



WEEK ONE – SEPTEMBER 2025 – SECOND/THIRD

Bible Story: *Samuel Anoints David | 1 Samuel 16:1-13*

Bottom Line: *God helps you make the wise choice.*

Memory Verse: *“It is much better to get wisdom than gold. It is much better to choose understanding than silver..”- Proverbs 16:16 (NirV)*

Insight: *God’s Message – What Jesus said and did impacts how I should respond to God’s Word in my everyday life*

Application: *Wisdom – Finding out God’s best and doing it*

Series Overview: This month’s theme —“Wisdomland: God can help you make the wise choice”—is inspired by all the ups and downs of a theme park roller coaster. The kings of Israel and Judah brought the nation to its pinnacle when they wisely chose to worship and honor God. And they led the nation down some stomach-dropping dips and ultimate derailment through their foolish decisions. Kids will discover that even though they may not be leading a nation, their choices matter deeply in their lives and the lives of the people around them.

8:45 - 9:05 | 10:45 – 11:05 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY

Connection Centers

Connect: a time that invites kids to share with others and leaders

What You Need: Activity Bins + Coloring Sheets (find on your shelves in space)

What You Do:

- *PRE-CONNECTION TIME*
 - **Before kids arrive, pray for your group before they arrive. Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time. Thank God for choosing David to be king and for wanting to be close friends with each kid who walks into your room today. Ask God to help them know that He sees them, loves them, and is ready to help them make wise choices. Ask God to help them hear His voice. Ask God to help them trust Him, even when they don't feel big or strong or ready!**
- *DURING CONNECTION TIME*
 - Greet each child by name and with a high five or fist bump!
 - **Make sure to grab second sticker from the child + place it on your sticker sheet**
 - Invite kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
 - Pull out your activity bins + set aside some coloring sheets for kids to partake in your small group space
 - Ask questions in order to connect with + get to know your few as you partake in activities alongside them...you can use these :
 - ***“If you could have any superpower for just one day, what would it be and why?”***
 - ***“What's the best thing you did this summer? (Could be big or small!)”***

- *“What’s something super cool or interesting you know how to do? (Like tie your shoes, draw a great picture, or tell a funny joke!)”*
- *“If you could invent a new ice cream flavor, what would it be called and what would be in it?”*
- *AFTER CONNECTION TIME*
 - *Use this time to review over how to be successful in small group time as well as Flatirons Kids by using the SG Structure 101 sheet featured on your activity shelf*
 - Go over each rule to create a great small group experience
 - Transition into the Opening Small Group Activity

9:05 - 9:20 | 11:05 – 11:20 | OPENING SMALL GROUP

OPENING ACTIVITY

What You Need: Piece of plain paper; pencils; magnetic tiles

What You Do:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a high-five, fist bump, or a wave.
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- As kids arrive, invite them to share a fun fact about themselves with you.
- Write the fun fact down on a plain piece of paper.
- Invite the kids to build a roller coaster using magnetic tiles or blocks.
- Encourage teamwork as they build and ask guiding questions about why they chose to build in that way.
- Once everyone’s had a chance to build and you’ve got your fun facts ready, gather the kids in a circle.
- Read each fun fact out loud and let kids guess whose it is.

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- If the group is really enjoying building, it's okay to keep that going longer and skip the fun facts, or do it briefly.

What You Say:

“Wow! You all made some incredible roller coasters and learned some fun things about each other! Trying to figure out how to build your coaster, and who the fun fact was about took some curiosity.

“Today in our true story from the Bible, we’re going to discover someone who made a wise choice that might surprise you. Samuel was looking for the next king, and God helped him see something special that means a lot to God. Let’s go find out how God helped Samuel make the wise choice!”

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

We’ll start off the month with God sending Samuel to choose Israel’s next king. Even though David was the youngest and least important of Jesse’s sons, Samuel listened to God and wisely chose to anoint David. We immediately see the wisdom of Samuel’s choice, as David relied on wisdom from God to defeat Goliath with only a slingshot and a stone.

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

FILTER YOUR CHOICES

[Live for God | Application Activity]

What You Need: “Filter Your Choices” Activity Pages; clear plastic cups; small water bottles; dried black beans; small strainer

What You Do:

- Invite the kids to join you in a seated circle.
- Fill one clear cup about a third of the way with water.
- Place the other empty cup and the strainer nearby.
- Stack the scenario cards face down in a pile in the middle of the circle.
- One by one, encourage the kids to pick a card from the “Filter Your Choices” Activity Page and read it aloud.
 - *NOTE: Don’t ask for wise answers to the scenarios just yet!*
- After reading their card, give each kid a black bean, and invite them to drop it into the water cup.
- As more beans are added, say, “Wow, look how hard it is to see through the water now! When we try to make choices without God, without asking Him and seeking His guidance, things can get confusing and messy.”
- Use the small strainer to pour the water from the cup into the clean cup.
- Say, “When we filter our choices through God by praying and asking God for help, by reading the Bible, and by listening to the Holy Spirit, God helps us see clearly and make the wise choice!”
- Encourage each kid to re-read their scenario.
- Ask: What wise choice do you think God would help you make in this scenario?
- Help guide the kids’ answers as needed.
- Set the cards aside for Pray and Dismiss.

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- Some kids might not enjoy the texture of the beans, and that’s okay! Offer to gently drop the beans into the cup for them.

What You Say:

“I love that God showed you all wise ways to respond in these scenarios! Can I tell you something important? We won’t always want to make the wise choice. Some days, it might feel easier to say something mean back. Or not apologize when we know we should. Or to hide the truth so we don’t get in trouble. But do you think any of those things reflect who God is? (*Invite responses.*) Not at all! God is kind, God is loving, God is honest, and God is good.

“That’s why we need help—to try to show who God is and what He is like as we go throughout our lives. And that’s exactly why God gave us the Holy Spirit. When we choose to follow Jesus, God gives you a forever helper, the Holy Spirit, who goes with you every step of your life, and He helps guide you. He reminds you of what would show God’s goodness and love, when your heart feels like doing something else.

“So the next time you feel stuck, frustrated, or unsure: PAUSE! Take a deep breath and ask God to help you. How else can we seek godly wisdom? *(Invite responses, like: talk to a trusted adult who follows Jesus, read the Bible, which is God’s Word, etc.)*

“We need God’s help just like Samuel did! Remember, God can help you see clearly and make wise choices. God can help you when you don’t know what to do. And God can help you do the right thing when no one else is watching. **God can help you make the wise choice!**”

HOP TO IT

[Hear From God | Memory Verse Activity]

What You Need: Bibles; “Memory Verse Words” Activity Page

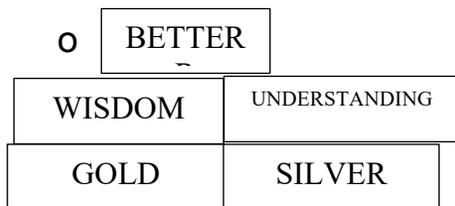
What You Do:

- Invite the kids to form groups of 2-3.
- Give every group a Bible and direct them to look up Proverbs 16:16
- Repeat the verse aloud several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
 - ***Finding verses for 2-3rd graders:** 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.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list. 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. When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the correct chapter. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

- Ask:
 - “What are silver and gold?” *(Share that they are valuable metals. Think about your favorite toy.)*
 - “Why do you think wisdom and understanding are more valuable than silver or gold?”
 - *(Guide kids to consider that silver and gold can be lost or stolen, but wisdom and understanding stay with us and help us make good choices.)*

- Lay out the “Memory Verse Words” Activity Pages in the following pattern (NIrV):



- Invite the kids to form a line.
- Demonstrate how to hop on the words as you recite the verse.
 - For example, for the NIrV, “It is much better (**hop**) to get wisdom (**hop**) than gold (**hop**). It is much better to choose understanding (**hop**) than silver (**hop**).”
- Invite each kid to take a turn. As the kid moves from word to word, encourage the rest of the group to recite the verse with them!

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- Celebrate every attempt at reciting the verse. Some kids might not remember every word, but they’re still engaging!
- Lead the kids to point to the words instead of hopping to them.

What You Say:

“Way to go, friends! I love how you moved your bodies and used your brains to remember Proverbs 16:16. The Bible, God’s Word, tells us that wisdom and understanding are better than anything—better than our favorite toy, or the best sweet treat. All of those things can be lost or taken away, but understanding stays with us and helps us make choices that honor God for the rest of our lives.

“God has wisdom and He loves to share it with you. God wants to give you a precious thing! Remember, **God can help you make the wise choice!**”

PRAYER TIME

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

What You Need: “Filter Your Choices” Activity Page cards from Application Activity; Coloring Supplies

What You Do:

- Invite the kids to sit in a circle.
- Give every kid a card from the “Filter Your Choices” Activity Page.
- Set the coloring supplies in the center of the circle.
- Invite the kids to draw a portrait of themselves in the blank square on the back of their card. This is their Wisdomland Fast Pass!
- Say, “While you decorate your Wisdomland Fast Pass, I want you to think about this: What’s something you need God’s wisdom for this week?”
 - *Maybe it’s wisdom to speak kindly to your sibling even when they bug you.*
 - *Maybe it’s wisdom to tell the truth, even when it’s hard.*
 - *Maybe it’s wisdom to make the right choice when you’re playing outside in your neighborhood.*
- Remind kids that prayer is a conversation they can have with God anytime, anywhere, about anything.

- Encourage kids to hang their Wisdomland Fast Pass somewhere at home where they can see it daily as a reminder that **God can help you make the wise choice!**
- Close the group in prayer, calling out some of the things kids mentioned they needed wisdom for.

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- As kids think about what they need wisdom for this week, make sure they don't feel the pressure to share! Give them the opportunity to process quietly.

What You Say:

“Dear God, thank You for always being ready to help us. Thank You for giving us the Holy Spirit to guide us. We admit that we don't always want to do the right thing. Sometimes we want to do things our way. But we want to follow You, God. Your way is always better! Remind us this week to pause, pray, and ask for help! You are the source of all wisdom, and we trust that You will help us make wise choices. We pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen!”

[As adults arrive to pick up, invite kids to show off their Wisdomland Fast Pass and recite the Memory Verse on it to their grown-up!]