

# LIFEWISE ACADEMY

## LIFEWISE JONATHAN ALDER

Bible Education For Public School Students During School Hours

### PROGRAM UPDATE | JANUARY 2024



The adage “a picture is worth a thousand words” often comes to mind when I’m tasked with explaining what happens in our classrooms. I’d actually take it one step further and add, “but **nothing** compares to experiencing a class in person!”

One thing I enjoy as I get to experience LifeWise is capturing moments like this. To me, this picture represents more than a student helping her friend find the right passage in the Bible. It illustrates a common, hopeful theme we’ve witnessed in our classrooms over the last two years - community.

Before LifeWise JA launched last year, I remember our teaching team talking through one of the biggest challenges they would face: engaging students with a very wide range of Bible knowledge, from those with no previous understanding to those with strong Biblical foundations. We considered our open enrollment to be an additional layer to this challenge (Although allowing students to join throughout the year has led to exciting growth - we are now serving **295 JA students** in 1st-6th grades!).

While our LifeWise JA teachers do an incredible job of planning each lesson with this in mind (and our solid curriculum is also built for this and offers a lot of flexibility), the students’ support for their classmates makes it all work so well. I consistently witness respect, encouragement, patience, experienced students helping new students, great questions, unassuming answers and a desire to learn alongside each other as they’re discovering what God’s Word says and means to them on their own levels. This is the kind of community we are praying for as our children grow up in today’s world, and its evidence in our classrooms fills me with hope! Thank you for being part of our LifeWise JA community and making this possible through your support and generosity in so many ways!

Allie Vanover  
LifeWise JA Director





Erica joined the LifeWise JA Leadership Board in the spring of 2022. She helped plan, raise funds, and successfully launch our program that October! In addition to serving on the board, she continues to be involved in many ways, including volunteering for our LifeWise Monroe program & coordinating school appreciation efforts across the district.

**Favorite Bible Verse:** "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:15

**Favorite Food:** Seafood

**Why LifeWise?** We are helping to shape the next generation of fishers of men!

*"And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men.'" Mark 1:17 ESV*

Lifewise is such an amazing program. It's so exciting watching the kids grow in their knowledge of the Bible and how genuinely excited they get about the program. I can't tell you how many times I've heard them say that they wish Lifewise was every day.

**Favorite Memory:** I will be out with my Lifewise shirt on outside of Lifewise, and I will have kids run up to me so excited to tell me they go to Lifewise. It makes my heart happy!



### GRANDPARENT IMPACT

A grandmother of a LifeWise Canaan student shared how thrilled she was when her grandson decided to sign up for LifeWise this year! He was not attending Sunday School at the time, and she was praying he'd get involved in Bible classes somehow. She went on to share that recently at a family dinner at her house, her grandson asked to lead the prayer before dinner for the first time! She was so excited!

### STUDENT TALK

Mrs. Scrock: *Jesus did this so we can live with Him in heaven one day.*

3rd Grader: *That's what I really want some day!*

Mrs. Kauffman: *God had to choose who He wanted his Son's parents to be on earth. He chose Joseph and Mary...even though they weren't famous or rich.*

2nd Grader: *This is some juicy stuff!*

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH LIFEWISE JA!

Our program relies on the generous support and involvement of our local community to continue serving our public school students! Scan the QR Code or visit [lifewise.org/jonathanalderoh](https://lifewise.org/jonathanalderoh) to register your child, sign up to volunteer, or give securely online. If interested in writing a check, please make payable to "LifeWise Academy Jonathan Alder" & mail to: **P.O. Box 358, Plain City, OH 43064**. Got Questions? Please ask! Contact: Call/Text **614.581.8825** or Email [jonathanalderoh@lifewise.org](mailto:jonathanalderoh@lifewise.org). Thank you!

