehend why God does what He does.

Facts about the book of Job:

- Job may be the oldest book of the Bible, written even before Moses wrote Genesis.
- Job's so-called friends gave him bad advice, assuming God was punishing Job for his sins.
- Job wrestled with the great questions of life: "Who is God?" and "Why does He do what He does?"

Week	Passage	Reading Topic	Prayer Focus
Sept. 1-7	Job 1-6	Job loses his will to live	Pray for God's encouragement in your life
Sept. 8-14	Job 7-12	Job's friend accuses him	Pray for protection from Satan's accusations
Sept. 15-21	Job 13-19	Job answers his accusers	Pray for strength in your prayer life
Sept. 22-28	Job 20-27	Job feels abandoned	Pray God will give you peace through His presence
Sept. 29-Oct. 5	Job 28-37	Job's final argument	Pray God will use you to share His truth
Oct. 6-12	Job 38-41	God speaks	Pray for ears to hear God's voice
Oct. 13-19	Job 42	Job gains wisdom about God	Pray for God to reveal Himself to you
Oct. 20-26	Ecclesiastes 1-6	Solomon's riches fail him	Pray for spiritual blessings from God
Oct. 27-Nov. 2	Ecclesiastes 7-12	Wisdom	Pray for God to give you wisdom

Crossword Puzzle: The Book of Job

Use the clues below to fill in the words.

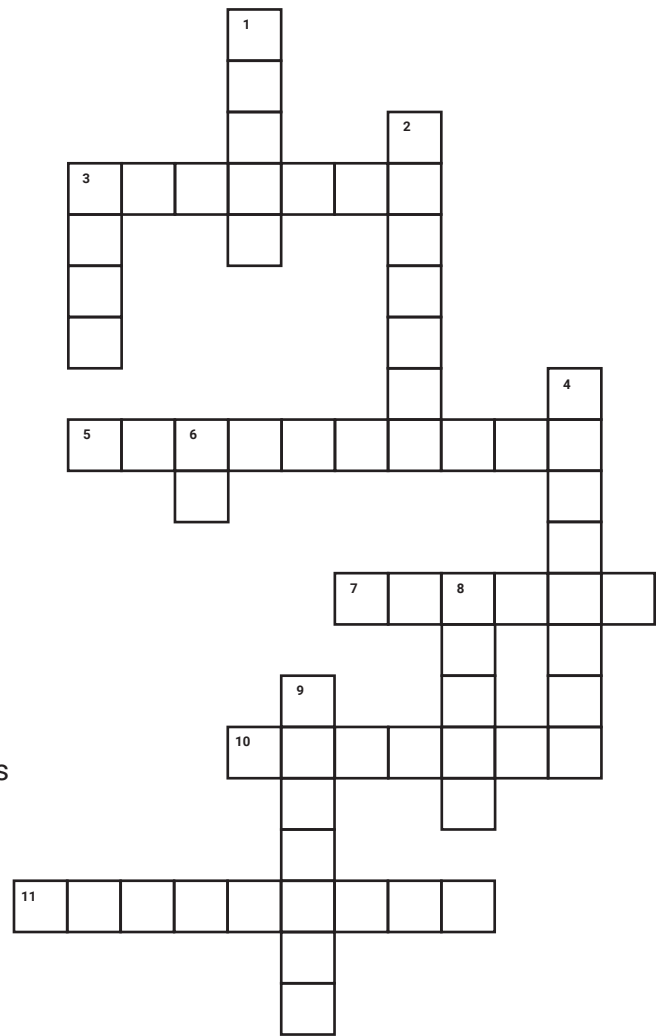
- Words can go across or down.
- Letters are shared where two words cross each other.
- Scripture quotations are taken from the NIV Bible.

DOWN

1. Job's wife told him he should "_____ God and die" (Job 2:9)
2. God told Satan that Job was "blameless and _____, a man who fears God and shuns evil" (Job 1:8)
3. Satan killed Job's children with a mighty _____ (Job 1:18-19)
4. Job said to God, "I am _____—how can I reply to you?" (Job 40:4)
6. Job lived in the land of _____ (Job 1:1)
8. Job had _____ sons and three daughters (Job 1:2)
9. God took Job's wealth by allowing the Sabeans to steal his oxen and _____ (Job 1:14-15)

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3. After Job lost his livestock, servants, and children, he fell to the ground in _____ (Job 1:20).
5. God asked Job, "Where were you when I laid the earth's _____?" (Job 38:4)
7. Job asked, "Why is light given to those in _____, and life to the bitter of soul?" (Job 3:20)
10. Job used this to scrape the sores on his body that Satan was allowed to afflict him with (Job 2:8)
11. God asked Job, "Who is this that obscures my plans with words without _____?" (Job 38:2)



From the Operations Department

- Please don't send *Just for Students* or the crossword puzzles back to Crossroads. They are yours to keep!
- If you move to a new facility or go home and want to continue your lessons, please let us know. To continue studying from home, please wait until you are living there before sending us a note with the address.
- We will send the next *Just for Students* newsletter to you in December.
- To accommodate the growing mail policy changes in jails and prisons across the United States, Crossroads is slowly transitioning to printing lessons in black ink instead of colored ink. You may receive a mix of both during the transition.
- On the back of your lessons, we write a six-digit number. This number is specific to that lesson and helps us process lessons. You do not need to pay attention to this number.





Open doors for your child through Angel Tree!

Your child will qualify to:



Attend summer camp on a scholarship.



Connect with a local church.

Participate in one-day sports camps.

(IN PARTICIPATING CITIES)



Receive a gift and personal note from you at Christmastime.

Bonus: Those caring for your child will gain access to encouraging, practical resources like our **Family Portal** and our newsletter, ***The Hope Connection***.

Sign up today!

See your chaplain to find out how.

Be sure to provide full contact information for your child's parent or guardian.

