

Handout 9-D

Wisdom Found Poem

Using a Bible, create a “Found Poem” based on select passages from the wisdom books of the Old Testament. The instructions on how to do so are as follows:

1. Choose fifteen of the Bible passages listed below. Use the second page of this handout to write down details, words, and phrases that you think are important and make the biblical text memorable. Then cut out the fifteen boxes. You will use these compose a poem.
2. While you will read and write down elements of the passages, you will not necessarily use all the passages in your poem.
3. Once you’ve finished gathering your quotations, reread the passages and cross out anything that is unimportant or that is not helpful. Make sure that all of the items on the list relate to biblical wisdom so that your poem will make sense.
4. Look at your list again and make minor changes if necessary. For example, you can change verb tenses or add punctuation. You may even need to add a word here or there.
5. Now lay out the fifteen pieces of paper out in front of you and move them around into an order that makes the most sense. Next, number them in order from 1 to 15.
6. Create a title for your piece.
7. Rewrite the words and phrases or type them so that they are written as a poem with at least twelve lines. Pay attention to line breaks and use bold or italics to help emphasize different parts.
8. Read the poem aloud to hear how it sounds. Continue to make changes until you are happy with the finished product.

Select passages from the Wisdom Books Below		
• Job 12:12	• Psalm 111:10	• Sirach 7:36
• Job 27:3–4	• Psalm 127:1	• Sirach 5:13
• Job 28:28	• Proverbs 1:7	• Sirach 18:27
• Psalm 19:1	• Ecclesiastes 1:3	• Sirach 27:8
• Psalm 27:1	• Ecclesiastes 2:26	• Ecclesiastes 7:8
• Psalm 30:2	• Proverbs 3:7	• Ecclesiastes 8:1
• Psalm 34:14	• Proverbs 4:6–7	• Song of Songs 2:16
• Psalm 37:1–2	• Ecclesiastes 3:11	• Wisdom 3:11
• Psalm 37:30	• Wisdom 6:17	• Wisdom 6:12

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• Psalm 84:10	• Wisdom 7:7	
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