

**Upper Elementary
Large Group**

SEPTEMBER 2025



How many times recently have you heard a celebrity or influencer promote “you do you” or “live your truth”?

Though it’s true God has created each of us with unique gifts and desires, it all falls apart if we don’t seek wisdom from God in everything we say and do.

Our world is all about popularity, appearance, and intelligence, but in God’s kingdom, wisdom is of far greater value. Jesus showed us perfectly what a wise life looks like: stay connected to God and seek God’s best in every circumstance. Then follow through and do it!

As we continue to journey with God’s people through the story of Scripture, we meet the kings of Israel and Judah—those who made wise choices and those whose foolish choices brought down a nation. Through the lives of David and Solomon, we also take a look at the Bible’s wisdom literature in the Psalms and Proverbs. Kids will discover that true wisdom comes through constant connection with God, just as a well-rooted tree on river banks draws life from the water. And the best news of all? God wants us to ask for wisdom and delights to give it.

God View

The connection between truth and God's character, as shown through God's Big Story

Insight

God's Message/Truth

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.

HEADS UP



About Wisdom David and Solomon are referred to as Israel's greatest kings, and Solomon is often referenced as one of the wisest men to ever live. Truth is, they were both deeply flawed men and, especially toward the end of their lives, made many unwise choices. While you do not need to detail this for kids, you can point out that even the seemingly wisest, smartest people can make foolish choices when they fail to stay connected to God.

About Turning to God We cover a lot of territory in this month's stories—especially in Week 4 where we talk through all the kings of Israel and Judah following Solomon. Don't worry about trying to help kids remember every single name. Instead focus on the repeated pattern of God's people to turn to God for a time and then slide back into old, foolish pattern and choices. We will fall into the same trap unless we rely on the Holy Spirit to enable us to continue making wise choices.

September Monthly Overview

Week	Bible Story	Bottom Line	Conversation Starter
1	Samuel Anoints David 1 Samuel 16:1-13	God helps you make the wise choice.	What does it mean to be wise?
2	David and the Psalms Psalm 1:1-4 Supporting: Psalm 23:1-2; 8:1; 18:2	If you want to be wise, focus on God.	How do you know what's wise?
3	Solomon Chooses Wisdom 1 Kings 3:4-15 Supporting: Proverbs 15:1; 3:5-6; 17:17	You can ask God for wisdom.	When do you need wisdom?
4	The Kings 1 & 2 Kings	Be wise because your choices matter.	Why do your choices matter?

Core Insight

God's Message / Truth

Key Application

Wisdom

**It is much better to get wisdom than gold.
It is much better to choose understanding than silver.
Proverbs 16:16, NIV**





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Week 4

Notes

- Yellow highlighted text are cues for audio and visual slides.
- Game, Worship, and the Bible verse from the stage
- Intro and Bible story are on video.

GAME/STORY SUPPLIES

- Bible

WORSHIP

- Lions
- Beautiful



Today's Bible Story

Solomon Chooses Wisdom

1 Kings 3:4-15

Conversation Starter

When do you need wisdom?

Bottom Line

God can help 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 NIV



Inclusive Pro Tips

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces

Upper Elementary Large Group

September 2025 Week 4

OPENER

(Welcome kids)

Hello, my friends! It's another great day at Flatirons Kids. I'm so glad that you're here today! This month, we're in our series 'Wisdomland,' where we are learning about how God can help us make wise choices. He wants to help us live wisely and well! But before we get started, I wanted to play a game!

GAME TIME

Today's game is Maze Craze! (Place the colored dots in four different corners on your space. If the group is large, have leaders hold up the dots.

You will move to a color to make your choice. Let's check out these videos to play!

Show Video: Maze Craze Instructions

Show: Mazes & Answers 1-5

That was fun! You had to make fast choices! That reminds me of a story in the Bible about some kings who had to make some choices. But first, let's worship together!

WORSHIP

One of the ways we worship is by giving praise and honor to God by singing and dancing. Now, is your time to jump in and give all you've got as we worship! You can follow along to the moves or worship in your own way. Let's sing!

(Encourage kids to worship God through song and dance. Play worship songs.)

Show Worship Song: Goodbye Yesterday

Show Worship Song: Gratitude

Thanks everyone! I love worshipping God with all of you. Let's go ahead and sit down and get ready for our Bible Story today.

INTRO

Show Series Graphic: Wisdomland

Remember, we're doing something awesome over this school year. We're going to be going through the story of the ENTIRE Bible together. (Hold up Bible) Kings made choices that affected everybody in their kingdom! Today, we're going to hear about some real kings from the Bible—some made wise choices, and some ... not so much. Let's check it out!

BIBLE TRUTH

Show Video: Video_WK4_So&SoShow

APPLICATION

Show Series Graphic: Wisdomland

The kings of Israel and Judah had decisions to make, and their choices mattered! When they followed God and His wisdom, their choices brought good things and made their people stronger and happier. But when they chose not to follow God and His ways, their choices hurt others, broke trust, or led people away from God. Here's what we need to remember today:

Show Graphic: WK4_Bottom Line

[Bottom line] Be wise because your choices matter.

Say that with me! (Repeat with leaders and kids)

We are not kings or queens, and life doesn't always feel like a big adventure. It can be easy to think our choices don't matter. But God's Word reminds us that our choices matter just as much.

Show Graphic: Virtue

Wisdom is finding out God's best and doing it.

Every word you say, every action you take, every time you decide to help or hurt, to forgive or hold a grudge, to listen or ignore—each one is a decision door that shapes your story. This is what the Bible has to say about it.

Show Verse: Proverbs 16:16 (NirV)

“It is much better to get wisdom than gold. It is much better to choose understanding than silver.” Proverbs (NirV)

Let’s say it together! (Repeat with leaders and kids)

God doesn’t expect you to get it right every time. The Bible is full of stories about people who made mistakes—even the kings we learned about today. But God was with them through it all, just like He’s with you. He promises to help you, to guide you, and to give you wisdom when you ask.

So, as you go to your small groups, ask yourself this question:

SLIDE: Wk4 Conversation Starter

“Why do your choices matter?” It could be that when you talk to other people who believe in Jesus, you can remember that God is with you. Maybe it’s remembering a promise God made to you in the Bible that He is with you. Take time to pause this week and ask God to help you remember that He is with you. Let’s go ahead and pray to God now!

PRAYER

God, thank You for never giving up on Your people, for always working in the mess and the mystery. Thank You for Jesus, who shows us what wisdom looks like and who gave His perfect life to rescue us. Please help us remember that our choices really do matter—to You, to others, and ourselves. Give us Your wisdom when we need it. Help us to walk with You every step of our lives and choose Your wisdom at every Decision Door we face. We want to go with You through everything. We love You, God, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.

SMALL GROUPS

Show Graphic: Small Group

(Dismiss kids to their small groups)