

WEEK

ONE

SOCIAL

Opening Activity

What You Need

- ☐ "Wisdomland Corners" Activity Page
- ☐ Wall tape



Inclusive Pro Tips

Before each round, review the corner names again for repetition and clarity.

For an option with less movement, let the kids point to their chosen corner instead of running to it.

① What You Do

Pray for your group before they arrive → Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time. Recall a time when God gave you the courage to do something you didn't think you were ready for. Thank God for sending the Holy Spirit to live inside of you and help you take the next step! Ask God to help the kids trust Him when they feel nervous or unsure. Whether it's a big change or something small, pray that kids would know God is with them even when they don't feel ready.

1. Before you begin, tape the "Wisdomland Corners" Activity Pages in four areas of your group space.
→ Note: If you can't tape the pages on the walls, tape them to the floor.
2. Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a high five, fist bump, or a wave.
3. Encourage any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.

Play Together:

1. Select a kid to go first as the "Park Attendant." Instruct them to stand in the middle.
2. Show everyone the corners and their names (Carousel, Ferris Wheel, Roller Coaster, and Popcorn Stand).
3. Explain how to play:
 - The "Park Attendant" is to close their eyes and count out loud from 1-10.
 - While they count, everyone else will pick a corner to stand in.
 - When the "Park Attendant" says "10!," they are to call out a corner name.
 - The kids in that corner must sit down until the next game.
 - Continue playing until only one kid is left standing!
4. Let the last kid standing be the "Park Attendant" next.
5. Play as long as time and interest allow.

Continued on the next page. →

SOCIAL

Opening Activity

What You Need

- ☐ "Wisdomland Corners" Activity Page
- ☐ Wall tape

**Inclusive Pro Tips**

Before each round, review the corner names again for repetition and clarity.

For an option with less movement, let the kids point to their chosen corner instead of running to it.

② What You Say

"That game was so fun! Running around and choosing corners felt like picking the best ride at an amusement park. But this game was all about guessing. You really didn't know what corner the Park Attendant would call next.

"In real life, we make lots of choices every day about what to say, when to act, or when to be quiet. The amazing thing is that we don't have to 'guess' what the right choice is. We can use God's wisdom! God is wise and loves to share His wisdom with us!

"Today, in our true story from the Bible, we'll meet a man named Samuel. God gave him wisdom to make a really big choice, and helped him see what really mattered. Samuel learned some important things, and so can we. Let's go hear more!"

Transition → Lead your group to the Large Group area.

GROUPS 1/4

More Than Meets the Eye

MADE TO
↓
Play

What You Need

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Ten prepared gift bags with cards from the "Story Gifts" Activity Page inside

Inclusive Pro Tips



Allow the kids to open the gift bags or boxes in pairs to reduce pressure.

① What You Do

1. Divide the kids into two teams.
→ NOTE: You can play as one big group if your group is smaller.
2. Set the gift bags in front of you.

Imagine Together:

1. Say, "These gift bags all look different. But guess what? Just like in our true story from the Bible today, what's outside doesn't always show what's inside! Inside one of these bags is a card with a king's crown on it. Choosing David to be king was the wise choice that God led Samuel to. The card with the crown on it is the 'Wise Choice' card! The rest of the cards have questions from today's Bible Story. If your team finds the card with the king's crown on it—the Wise Choice card—your team wins!"
2. Let the teams take turns picking one bag to open.
3. If their bag has a Bible story question inside, instruct them to answer it together.
4. The team that finds the "Wise Choice" card wins!
5. Even if a team finds the "Wise Choice" card early, let the kids open the rest of the bags so everyone gets to answer questions and review the story.
6. Use the numbers on the cards to review answers to the Bible Story.

Answer Key:

1. What kind of person did God's people want as their king instead of trusting God? (*They wanted a king like the other nations—someone tall, strong, and impressive.*)
2. How did what Samuel was looking for in a king change when he went to Jesse's house? (*At first, Samuel looked for someone who looked strong and impressive on the outside, but God reminded him that God sees a person's heart, and that's what matters.*)
3. What did God say to Samuel about how He sees people? (*God said: "People look at the outside of a person, but the LORD looks at what is in the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7 NIV).*)
4. Why was David's heart something that God liked and valued? (*David loved God very much.*)
5. Why was David considered an unlikely choice to be king? (*David was the youngest son and just a shepherd. People didn't think he was important.*)
6. What special sign did Samuel use to show that David was chosen by God? (*Samuel anointed David with oil.*)
7. What challenge did David face after being chosen as king? (*David faced Goliath, an enemy soldier who was a giant.*)
8. How did David show he trusted God when he faced Goliath? (*David turned down using King Saul's armor, he told Goliath that God was stronger than all of Goliath's weapons.*)
9. How did David defeat Goliath? (*David trusted God and that made him brave! He slung one stone from his slingshot and killed Goliath!*)

Continued on the next page. →

GROUPS 1/4

More Than Meets the Eye



Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Ten prepared gift bags with cards from the "Story Gifts" Activity Page inside



Inclusive Pro Tips

Allow the kids to open the gift bags or boxes in pairs to reduce pressure.

② What You Say

"You did it! This game reminds me of what God told Samuel. Samuel 'thought' he knew who the next king should be just by looking at all of David's brothers, but God said: 'People look at the outside of a person. But the LORD looks at what's in the heart' (1 SAMUEL 16:7 NIRV). God chose David not because he looked like a king, but because of what was in his heart. David loved God and God valued that. And the same is true for us, friends! More than anything, God values that you love Him. God wants to be your close friend!

"Samuel didn't know how to choose the next king, but God spoke right to him and helped him make the right choice! Samuel listened and God helped him make the wise choice. And God loves to help us make the right choice too!

"When you choose to follow Jesus, God sends the Holy Spirit to live with you and help you make wise choices. So, you never have to figure life out on your own! The Holy Spirit is like a helper, a guide, a forever friend. He will guide you to make the wise choice, just like God did with Samuel!

"You might not always have the right answer, BUT you can stop and pray, 'God, what should I do?' The Holy Spirit will help you! And you can always talk to a trusted adult who follows Jesus.

"That's what wisdom is. It's not about being smart. It's about listening to God, knowing what God says is best, and doing it! Remember, God can help you make the wise choice!

GROUPS 4/4

Pray and Dismiss

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

→ No Supplies Needed



Inclusive Pro Tips

Allow the kids to pray silently if they aren't ready to speak aloud.

① What You Do

1. Instruct the kids to sit with you in a circle.
2. Let them know you're going to pray using a call-and-response style (you say a line, they repeat it back).
3. Remind the kids that, "God can help you make the wise choice." Praying is one way we can seek godly wisdom!
4. Invite the group to share any prayer requests.
5. Close the group in prayer.

② What You Say

Leader: Dear God,**Kids:** Dear God,**Leader:** You are an awesome God!**Kids:** You are an awesome God!**Leader:** We are so grateful**Kids:** We are so grateful**Leader:** that all wisdom comes from You,**Kids:** that all wisdom comes from You,**Leader:** and You like to share it with us!**Kids:** and You like to share it with us!**Leader:** When I don't know what to do,**Kids:** When I don't know what to do,**Leader:** help me to stop and ask,**Kids:** help me to stop and ask,**Leader:** because You love to help me**Kids:** because You love to help me**Leader:** make the wise choice.**Kids:** make the wise choice.**Leader:** We love You, God.**Kids:** We love You, God.**Leader:** In Jesus' name we pray**Kids:** In Jesus' name we pray,**Leader:** Amen.**Kids:** Amen.

Transition → As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to point out their playdough mats and talk about how God can help you make the wise choice!

WEEK

TWO

SOCIAL

Opening Activity

What You Need

- ☐ Construction Paper
- ☐ Markers
- ☐ Scissors



① What You Do

Pray for your group before they arrive → Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time. Thank God for helping your group grow in wisdom together. Ask God to help the kids slow down, even just for a moment, to understand how much they need His Spirit every day. Ask God to give you the words to speak as you help kids see that true wisdom comes from focusing on God.

1. Welcome kids with a high five, fist bump, or a wave as they arrive.
2. Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
3. Give each kid two pieces of construction paper, scissors, and a marker.

Create Together

1. Instruct the kids to draw two hearts, one on each piece of paper.
2. Encourage them to use the scissors to cut the hearts out.
3. On one heart, ask them to write or draw something they love.
4. On the second heart, instruct them to write or draw something they want to understand better about God, or something they want to learn to be wise about.
 - For example, maybe they want to learn how to be a better friend.
 - Or maybe they have a question about the Holy Spirit.
5. While they work, spark conversation and ideas with the following questions:
 - "Have you ever needed help making the right choice or knowing what to do?"
 - "Is there something about God or the Bible you'd love to understand more?"

② What You Say

"I loved getting to hear your questions and the ways you want to grow in wisdom!"

"Let's go hear about someone who wasn't perfect, but made knowing God and being His friend the biggest focus of his life!"

Transition → Lead your group to the Large Group area.

GROUPS 2/4

Map to Wisdomland

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ "Map to Wisdomland" Activity Page
- ☐ Pencils
- ☐ Coloring Supplies

Inclusive Pro Tips

Read the verses aloud to your group as they travel around the room.



① What You Do

1. Give every kid a "Map to Wisdomland" Activity Page and a pencil.
2. Divide kids into groups of 2-3.
3. Give each group a Bible.

Explore Together:

1. Say, "Each stop on your map has a special verse that gives us wisdom from God. One of the reasons God gave us the Bible is to help us find wisdom! Think of this map like an amusement park. Each ride or station teaches us something true and helps us discover how to live with some of the wisdom God has given us."
2. Lead the groups to "travel" around the map, read about the situation listed, and look up the Bible verses to see how God's wisdom from the Bible can help in each situation.
3. Refer to the "Station Answers" to help kids fill in their maps correctly.
4. Continue until every group has reviewed each area of the map.
5. Set out the coloring supplies where everyone can access them.
6. Invite the kids to decorate their map with coloring supplies.
7. Encourage the kids to write their names on their paper.
8. Invite the kids to fold their "maps" on the two light lines to create a trifold "map."

Station Answers:

9. **Trust Tower:** I can *trust* in the Lord because His understanding is greater than mine.
10. **Patience Plunge:** I can wait *patiently* because God's timing is always right.
11. **Courage Coaster:** I can be *strong* because God is with me wherever I go.
12. **Kindness Carousel:** I can be *kind* because Jesus has been kind to me first.
13. **Wisdom Wheel:** I can ask *God* for wisdom and He will help me make the right choice.
14. **Forgiveness Food Court:** I can *forgive* because Jesus forgives me every time.

*Finding verses with 2nd-3rd graders

- ① Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. **(HOLD UP A BIBLE OPENED TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS TO SHOW THE KIDS WHAT THE PAGE LOOKS LIKE.)**
- ② When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list.
- ③ When they find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page.
- ④ When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the correct chapter.
- ⑤ Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

GROUPS 2/4

Map to Wisdomland

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ "Map to Wisdomland" Activity Page
- ☐ Pencils
- ☐ Coloring Supplies

Inclusive Pro Tips

Read the verses aloud to your group as they travel around the room.



② What You Say

"That was so fun! Didn't it kind of feel like we were at an amusement park? There are so many different rides at an amusement park, and as we saw, God has given us wisdom for so many different situations!"

"Have you ever been on a roller coaster before? It's full of ups, downs, bumps, twists, and turns. Life can feel that way at times. But the truth of our lives is this: God is with us through every high and low. And He wants us to live wisely no matter what we face in the ride of life! That's part of the reason why He gave us the Bible, to give us the direction we need to follow His ways!"

Ask your group this question → Who do you listen to? Explain to the kids that wise people spend time with wise people who follow God! Think about the people in your everyday life (friends, family, leaders) who you listen to. Who do you go to when you need advice or help?

"So when you're facing something confusing, getting ready to have a hard conversation with a friend, deciding what's right when everyone else is doing the wrong thing, or needing to take a deep breath before saying something you might regret—pause! Ask God for help. Ask Him to remind you of His truth and wisdom in the Bible. Talk to a trusted adult who follows Jesus. If you want to be wise, focus on God!"

*Finding verses with 2nd-3rd graders

- ① Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. **(HOLD UP A BIBLE OPENED TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS TO SHOW THE KIDS WHAT THE PAGE LOOKS LIKE.)**
- ② When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list.
- ③ When they find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page.
- ④ When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the correct chapter.
- ⑤ Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

GROUPS 3/4

Focus and Follow

Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ "Focus and Follow" Activity Pages



Inclusive Pro Tips

For an option with less movement, allow the kids to clap or pat their knees instead of spinning around.

① What You Do

1. Give every kid a Bible.
2. Lead them to find Proverbs 16:16 using the Bible Navigation Tips.
3. Repeat the verse together several times and review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.

Play Together:

1. Place the "Focus and Follow" Activity Page cards face-down all around your group space.
2. Say, "When I say, "Go!" everyone will work together to flip cards over, find the correct words, and put the verse in the right order.
3. "If you find a card with a word that's not in Proverbs 16:16, spin around three times before picking up another one!"
4. Play until the kids place the words from Proverbs 16:16 in the correct order.

② What You Say

"Way to go, everyone! When you picked up a word that wasn't in our Memory Verse, you spun around. Life can be like this. So many things can try to pull our attention away from God (**BUSYNESS, WORRIES, EVEN FUN STUFF!**) But you stayed focused and found the truth in God's Word. That's what we need to do every day!

"I love this verse SO much, it reminds us that wisdom is so precious! And God wants to give us something so precious! He wants to show us the best way—that's one of the reasons why He gave us His Word. When we focus on God, the wise One, and the truth from the wise One in the Bible, we will get wise! So, if you want to be wise, focus on God."

*Finding verses with 2nd-3rd graders

- ① Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (**HOLD UP A BIBLE OPENED TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS TO SHOW THE KIDS WHAT THE PAGE LOOKS LIKE.**)
- ② When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list.
- ③ When they find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page.
- ④ When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the correct chapter.
- ⑤ Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

GROUPS 4/4

Pray and Dismiss

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

→ No Supplies Needed

Inclusive Supplies

- ☐ Index cards
- ☐ Pencils or adaptive writing tools



Inclusive Pro Tips

Give each kid an index card and a pencil or adaptive writing tools. This can be helpful for kids who may process better through writing or drawing!

① What You Do

1. Gather the kids in a seated circle.
2. Say, "Today we discovered if we want to be wise, focus on God! One way we can focus on God is by talking to Him through prayer. Prayer is a conversation we can have with God anytime, anywhere, about anything!"
3. Invite the kids to close their eyes.
4. Share several ideas out loud of things they can talk to God about quietly.

Prayer Prompts:

1. Tell God how much you love Him!
2. Thank God for giving you the Bible so you can learn what's wise.
3. Ask God to help you stay close to Him so you can keep growing in wisdom!
4. Thank God for someone you trust who follows Jesus and helps you grow closer to Him and live more like Him.

② What You Say

"Dear God, You are SO good. We love You! Thank You for the Bible. Thank You for the Holy Spirit. Thank You for the people in our lives who help us follow You! Help us to focus on You so we can grow wiser and go through life well, like You want us to! We know that wisdom comes from You—You are the wisest! We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Transition → As adults arrive to pick up, invite the kids to show off their bookmarks and talk about today's truth: If you want to be wise, focus on God!

WEEK

THREE

SOCIAL

Opening Activity

What You Need

- ☐ Floor tape



① What You Do

Pray for your group before they arrive → Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time. Recall an age-appropriate story about a time when the Holy Spirit helped you make a wise choice. Thank God that you don't have to figure things out all by yourself. Pray that God's Spirit would help each kid in your group be bold and brave enough to ask for help. Ask God to show them that wisdom isn't just for grown-ups—it's how God shows how to follow His ways! Ask God to help you be ready to listen.

1. Greet each kid by name with a fist bump, high five, smile, or wave as they arrive!
2. Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.

Play Together:

1. Mark a tape line on one end of your group space and invite the kids to stand in a straight line (shoulder to shoulder), across it.
2. Stand across from them on the other end of your group space.
3. Demonstrate and explain how to play:
 - "Okay, friends, we're going to play a game called 'Leader, May I?' Here's how it works: I'll call on someone and give you a fun movement to do like tiptoeing, jumping, or taking baby steps. But before you move, you must remember to ask, 'Leader, may I take [number] [type of step]?' Then I'll say, 'Yes, you may,' or 'No, you may not.' If you forget to ask the right way, you'll go back to the starting line! We'll keep playing until someone makes it all the way to me!"
4. Continue playing until someone reaches you. Play again if time and interests allow.

Suggested Movements:

- Hops
- Tiptoeing
- Baby steps
- Big steps

Continued on the next page. →

Inclusive Pro Tips



Adapt the movement options to fit your group. Offer seated alternatives like wiggling your fingers, nodding your head three times, clapping your hands, etc.

K-3rd Grade

Small Group

October — Week 3

SOCIAL

Opening Activity

What You Need

- ☐ Floor tape



② What You Say

"I loved playing that game with each of you! You really had to listen carefully and remember the right way to respond. And, you couldn't just do whatever you wanted. You had to ask!"

"That reminds me of our true story from the Bible today. We'll discover a king named Solomon who asked God for something before he started his journey of reigning as king. He didn't want to do just whatever he wanted—he wanted to be a wise king. God doesn't want to keep wisdom all to Himself, He wants to share it with us. Let's go hear more about how we can get wisdom too!"

Transition → Lead your group to the Large Group area.

Inclusive Pro Tips



Adapt the movement options to fit your group. Offer seated alternatives like wiggling your fingers, nodding your head three times, clapping your hands, etc.

GROUPS 1/4

If You Could Ask for Anything

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Index Cards
- ☐ Pencils
- ☐ Timer



Inclusive Pro Tips

Consider doing this activity in pairs if it works better for your group, so every kid feels supported!

Adapt to verbally sharing ideas instead of drawing them.

Offer adaptive writing tools.

① What You Do

1. Give every kid three index cards and a pencil.
2. Say, "Let's pretend you can have anything you want for your next birthday! What would you pick? Maybe a new puppy? Or the largest piece of your favorite candy?"
3. Set a timer for three minutes.
4. Invite the kids to think and draw one idea on each index card.
5. Once the timer is up, collect the cards and spread them face up for everyone to see.
6. As you read the review points, reference the kids' index cards.

Review Points

1. Solomon was a young man when he became king. That's a huge job with lots of responsibility!
2. He really wanted to be a good king, so he gave a special offering to God ... 1,000 burnt offerings!
3. That night, God appeared to Solomon in a dream and said something amazing: "Ask for anything you want me to give you" (1 Kings 3:5 NIV).
4. Solomon could have asked for anything, like money, toys, power, or being super-famous!
5. If Solomon lived today, he could've asked for some of your birthday wish ideas! (Point to kids' drawings and reference them.)
6. But Solomon didn't ask for stuff; he asked God for wisdom! That means he wanted God to help him know what was right and how to do it. He wanted to follow God and His ways!
7. God was so happy with Solomon's choice! God gave Solomon wisdom AND more.
8. Solomon became a wise king, not because he figured it out himself but because God gave him wisdom, every step of the way.
9. Solomon also shared lots of wise words we can read in the Bible today in the book of Proverbs!

② What You Say

"Out of all the things Solomon could've asked for, he chose wisdom! He wanted to follow God and His ways! Solomon knew that being wise (**KNOWING THE RIGHT THING TO DO AND DOING IT**) is more valuable than anything you can buy. That's what Proverbs 16:16 reminds us too:

It is much better to get wisdom than gold.

It is much better to choose understanding than silver (**PROVERBS 16:16 NIV**).

"Solomon's true story shows us that God loves when we ask for help, and God gives wisdom to those who ask! God is the wisest and He loves to share His wisdom with us! Remember, you can ask God for wisdom!"

GROUPS 2/4

Sticky Prayers

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Sticky Prayers" Activity Page
- ☐ Sticky notes
- ☐ Markers
- ☐ Finished Sticky Prayers example



Inclusive Pro Tips

If independent reflection feels overwhelming for your group, allow them to discuss in pairs.

① What You Do

1. Sit on the floor or around a table.
2. Give every kid a "Sticky Prayers" Activity Page and nine sticky notes.
3. Set out the markers.

Imagine Together:

1. Ask: "When is a time you've needed help making a wise choice?"
→ Encourage kids to think about real-life situations like a conversation with a friend, a time they felt angry, or when they were unsure what to do.
2. Say, "We've been discovering all month long that true wisdom comes from God! He is the wisest, and He wants to give us wisdom so we can go through life well. Each of the prayers on your page are ways we can talk to God when we need His wisdom."
3. Point out the nine situations and feelings at the bottom of the page.
4. Direct the kids to write (or draw) each situation on their sticky notes.
5. Lead the kids to take each sticky note and place it on top of the nine prayer prompts on the page.

② What You Say

"Awesome job with these Sticky Prayers, friends! These are real moments when we can stop, talk to God, and say: 'God, will You give me wisdom?' Maybe you need help figuring out what to say to a friend who's sad. Or how to do the right thing, even when no one's watching. These are all moments when we should lean in to God's presence with us and ask God for help!

"Friends, following Jesus is THE best decision you'll ever make. Why? Not only does Jesus give you a brand-new life where you can be close friends with God, but He gives you the gift of the Holy Spirit to live with you and guide you! That means you're never, EVER, alone! When you ask God for wisdom, the Holy Spirit might give you a new idea, or help you understand what's true!

"Take your Sticky Prayers home and keep them somewhere you'll see them. You can use these prayers to start your conversation with God anytime. Let them remind you that you can ask God for wisdom!"

GROUPS 4/4

Pray and Dismiss

Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Sticky Prayers Activity Pages from "Sticky Prayers: Activity (Application Activity)"



Inclusive Pro Tips

If your group desires personal connection, allow them to pair up with another kid.

① What You Do

1. Give kids their Sticky Prayers page and invite them to find a quiet spot in your group area.
2. Say, "This is a moment just between you and God! Look at the nine prayer squares on your page. Remember we connected them to different feelings—like sadness, excitement, frustration, or confusion."
3. Ask:
→ "Think about how you're feeling today. What square matches that feeling the most right now?"
4. Explain that they can ask God for wisdom in any situation.
5. Direct the kids to read the prayer in that square quietly to themselves.
6. Close in prayer.

② What You Say

"Dear God, thank You for always being with us—no matter how we're feeling or what's going on around us. We are SO grateful that You understand each of our hearts, and You give us everything we need. Please help us to remember that You are the wisest and we can ask You for wisdom. We love You, God, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Transition → As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to share that we can always stop, pray, and ask God for wisdom, no matter what we're facing because He is with us. Invite the kids to share their Sticky Prayers cards.

WEEK

FOUR

SOCIAL

Opening Activity

What You Need

- ☐ **No Supplies Needed**



Inclusive Pro Tips

If it is better for the group, play the game sitting down, and as a kid loses, have them move their seat back.

If kids want more time to think before voting, give them time to do so.

① What You Do

Pray for your group before they arrive → Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time. Thank God for reminding you that even kids make choices that matter. Ask God to help your group see how their words, actions, and even their attitudes can lead them closer to You. Pray that your small group environment is a space where kids feel safe to learn, make mistakes, and grow in wisdom. Ask God to give you gentle words and creative ways to help them understand that being wise starts right now!

1. Greet each kid by name with a fist bump, high five, smile, or wave as they arrive!
2. Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.

Play Together:

1. Gather the kids together and explain how to play "Rock, Paper, Scissors."
 - Rock - Rock crushes scissors.
 - Paper - Scissors cut paper.
 - Scissors - Paper covers rock.
2. Divide the kids into groups of two and pick a group to go first.
3. Chant together: "Rock, paper, scissors, go!" On "go," encourage the kids to show one of the three signs.
4. If it's a tie, instruct the kids to play again.
5. If a kid loses, have them sit down and cheer for others!
6. Continue until there is only one kid left standing.

② What You Say

"That was so fun to watch! Each of you had to think fast and choose carefully. Every day we make choices—some that are small, and some that are really big! Wisdom from God is what we need to make the right choice! Instead of just guessing like we did in 'Rock, Paper, Scissors,' we don't have to guess the wisdom God has given us.

"Today in our true story from the Bible, we'll hear about some kings who made some BIG choices and why it's so important to be wise because your choices matter. Let's go!"

Transition → Lead your group to the Large Group area.

GROUPS 1/4

Kings and the Kingdom

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Map of Israel" Activity Page
- ☐ Prepared Craft Sticks
- ☐ Black Marker



① What You Do

1. Gather the kids together around a table or in a circle on the floor.
2. Lay the map of Israel in the center.
3. Say, "This is Israel, the land God promised to His people! It's where the kings ruled, and where big choices were made."
4. Use the craft sticks to walk through the Kings' Recap from the Bible Story, holding up the matching king's name as you go.
→ NOTE: Call on kids in your group to help you hold the tongue depressors.

Kings' Recap

1. **Solomon** ruled with wisdom at first. But later, he made unwise choices. (HOLD UP SOLOMON.)
2. His son **Rehoboam** didn't listen to wise advice and was very harsh with the people. (HOLD UP REHOBAM. ENCOURAGE THE KIDS TO GIVE YOU A THUMBS-DOWN.)
3. The kingdom split! (RIP THE MAP IN HALF! USE THE BLACK MARKER TO LABEL "N" FOR "ISRAEL" AND "S" FOR "JUDAH.")
4. In the north, kings like **Jeroboam** and **Ahab** led the people away from God. (HOLD UP JEROBOAM AND AHAB. ENCOURAGE THE KIDS TO COVER THEIR EARS!)
5. In the south, **Asa**, **Joash**, **Hezekiah**, and **Josiah** made wise choices and led people closer to God. (HOLD THE CRAFT STICKS UP ONE BY ONE. ENCOURAGE THE KIDS TO CLAP AND CELEBRATE EACH ONE!)
6. But after Josiah, the people stopped following God again. (ENCOURAGE THE KIDS TO GIVE YOU A THUMBS-DOWN.)

Inclusive Pro Tips



Repeat each king's name slowly and clearly, and point to the craft stick or the map when referencing them. This helps visual and auditory learners stay engaged.

GROUPS 1/4

Kings and the Kingdom

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Map of Israel" Activity Page
- ☐ Prepared Craft Sticks
- ☐ Black Marker



② What You Say

"Whoa, what a rollercoaster of choices these kings chose to make. Some kings followed God, and the people were blessed. Other kings chose to ignore God, and it hurt everyone! Yikes.

"Each of the kings had a big choice to make: Would they follow their own way, or follow God's way? You might not wear a crown like these kings did, but we all have this same choice each day. We get to make a choice every day: Will I follow my own way, or will I follow God's way?"

"Friends, our choices matter. That's why I'm so glad we don't have to make daily choices on our own! When we choose to follow Jesus, He came to move inside of us through the Holy Spirit to help us make the wise choice. The Holy Spirit reminds us of what's true. He helps us remember God's Word. He helps us love others, even when it's hard. He helps us WANT to make the wise choice, even when others around us don't! I hope today reminds you that whether the choice feels big or small, you can be wise because your choices matter."

Make It Personal → Share an age-appropriate time you had to make a big decision, and the Holy Spirit gave you wisdom. Maybe a friend wanted you to join them in talking badly about someone else. Was it a verse you remembered? Share how seeking God first changed your thoughts.

Inclusive Pro Tips



Repeat each king's name slowly and clearly, and point to the craft stick or the map when referencing them. This helps visual and auditory learners stay engaged.

GROUPS 3/4

God's Word and Wisdom

Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ Floor tape
- ☐ "Cup Stack" Activity Page
- ☐ Plastic cups
- ☐ Permanent markers

Inclusive Supplies:

- ☐ Prepared cups with Proverbs 16:16

Inclusive Pro Tips

If it suits your group better, prepare two sets of cups with the words from Proverbs 16:16 on them.



① What You Do

1. Before you begin, use floor tape to mark two starting lines on one end of your group space.
2. Divide the kids into two teams and have them stand behind each line.
3. Place a stack of 19 cups a few feet away (for the NlrV, 15 for the NIV) from each starting line.
4. Give each team one permanent marker, and one Bible.
5. Direct the teams to look up Proverbs 16:16.
6. Repeat the verse together several times.
7. Review any words in the verse that might be unfamiliar to the kids.

Move Together:

1. Show the kids the "Cup Stack" Activity Page and say, "Are you ready for a verse relay? One at a time, you will each race to:
 - Grab one cup from the stack.
 - Bring it back to your group.
 - And use the marker to write one word from Proverbs 16:16 on it!
 - Once the word is written, the next kid can go!"
2. Say: "After your team has written all the words, you'll work together to make a cup pyramid with the verse in order. When your team is done, shout, 'PROVERBS 16:16!'"
3. At your signal, begin the game!
4. Once a team has collected all of their cups and written on them, give them a "Cup Stack" Activity Page to follow to build their pyramid.
5. Play until both teams have stacked the verse words in correct order.

Continued on the next page. →

*Finding verses with 2nd-3rd graders

- ① Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. **(HOLD UP A BIBLE OPENED TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS TO SHOW THE KIDS WHAT THE PAGE LOOKS LIKE.)**
- ② When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list.
- ③ When they find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page.
- ④ When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the correct chapter.
- ⑤ Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

GROUPS 3/4

God's Word and Wisdom



Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ Floor tape
- ☐ "Cup Stack" Activity Page
- ☐ Plastic cups
- ☐ Permanent markers

Inclusive Supplies:

- ☐ Prepared cups with Proverbs 16:16

Inclusive Pro Tips



If it suits your group better, prepare two sets of cups with the words from Proverbs 16:16 on them.

② What You Say

"That was so fun! It took some focus to place those cups in just the right order. It also takes focus to build our lives on God's wisdom too.

"I love that we can trust the Bible because it's God's true Word. The King of all gave it to us. Every word helps us know who God is, how much He loves us, and how we can live in a way that honors Him!

"The truth is that wisdom starts in our hearts. When we want what God wants, that's when we realize we don't have all the answers. And that's when wisdom begins to grow in us. God's wisdom is so very precious! So let's all keep asking God for wisdom and letting His truth shape how we live. Remember, be wise because your choices matter!"

*Finding verses with 2nd-3rd graders

- ① Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. **(HOLD UP A BIBLE OPENED TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS TO SHOW THE KIDS WHAT THE PAGE LOOKS LIKE.)**
- ② When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list.
- ③ When they find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page.
- ④ When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the correct chapter.
- ⑤ Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

GROUPS 3/4

Silver and Gold



Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Bibles marked at Proverbs 16:16
- ☐ "Proverbs 16:16 Coins" Activity Page
- ☐ Gold and silver paint pens (or yellow and gray crayons)

① What You Do

1. Invite a kid to open the Bible to Proverbs 16:16 and help them read it aloud.
2. Repeat the verse together several times.
3. Review any words in the verse that might be unfamiliar to the kids.

Create Together:

1. Set out the coloring supplies and coins from the "Proverbs 16:16 Coins" Activity Page.
2. Show the kids Side 1. (Make sure they see the little "1" on that side.)
→ Read the first part of Proverbs 16:16.
→ Encourage the kids to color the first side gold or yellow.
3. Show them Side 2. (Make sure they see the little "2" on that side.)
→ Read the second part of Proverbs 16:16.
→ Encourage the kids to color that second side silver or gray.
4. Encourage the kids to take their coin home and keep it somewhere special—like in their backpack, in their bedroom, or on the refrigerator!

Talk Together:

1. "Have you ever had to make a hard choice? What helped you choose what was right?"
2. "If you follow Jesus, did you know the Holy Spirit can help you choose God's way?"

② What You Say

"I love that these coins remind us of an important truth from the Bible, God's Word! Why do you think wisdom or understanding is better than gold or silver? (INVITE RESPONSES.) Those things are shiny and fun, but they can be lost or taken away. When God gives us wisdom, no one can take it away from us! Wisdom sticks with you and helps you make choices that honor God every day.

"God's wisdom is also so valuable because it comes from the King of kings!

"You'll probably have some big choices (AND SMALL ONES) this week. Like how to treat your brother, or what to say to a friend, or how to listen even when you don't feel like it. So, before you choose, pause and ask God to help you! HE WILL! God wants us all to be wise because our choices matter!"

*** Look for opportunities to have conversations about what it means to make a decision to follow Jesus! (IF YOU NEED HELP WITH WHAT TO SAY, ASK YOUR MINISTRY LEADER.)**

GROUPS 4/4

Pray and Dismiss



Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

→ No Supplies Needed

① What You Do

1. Pair kids up!
→ It's okay if there's a group of three.
2. Say, "Today, let's talk to God about the friend we're paired with. Pray that God would help them make wise choices this week! You can choose to pray for them aloud or silently."
3. Give the kids a minute to pray for each other.
4. Close in prayer.

② What You Say

"God, we're so thankful that You hear every prayer we say. Thank You for loving us and sharing your wisdom with us. Please help my friends here trust You and follow Your way. Even when it seems like no one around us is following You, God, please give us the boldness and wisdom to follow Your way no matter what! We love You, God, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Transition → As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show the coins they colored with the Memory Verse as they talk about how to trust God to help us be wise because our choices matter.

Inclusive Pro Tips



If it works best for your group not to partner up, consider allowing kids to spread out to pray independently.

