

## 30 OBJECT LESSONS WITH MEMORY VERSES

*“Guard my words as your most precious possession. Write them down and also keep them deep within your heart.” (Proverbs 7:2 TLB)*

In brief, memorizing verses:

- 1) *Enable us to feed on God’s word any time any where,*
- 2) *Enable us to withstand temptation better,*
- 3) *Allow God to speak to us and through us far more easily, by bringing Scripture to mind.*

This resource aims to give my kids (ages 5 – 8) the gift of 30 carefully chosen Scriptures that they can carry with them every day and for the rest of their lives.

As a parent I have also been struck by how these simple verses and lessons are driven deeper into my own life each time I share them with my kids.

### **What’s unique about this resource?**

- Each lesson should take no more than 3 minutes.
- It introduces children to 30 of the most important ideas of the Christian faith. It contains what I believe to be the irreducible minimum of what our children must know and believe to thrive as a follower of Jesus.
- Each of these ideas has a memory verse that uses picture language, rather than those verses that are more abstract in nature. This way the child can visualize the main aspects of each verse.
- Each memory verse and lesson is based on an everyday object, therefore increasing their interest as well as their retention. This follows on the heels of Jesus who told parables, often connecting everyday objects with eternal meanings.
- These 30 lessons and verses are meant to be repeated again and again, driving them more deeply into your child’s memory and heart. When it comes to what our kids will likely remember forever, less is more and repetition makes it stick.

### **When to do this lesson**

Find a moment in the day. For me it’s just before eating breakfast, or sometimes in the car on the way to school. But maybe dinnertime or bedtime could work too. Find what works for your family and use that.

### **The shape of each lesson**

1. I hold up the object and ask them what it is.
2. I explain the object in a way that leads into...
3. The Scripture that we’re memorizing today.

4. I make the connection between the object and the Scripture.
5. If I have time, I ask them a question.
6. We repeat the verse together five times aloud, and then each child tries to say it alone.

### **Preparing for each lesson**

You need to find the required object. Usually it will be something in your home, but it may be an Internet image. You might be tempted to merely read the lessons as I have written them, but I think it is far more impacting if you can say it in your own words. It is best to have read through and thought about the lesson beforehand, as well as memorized the verse. By making it your words, you convey 'life' not just 'information'.

### **Ideas to take the lesson and verse further**

- The following day, just before teaching them the next verse, recap the previous day's verse.
- Say, 'In the next 24 hours see how many times you can spot this object and, each time you see it, quote the Scripture to yourself.' After 24 hours share what happened with each other.
- The very next time you pray for or with your kids, quote the Scripture in prayer back to God, showing kids how to use that verse to deepen their relationship with God.
- After a few months, pile up all the related objects, and ask them to say the related verse. Perhaps give them a prize if they can quote all 30, with the objects.
- Each time the 30 verses and lessons are repeated, feel free to say a little bit more about the respective topic. This way, these topics become 'buckets' in which you can store things you are learning and wish to share with your children.
- Perhaps you want to create some of your own lessons based on visual verses and add them to the 30.

### **The 4 categories of verses**

- There are 10 Gospel verses, explaining aspects of the Gospel.
- There are 10 Growth verses, helping us grow in our walk with God.
- There are 5 Promises to hold onto.
- There are 5 Proverbs, to guide our daily life.

## 10 GOSPEL VERSES

The Christian life starts with an understanding of the gospel. But the gospel is not just the ABC's of faith. It is the A to Z. As we grow in our faith, we need to understand the gospel more and more deeply, believing it with every fibre in our being.

### 1. God is good.

Object – A tap

What's this? That's right – it's a tap. It overflows with water. The water flows and flows out of it. There's so much of it. Do you want to know why it reminds me of God? Because there is a verse that says...

*Psalm 86:5 – God, you are forgiving and good, overflowing in love.*

See that word 'overflowing'? Like a tap that never runs dry, so God never runs out of forgiveness and love. He is ready to pour out mercy on our failures. He flows over with goodness. There's nothing bad in him. We can trust him. He alone can satisfy the deep thirst in our hearts. We are like buckets with a few little holes – we need to come to him to fill our hearts up again and again, with his never-ending-always-and-forever-love. What part of God do you like the best right now – that he forgives? That he is good? Or that he loves?

### 2. God made it all.

Object – A handful of earth / a picture of the earth from space

What's this? It's sand, but it can also be called some 'earth'. It's a tiny part of something much bigger – the earth we live on, a planet teeming with life, a planet with lots of water, and a big sky above. There is a verse that asks...

*Ps 146:6 – Who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and everything in them?*

Do you know the answer? God. He made everything. Absolutely everything that is wonderful in this world. The moon. Mountains. Trees. Clouds. Squirrels. Waves. Sand. Other cultures. Even this handful of 'earth' which is part of the great earth we live on. We must never forget that a good Creator made all the good creation we live in. What part of his good creation are you most grateful for today?

### 3. We are God's masterpiece.

Object – Mirror

What's this? It's a mirror. What do you see in a mirror? That's right – you see you. I wonder what God thinks when he sees you? There's a verse that tells us...

*Psalm 139:14 – I praise you God for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.*

Each of us is specially and uniquely made by God, and treasured by him. Who cares what anyone else may say about us? Look in the mirror and ask God to show you what he sees when he looks at you - you are his one of a kind masterpiece. Oh by the way, the dumbest thing we can do is compare the way we look with others. God made us the way he likes us. Imagine if everyone was very tall or had crystal blue eyes – how boring! Loving how God made us is a way of living God. So what part of you are you most grateful for today?

#### 4. We have hearts that stray.

Object – Something woollen / picture of a sheep

What's this? It's wool, which comes from a sheep. Did you know there is a verse in the Bible that compares us humans with a sheep?

*Isa 53:6 – We all like sheep have gone astray.*

Sheep can be quite silly and stubborn. They are lousy at listening to their shepherds. And they easily wonder off into dangerous places. Well, the Bible says that *we* are like sheep! God is our shepherd and he has a path for us, but because of something called 'sinful hearts' we tend to be silly and stubborn – we forget that God loves us, and so we sometimes walk away from him and the places he wants us to be in. Can you think of a time you did something you knew that was wrong, but you did it anyway?

#### 5. Look to Jesus.

Object – Magnifying glass

What's this? It's a magnifying glass. What does it help us do? It helps us focus our eyes on something and see all the detail that's there. Do you know what the Bible says we should focus our heart's eyes on?

*Heb 12:2 – Fix your eyes on Jesus.*

Jesus is the most amazing person; he made the whole world with his father billions of years ago. Then he came to this world 2000 years ago, the most loving, brave, kind, wise, good person to ever live. He loved people no-one else did. He did miracles. He taught amazing things. Right now he is in heaven, in fact he is right here. We can read all about him in the Bible, and think about him every day. Every problem we have, we can fix our hearts on him. (By the way, the rest of the verse tells us that he is the 'pioneer (starter) and completer (finisher) of our faith'!) Isn't that amazing? What do you most like about Jesus?

## 6. Jesus died for our sins.

Object – A nail

What's this? It's a nail. You get much bigger nails than this one. One of the saddest days in history was when people crucified Jesus. They stuck massive nails in his wrists and ankles and pinned him to the cross. But what people did not realize is that God was doing something wonderful, even while they were doing something really terrible...

*1 Peter 2:24 – By Jesus' wounds you have been healed.*

Our sins deserve to be punished. But somehow God put all the punishment we deserve on Jesus. Now we can be healed of our sin – instantly forgiven and even freed from the power of sin. It's like the spiritual disease we have called 'sin' gets cured by faith in Jesus. Isn't that amazing? What do you feel about Jesus dying on the cross?

## 7. Jesus is great.

Object – List of names (Jesus at the top of the list)

What's this? That's right. It's a list of names. Although God loves all people the same, some people are honoured more highly by God. Guess whose name is right at the top? That's right – Jesus! In fact the Bible tells us that:

*Phil 2:17 – Jesus has the name that is above every other name.*

The greatest person who has ever lived is Jesus. He lived a perfect life and paid the price for our sin. But he didn't stop there. He then rose from the dead alive! And then he rose up even higher into heaven. As the greatest One ever, he now rules the whole universe as the King of all kings. In fact we call him 'Lord' Jesus because the name 'Lord' means 'King'. He is our King, worthy of our praise and trust and obedience. Isn't that amazing? Can you think of anyone who is greater than Jesus?

## 8. Jesus is God's Gift.

Object – A ball

What's this? It's a ball. We can kick a ball, but did you know that you are standing on a huge ball right now? That's right – planet earth, the world that God made, filled with billions of people. What does God feel about all these people? The Bible tells us...

*John 3:16 – God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son; whoever believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.*

We believe in one God, who is Father, the one and only Son and the Holy Spirit. Well, the Father sent his one and only Son to this world 2000 years ago, giving him to us as the greatest gift. And Jesus gave himself up for us on a cross. As we trust in him we begin a relationship with him, and we never

need to fear about being apart from him ever again. We will be with him forever. What love – he'd rather die than live without us! Isn't that amazing? Have you trusted in Jesus yet?

## 9. We're children of the Father.

Object – Dad / a pic of dad

Who's this? That's right – your dad. Well, did you know that God is not just our Creator. Even more important, he is our father too. The Bible says...

*Gal 4:4 – You are no longer a slave, but a child of God.*

When we trust in Jesus, God adopts us into his family. Earthly dads are sometimes not such great dads, but God the Father never makes a mistake. Of course, earthly dads are sometimes great, but God is always better, and always great. He is a Father who cares for us, loves us, wants us to be close to him, guides us, protects us and provides for us. Isn't that amazing? What do you feel about God being your Father?

## 10. We are the home of the Spirit.

Object – House keys

What's this? They are keys. Keys to what? That's right – to this house. When we live in a house, we also have the keys to that house. Well did you know that you are like a house for God? The Bible says...

*1 Cor 6:19 – Do you not know your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit?*

Remember I told you that there is only one God, but that he is Father, Son and Spirit all at the same time? One God in three persons. Anyway, when Jesus went back to heaven, he sent down his Spirit as his replacement on earth. Well, when we trust in the Son, the Holy Spirit is given the keys to our lives. He comes and lives inside of us. We're his temple. We're his home. Isn't that amazing? What do you feel about the Holy Spirit living in you?

## 10 GROWTH VERSES

Once we hear the gospel and trust in Jesus, we become followers of Jesus. Though becoming a Christian happens instantly, growing as one takes every day for the rest of our lives. There are certain things we can do to grow stonger and healthier spiritually. Here are ten...

## 11. Say 'Jesus is Lord'.

Object – The word 'abracadabra' on paper

Do you know what the magic words are? Nope, I am not talking about 'thank you' and 'please' here. Magicians often say them when doing a trick: it's 'Abracadabra.' Do you know what the most important words you can say are? The Bible tells us...

*Rom 10:9 – If you say with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord' and believe with your heart God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.*

When it says 'you will be saved' it means that God will take us into his family and into his kingdom. But is there something we must do to be saved? This verse says, 1) we must believe in our hearts that Jesus is alive – he rose again, and 2) we must say the words, 'Jesus is Lord' – these are the truly magic words! They mean, 'I believe that Jesus is alive and well, large and in charge'. This is how we become a Christian. It's also how we grow as a Christian – once saved, we learn to let him be alive and in charge of our whole lives, for the rest of our lives. Why not let's say these words now?

## 12. Get involved in a church.

Object – A brick

What's this? That's right – it's a brick! Our whole house and so many big buildings all around us are made up of these small, simple bricks. Did you know that Jesus has been building something for 1000s of years? It's even bigger than the biggest building and it will last longer than any building too. He's building it right at this very moment, listen...

*Matt 16:19 - Jesus said, 'I will build my church.'*

Since Jesus returned to heaven, he has been getting churches started and helping them grow stronger. Did you know there are millions of churches now – I am not talking about buildings, but the people. Jesus is like a builder, and each of us is like the stones or bricks he is putting in place. He connects us to each other, where we can love and serve each other. That's why it's so important for every Christian to be part of a church. It's why we as a family go to church every week. What do you like best about being part of the church?

## 13. Use your gifts to serve others.

Object – A wrapped gift

What's this? It's a gift! (To be honest there's nothing in it.) But, did you know that God has given you gifts? The Bible says...

*1 Peter 4:10 – Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others.*

God has given each of us talents and skills to make the church strong. Not just the pastor or music leader! All of us. Some of these gifts will be very visible. Others are more behind-the-scenes. But our job is to find out what they are – that's a bit like unwrapping the gifts God has given us. Then we need to use them – by serving others with them - that's how we share our gifts

with others. What is one of the gifts God has given the person sitting on your right?

## 14. Read the Bible.

Object – A sharp knife or play sword

What's this? That's right – it's a knife/sword. Did you know that every follower of Jesus needs to take up their knife/sword and use it every day? One verse says...

*Ephesians 6:17 – Take up the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.*

God's Word is like our spiritual weapon. When Jesus was tempted by the devil, he overcame the devil by quoting Bible verses that he had memorized. When you read and understand the Bible, it makes you spiritually sharp, rather than blunt and defenceless against the devil's lies and temptations. That's why we learn a Bible verse every day – so that we go into the day ready for battle. How can we as a family, or maybe you on your own, read the Bible more than we do?

## 15. Love one another.

Object – A picture / drawing of a heart

What's this? It's a heart. What does it stand for? That's right – love! The night before Jesus died on the cross he told his followers these words...

*John 13:34 – A new command I give you, 'Love one another as I have loved you.'*

Such powerful words. A heart reminds us of love. Well, Jesus loves us. On the cross he shows us just how much. He gives *everything* for us, even though we don't deserve it. He loves us so much that he has patience with us, forgiveness for us, and chooses to see the best in us. But look, as we receive his love, we are able to love others too. We too can learn to be patient with each other, and forgive each other, and choose to see the best in each other. Who can you better show Jesus love to today?

## 16. Be humble.

Object – An item of clothing

What's this? That's right – clothes. Every morning we are meant to put clothes on. But did you know there are some invisible clothes we are meant to put on everyday too? The Bible says...

*1 Peter 5:5 – Clothe yourself with humility toward one another.*

Disciples of Jesus are meant to wear the invisible clothing of humility. Humility is the opposite of selfishness and pride. Pride thinks, 'How can I make everybody look at me and see how wonderful I am?' But humility thinks, 'How can I learn to look at others and see what's so wonderful about them?' Pride

says, 'Everybody, serve me!' Humility says, 'How can I serve you?' I love those superheroes that like to hide their superpowers with ordinary clothing – no matter what great gifts you have, don't show them off. What kind of piece of clothing do you want to pretend humility would be? Can you mime putting it on?

## 17. Bear the fruit of Christlikeness.

Object – A piece of fruit

What's this? That's right – it's a fruit. Where does fruit come from? A stalk draws life-giving sap from the branch. Then it produces fruit. Did you know that the Bible says that when we draw close to Jesus everyday, we're like stalks drawing out goodness and power from the branch so that we start to bear some fruit...

*Gal 5:22 – The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy and peace.*

When we rely on the Holy Spirit, he makes us, little by little, more and more like Jesus. People around us begin to taste the 'fruit' of his character in our lives and actions. We're more loving. We're more joyful. We're more peaceful. I am not saying that we're perfectly loving, joyful and peaceful, but we can learn to walk closer and closer to Jesus, and we can become more and more fruitful. By the way, the verse goes on to mention six other fruits: 'patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.' Which of these fruits do you want to grow more of today?

## 18. Pray.

Object – Cell phone

What's this? It's a phone. What is a phone mainly for? That's right – to call people. Anyway, did you know that everyone has an invisible cell phone that is on speed dial to one number? The number is 333, or Jeremiah 33:3...

*Jeremiah 33:3 – Call on me, and I will answer and tell you wonderful things.*

The same way I can call a friend anytime, so prayer is how I speak to God anytime. He loves to hear from us. We can tell him we love him and trust him. We can say sorry for stuff and ask for forgiveness. We can ask him to help us or others. We can ask him to open our eyes so we can understand the Bible. There's just so much to talk to him about and keep talking to him about. Why don't we call him now?

## 19. Persevere.

Object – Running shoes

What's this? It's running shoes! We need them to run fast. Now do you think following Jesus is more like a short sprint or a long marathon? The Bible tells us...

*Hebrews 12:1 – Run with perseverance the race set before you.*

Sprints don't need perseverance. Only marathons do. Following Jesus is more like a marathon. Some patches of the marathon are downhill – fun and exciting. But sometimes following Jesus is uphill. Maybe we are tempted to quit, or trusting in him doesn't seem to make our lives easier. Maybe it doesn't seem our prayers are being heard. But don't give up trusting in Jesus! Jesus has a plan and a path for your life. It's not always easy, but it's so worth it! When did you last do something that was hard and that you felt like giving up on?

## 20.Keep learning.

Object – Drawing of a question mark

What's this? That's right – a question mark. It means that a question is being asked. When we ask a question it means we are curious and want to understand more. Did you know that questions are so good? Jesus asked lots of them...

*Luke 2:46 – Jesus listened to the Bible teachers and asked them questions.*

This verse describes Jesus as a young boy. Here we see him asking lots and lots of questions to the people who knew the Bible. He wanted to learn everything he could. In the same way, we should ask questions of our parents, Sunday kids, teachers and whoever. If you don't understand, ask them to explain. Don't ever stop learning what God wants to teach you. In fact, the word Jesus used to describe a Christian is a 'disciple', which means a 'learner'. What question(s) about God do you have right now?

## 5 PROMISE VERSES

The gospel is who Jesus is, and what Jesus has done for us. As we believe it we are saved and become children of God. We grow as Christians as we do the things disciples of Jesus are meant to do – like pray, read the Word, and serve. But God does not leave us to do this on our own. He gives us wonderful promises to hold onto. Here are five favourites...

## 21.You will soar.

Object – Dress-up fairy wings / picture of an eagle

What's this? That's right – it's wings / an eagle. You know what makes eagles different to hens? When the storm comes, the hens get blown this way and that. They squawk and panic. But eagles have a secret. They stretch out their wings and catch the warm upward draft in front of the storm. Then glide right over the storm, calm and confident. Did you know that God wants us to be like the eagles?

*Isa 40:31 – Those who hope in the Lord will soar on wings like eagles.*

When tough times come, you can panic like the hen. Or you can hope in the Lord, trusting in his love and his power. Trusting him is like stretching out your wings over his goodness and promises. When you do that, he can put calm and confidence, peace and strength in your heart. Are you feeling more like a hen or an eagle today?

## 22. I forgive you.

Object – Magnet

What's this? It's a magnet. A magnet has a North and a South pole. What else has a North pole and a South pole? That's right – our planet. In fact you can fly from the North pole to the South pole. Now here is a trick question: can you fly from the East pole to the West pole? No! Because East carries on forever and ever, as does West. The Bible says...

*Ps 103:12 – As far as the East is from the West, that is how far you have taken our sin from us.*

How far is the East from the West? It's from forever to forever! Well, when we have done something wrong, we can come to Jesus and say sorry. And guess what? He takes our sin away from us forever and ever. I am not saying all your problems are gone. I mean, if you steal something, you have to pay that person back. But you don't have to pay God back anything to forgive you. Is there anything you want to ask God to forgive you for today?

## 23. Do not fear.

Object – Cloth over eyes / lights out

What's that? It's darkness! The Bible says that sometimes life turns dark. It gets scary. We might feel alone or worried or even terrified. We just don't know what is going to happen. Thank goodness, God gives us a fantastic promise in those times...

*Ps 23:4 – Though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil for you are with me.*

There's a story of a little kid who was very scared one night. The lights were out. He thought he was all alone in the house, and he screamed out for his parents. What a surprise he got when a voice came back from right next to him – his mom was sleeping on the bed right next to him. In the same way, we sometimes feel like we're all alone when we have a problem, but it's not true. God is right there with us! Do you ever feel scared or alone?

## 24. I will never let you go.

Object – Demonstrate to your kids the different hand grips explained below.

Holding hands only works when both people are committed to holding the other's hand. If one lets go, the hands will break apart. But if we hold each other's wrists, the two people can stay together, even if one completely lets go. Which kind of grip do you think God has on us?

*John 10:28 - I give them eternal life, no one can snatch them from my hand.*

Being a Christian is not so much about us holding onto Jesus. It's more about Jesus holding onto us – with his never-letting-go grip. That's so good to know because our grip is faulty and not always very strong. Our faith goes up and down. But he promises to never, ever let us go. Once we put our lives in his hands and he takes us as his own, he will never give up on us – not today, not tomorrow, not ever. Have you ever felt your grip on him slipping? Do you think that changes Jesus's grip on you?

## 25. I will guide you.

Object – A cell phone torchlight

When you are out in the wild in the pitch dark, trying to follow a path, you need some light. A little torchlight like this shows you the way you should go. In life, we have to make lots of big choices – who our friends are going to be, what school to go to, what to do when we have a big problem. Sometimes, we just don't know what way to go. Guess what, God gives us some help...

*Psalm 119:105 – Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.*

This is a promise that God will guide us. It doesn't mean we don't make choices, but that God will guide our choices if we ask him to. We should ask him, and he will show us the way. As we read the Bible, God makes us wiser (as we will see in the next few days). As we pray, he may guide our thoughts and you just know what to do. He may give us some wise people who love him who can give us advice. How cool that God guides us. Is there any guidance you'd like to ask God for guidance?

## 5 PROVERBS

The promise we looked at yesterday says that God's word will be like a light for our path, showing us the way. Just as well, because life is very tricky. A lot of people think they know how to live life, but do they really? The book of Proverbs gives us very important tips for living life right. Let's look at five ways he guides us...

## 26. Choose wise friends.

Object – A friend (show a picture or ask them to list their close friends)

Who are your friends? Of those, who are your closest friends? Friends are one of God's great blessings towards us. But the Bible says we must choose our friends wisely, because they influence the way we live our lives...

*Proverbs 13:20 – He who walks with the wise grows wise.*

See, the choice of your friends shape the quality and direction of your life. They shape the kind of person you become. If you hang out mainly with rude friends, you become more rude. If you hang out with kind friends, you become more kind. If your closest friends don't love God, you might find yourself not loving God as much as you used to. So choose friends who do the right thing, and who treat you and others well. Also, be that kind of friend to others. How can you be a better friend to your current friends? Is there a new friend you could make?

## 27. Speak gentle words.

Object – Oil and a glass of water

I am not going to actually do it because we might catch fire, but imagine there was a fire in a pan. What would happen if I threw oil on it? That's right, it would get much fiercer and spread. And if I doused water on it? That's right, it would get much smaller and even go out. Now, what do you do when a friend or someone you live with starts to freak out at you and speak harshly? The Bible guides us...

*Proverbs 15:1 – A gentle answer turns away wrath.*

When someone is harsh or angry or frustrated with you, imagine that they are on fire. Now you might feel like being harsh back to them. But don't, because that would be like throwing oil on them. The situation will only get worse! Rather be calm. Be kind. That's like taming the flame! As you keep cool even though they might lose their temper, you can cool them down by staying gentle. Can you remember a time when this has worked on you?

## 28. Stand up for victims.

Object – A picture of poor children

What do you think God feels for people who are hurting and suffering? That's right – he cares about them a lot. He cares about the bullied and beaten people in the world – and he is angered by those who do the bullying and the beating. What should we do when we find out about this?

*Proverbs 31:9 – Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves.*

All over the world, people who are stronger than others are tempted to treat the weaker people badly. Sometimes adults hurt or neglect children. Often rich people use or neglect poor people, or leaders of the country bully and abuse their own people. Or us humans kill off plant and animal life. This must

stop! Can you think of some people or animals we know of who cannot speak up for themselves? What can we do?

## 29. Work hard.

Object – An ant, or a youtube video of ants working hard

Do you know what ants are famous for according to the Bible? That's right – they work hard. Now I am not saying that there is never a time to relax and play. But there is also a time for us to work hard and carry our share of the tasks in our home or school. Look how God inspires us...

*Prov 6:6 – Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise!*

A sluggard is someone who is lazy. They avoid tasks and chores at home or school, as well as cleaning up after themselves. If you need inspiration to work hard, to do your best, and to help out at home and school, go to the ants. Those little creatures know how to work their hardest, all the time. Inspired by these ants, what task might you start doing more of?

## 30. Listen to your parents.

Object – Ears

What's this? That's right – an ear! And what are ears for? Yes – listening! Now we know that the Bible tells us that we need to listen to God. But do you know who else the Bible says we need to listen to, especially when we are young? Here goes...

*Prov 13:1 – Wise children listen to their parents.*

God has given you parents not to ruin your life, but to make your life even better, so listen to us. Not just our advice, but also our instructions. If ever you feel we're being unfair let us know, we do make mistakes, and are happy to apologize if need be. (By the way, the rest of the verse is 'but foolish children do their own thing'.) Can you think of one way your life and our home works better when you listen to mom and dad?

