



WEEK THREE – AUGUST 2024 – SECOND/THIRD

Bible Story: *Much Needed Advice* | 2 Chronicles 10 (suppt.: Proverbs 13:20)

Bottom Line: *Hang out with wise people*

Memory Verse: *“If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone and doesn’t find fault. – James 1:5 (NirV)*

Virtue: *Wisdom – Finding out what you should do + doing it*

Basic Truth: *I can trust God no matter what*

Series Overview: Sometimes it’s easy to know what the wise choice would be. Let’s say you’re choosing between having expired milk with your cereal or eating some fruit and a sandwich. You probably aren’t reaching for the milk! What about choosing to stay up all night when you have a road trip the next day, or getting some sleep because you’re driving first? Every decision you make starts out with a choice. As we “dive deep” into the Bible this month, we’ll discover that God is always there to help us make wise choices.

Bottom Line: Hang out with wise people. There’s a famous saying: “Show me your friends and I’ll show you your future.” The people we allow into our lives have the power to influence us, both positively and negatively. That doesn’t mean we should cast people off and ignore them, but it does mean that we need to be aware of who we let speak into our lives and our situation. If we spend time with wise people, then we know it’ll be worth it in the end.

9:05 - 9:20 | 11:05 – 11:20 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY

Opening Small Group Activity

Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: Colored Construction Paper; Timer; Blindfold

What You Do:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a fist bump or high five
- Divide the group into teams of three kids.
 - It's okay to have a team of two or a team of four.
- Direct all of the teams to gather on one side of your group space.
- Give each group a piece of colored construction paper. Give each team a piece that is a different color.
- Direct one kid from each team to place their team's construction paper on the other side of your group space as their "base" and then return to where their team is gathered.
- Set the timer for one minute.
- Instruct one kid in each group to close their eyes (or wear a blindfold).
- Direct the remaining kids on each team to lead their teammate to their team's "base" by giving directions with their voice.
 - State the rule that kids can't be led by the hand—they must listen carefully to follow their team members' instructions.
- Start the timer and instruct the kid with closed eyes (or a blindfold) to tune into their teammates and start walking based on their instructions.
- Continue until all kids have had a chance to be led to the "base."

What You Say:

"That was fun! Great job listening to the voices who were leading you to your base. *[Transition]* Today we're going to hear about someone who had to choose which voice to listen to—and it made all the difference. Let's go!"

9:20 - 9:50 | 11:20 – 11:50 | LARGE GROUP

Large Group Overview: For Week 3, we head to 2 Chronicles 10. King Solomon’s son, Rehoboam, was now king, and the people came to ask him to lighten their workload. However, when presented with the opportunity to gain the people’s trust, King Rehoboam sought out wise counsel . . . and unwise counsel. Unfortunately, Rehoboam chose to listen to his unwise friends, which led to catastrophic consequences for him and for God’s people.

9:50 – 10:10 | 11:50 – 12:10 | SMALL GROUP

Wise or Foolish Relay

[Live For God | Application]

Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: “Wise or Foolish?” Activity Page, prepared buckets or containers, masking tape, scrap paper, and a permanent marker

What You Do:

- Place the prepared, labeled buckets on one side of your group space.
- Tape a starting line on the floor a few feet from the buckets.
- Divide the group into two teams.
- Instruct both teams to line up at the starting tape line.
- Provide each team with a stack of scrap paper for them to wad into balls.
- Read a scenario from the “Wise or Foolish?” Activity Page.
- Direct the teams to work together to decide if the decision from their scenario is wise or foolish.
- One at a time, instruct a kid on each team to toss a ball of paper into the “wise” or “unwise” bucket, then join the end of the line.

- Use the “foolish” scenarios to discuss what could have been done differently to be “wise” instead.
- Continue in the same way until all kids have had a turn or until all scenarios have been read and placed in the appropriate buckets.
- Instruct the kids to gather together.

What You Say:

“You did well knowing the difference between wise and unwise choices. Did you notice a lot of the kids in our foolish scenarios were influenced by who they were with? Or influenced those who were with them? (Invite responses.)”

*“It’s important to be friendly and kind to everyone, but you can notice which of your friends and classmates make wise choices. You want to spend the most time with people who you know are wise. You can also ask your parents or other wise adults for advice and help. When you **[Bottom Line] hang out with wise people**, it can help you to make the wise choice. God wants us to become more and more like Jesus in everything we do—including our choices.”*

Pray + Dismiss

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: Dry-erase board and dry-erase marker; index cards, and writing utensils

What You Do:

- Ask: “What makes someone wise?”
- List their responses on the dry-erase board (or poster board).
 - For example: A wise person makes good choices, asks God for help, apologizes for their mistakes, learns from others, helps others make wise choices, etc.
- Give each kid an index card and a writing utensil.

- Ask kids to think of wise people in their lives and write down their names on their index card.
- Remind kids to take their index cards home and use them to remind them to spend time with those people and pray for them.
- Close your group time in prayer.

What You Say:

“Dear God, thank You for all the people in our lives who show us what it looks like to make wise choices. Thank You for surrounding us with people who can show us how to live and how to love like Jesus. Guide us to make the wise choice. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to share their index cards of wise people.