

## GET WISDOM! Lesson 7:

**BE WISE! DON'T HANG WITH THE BAD GUYS.**  
(Proverbs 12:26 & 20; 13:20, 21; 4:14-17; 22:24,25)

### Proverbs 12:26

**“The righteous choose their friends carefully,  
but the way of the wicked leads them astray.”** (NIV)

### Proverbs 13:20

**“Whoever spends time with wise people will become wise.  
But whoever makes friends with fools will suffer.”** (ICB)

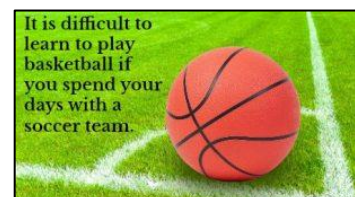


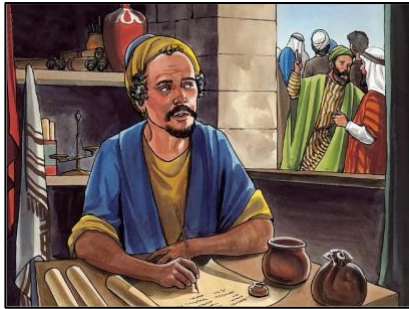
We want to be kind and friendly to everyone. We want to include everyone when we play a game, etc. But, we must understand that we learn things from our friends. They influence us. They can teach us to bad things, or they can teach us to do good things. So, we must be careful when we choose who we will hang out with, who will be our close friends. We should ask ourself, **“Will this friend help me, or pull me down?”**

Here is a good example from Proverbs 22:24, 25:

“Don’t make friends with someone who easily gets angry.  
Don’t spend time with someone who has a bad temper.  
If you do, you may learn to be like him.”

**We will learn to be like the  
people we hang out with!**



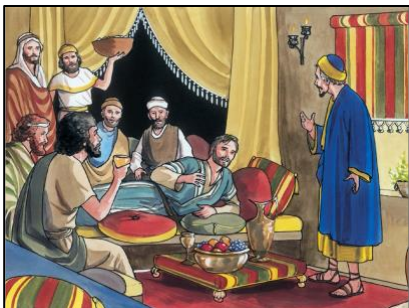
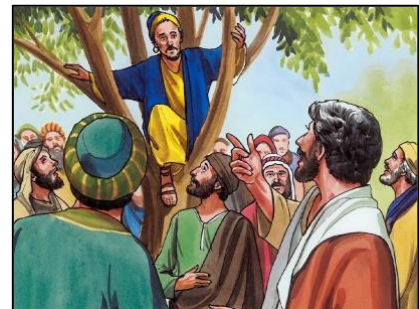


### Zacchaeus the Tax Collector Hung Out With the Wrong Guys! (Luke 19:1-10)

Zacchaeus was a tax collector. He chose to be friends with the Roman governors and other tax collectors. These guys were dishonest and mean to the Jewish people. They were not good guys.

Everyone knew that tax collectors took too much money from people. They even kept some of the tax money for themselves. And they were a bad influence on Zacchaeus. He became just like them. Zacchaeus got rich by cheating his own people.

But when Zacchaeus became friends with Jesus, he changed. This new friendship had a good influence on Zacchaeus.



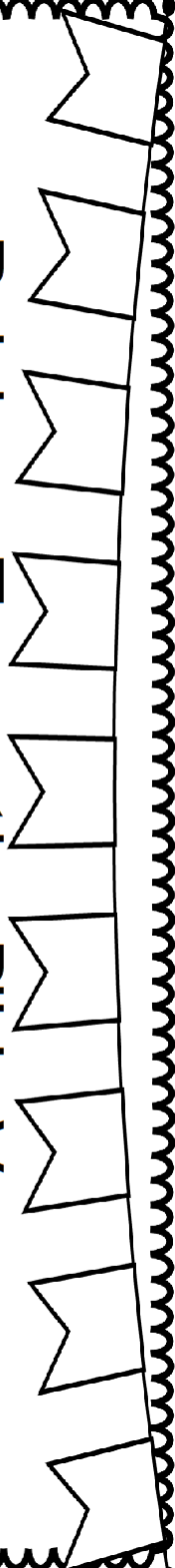
Zacchaeus completely changed for good! He became a new man and repaid all the people that he had cheated.

**Wise friends can help us to be wise,  
just as Proverbs teaches us!**

### **Big Idea:**

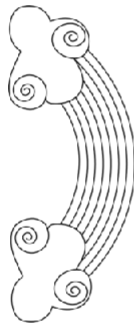


If you choose good friends, you will slowly become a better and better person because your good friends will rub off on you. They will influence you—making you a better person!



# Rainbow Trace the Bible Verse

Use different colors to trace the Bible Verse.



The righteous choose their

friends carefully, but the

way of the wicked leads them

astray.

Proverbs 2:26

UPPER GRADES ACTIVITY

Read Proverbs 13:20 from your Bible. Copy the verse below.

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What does the Bible teach in  
1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:33?

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A decorative rectangular frame with a scalloped, lace-like border.

Who is one of your  
friends that helps you  
be a better person?