

## Rick Wraith™: For the Love of Money Homeschool Unit Study Notes

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### Scriptures to Know and Memorize

1 Timothy 6:10:

<sup>6</sup>But godliness with contentment is great gain.

<sup>7</sup>For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

<sup>8</sup>And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

<sup>9</sup>But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

<sup>10</sup>For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”

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1 Corinthians 15:33

“Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.”

(**Note:** Rick Wraith in our story says the common adapted form of the quote, but in the Bible it actually says the above. )

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Proverbs 13:20

“He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.”

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John 3:19

“Men Love Darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil”

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Book of Ecclesiastes

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## **Spiritual principles.**

1. At one school bank tellers were taught to identify counterfeit money, not by looking at counterfeits, but by knowing real money so well that they could spot a fake instantly. In the same way we should know and study the Bible so well that we can spot a spiritual counterfeit quickly.
2. Is there anything in your life that you love more than God? Toys, Music, Activities, Money? Identify places where you love something more than God and realize that you need to prayerfully change them.
3. Former FBI director J. Edgar Hoover once said “The Bible is the unfailing guide which points the way for men to the perfect life. The lessons of charity, justice, and equality which enrich its pages should be learned well by all men in order that greed, avarice, and iniquity can be blotted out”. Discuss that, while crime will never be fully eradicated from the earth until Christ’s coming, the only effective way to fight crime and change society at its core is by following what the Bible tells us.

## **History**

1. Discuss how the Great Depression affected families.
2. During the Depression many people lost their homes to foreclosure. Mr. Gibbs, in our story, was in risk of losing his home and so got involved with a criminal gang. Discuss how people can be motivated to do the wrong thing when pressure mounts.
3. The radio report from “Walter Mitchell” in our story mentions the controversy surrounding the New Deal. Discuss how Franklin Roosevelt’s New Deal prolonged some effects of the Great Depression by removing American currency from tangible standards and hampering free markets by imposing stronger government controls. Discuss how Roosevelt’s administration had thousands of wheat fields torched and animals killed to drive up prices.
4. Discuss some of President Franklin Roosevelt’s lesser known quotes.

"Are we going to take the hands of the federal government completely off any effort to adjust the growing of national crops, and go right straight back to the old principle that every farmer is a lord of his own farm and can do anything he wants, raise anything, any old time, in any quantity, and sell any time he wants?"

May 31, 1935 press conference, responding to a Supreme Court decision that defined the commerce clause to interfere with his regulation of farm products

Bill, I don't dispute your facts; they are accurate. I don't dispute the logic of your reasoning. I just have a hunch that Stalin is not that kind of man. Harry [Hopkins] says he's not and that he doesn't want anything but security for his country, and I think if I give him everything I possibly can and ask for nothing in return, noblesse oblige, he won't try to annex anything and will work with me for a world of democracy and peace.

Words to Former US Ambassador to USSR William Bullitt before Teheran Conference of 1943

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5. How was paper money affected when it was removed from the “Gold Standard”
6. Discuss how the preceding president Herbert Hoover caused government to become more involved in the national economy.

### Resources

Streams of Civilization (Christian Liberty Press)

A Child’s Story of America (Christian Liberty Press)

Ronald Reagan: An American Life, His autobiography

Whatever Happened to Penny Candy? (By Richard Maybury)

### Science and Mathematics

1. Jack Bailey at the newspaper office mentions the construction of paper money. Discuss the history of paper money, and its construction
2. Discuss the function of the Secret Service which investigates counterfeiting.
3. Discuss various crime detecting sciences of the past and present.
  - Bertillon and Phrenology (Which identified people’s physical characteristics length of finger’s size of skull)
  - Ballistics
  - Study of handwriting
  - Fingerprinting
  - DNA

### Resources

Buried Alive by Jack Cuozzo (Discusses human skulls in detail)

See “recommended resources” below

### Recommended resources

(TIP: For the best prices check Amazon.com in the “New” and “Used” section when looking for a title. The first price in bold letters you see is usually the most expensive)

**The F.B.I. Story-1956** (Warner Bros. Motion Picture) (Available on DVD and VHS)

Starring James Stewart, Vera Miles

This forgotten Technicolor® classic tells the epic story of the history of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In a dramatic storyline it shows many of the biggest crimes the FBI dealt with. From Communist Spies to Gangsters to the Klu Klux Klan to airplane bombers, Agent Hardesty (Stewart) thwarts criminals in several fast paced reenactments of real life cases.

The film contains a very positive view of Christians, the most memorable of which is when James Stewart’s wife suffers a miscarriage and Stewart lovingly tells her that “You can’t sit there with a Bible in your hands and complain about the way God does things”.

In narration, while tracking a communist spy who makes contact on a Sunday, Stewart says “Since he was a communist we knew he wasn’t going to church”. Special Agent

Hardesty is shown with a loving family which goes through the trials and joys of life.

The film contains some scenes which may be intense for very young children and Stewart and Miles kiss very briefly before their marriage, but this film is very well made and has no issues which should stop anyone from seeing it.

Then director of the FBI, J. Edgar Hoover, supervised every frame of production in the film. This film rounds out any unit study on government and criminology and is one of the best, and most forgotten, films ever made.

#### Discussion points for the film

1. Discuss how the film was made during the era of the Hays Code which established moral standards to which Motion Pictures had to adhere.
2. James Stewart was a decorated war hero who flew many bombing missions during World War 2. Discuss how real life can affect a person acting abilities.
3. Discuss how people have wrongly concluded that since J. Edgar Hoover never married that he was a homosexual. This lie has been perpetuated by several activist historians and a motion picture due to be released in 2011. However, it has practically no substantiated evidence. Even many historians who have a positive view of homosexuality dismiss the accusation. Discuss how people's reputations can be affected by distortions.

#### **The Hardy Boys Detective Handbook (1970's edition)**

This book, based on the characters of the popular book series, discusses real life crime detecting, including: footprints, fingerprints etc. The book also has several references to the harmful affects and symptoms of drug abuse which will enable the reader to spot such abuse in people. Parents may want to take this into consideration for younger readers, but the information could prove lifesaving for older readers. The book was made in consultation with an FBI agent and while a little dated to the time, many of the detecting principles are still in place with many law enforcement establishments.

#### **Additional Resources**

The FBI by Quentin Reynolds

The Detective Handbook (Usborne books)

The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes (By Sir Arthur Conan Doyle)

The Last Chance Detective (Film Series from Focus on the Family)

The Green Ring Conspiracy (Focus on the Family)

Brass Bancroft of the Secret Service (Warner Bros. Motion Picture Series)

www.fbi.gov (Website of the Federal Bureau of Investigation)



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