



WEEK TWO – SEPTEMBER 2025 – PRETEEN

Bible Story: *David + The Psalms | Psalm 1:1-4*

Conversation Starter: *How do you know what's wise?*

Memory Verse: *“It is much better to get wisdom than gold. It is much better to choose understanding than silver.” - Hebrews 11:1 (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: Game Room, Card Games + Art Room

What You Do:

- *PRE-CONNECTION TIME*
 - **Before kids arrive, pray for your group before they arrive. Ask God to create space in their minds and hearts to focus—not just during group time but throughout the week. Pray that your preteens will begin to notice the importance of pausing to connect with God every day. Thank God for helping your group grow together as they seek wisdom. Ask the Holy Spirit for relevant ways to help them see that true wisdom comes from God.**
- *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.
 - Interact with preteens in their respective spaces (Game Room/Art Room/Board Games, etc.)
 - Ask questions in order to connect with + get to know your few as you partake in activities alongside them:
 - ***“What's one memory from this summer that you think you'll remember for a long time? Why is it so memorable”***
 - ***“If you could invent a new app or video game, what would it be called and what would it do”***
 - ***“What's one skill you're hoping to learn or improve this school year, either at school or outside of it”***

- *“What’s one small thing that always makes you smile or brightens your day?”*
- *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: Backpack; Various “life supplies”; Floor tape

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.
- Divide the group into two teams.
- Mark a tape line on one side of your group space and scatter the “life supplies” behind it.
- Mark a tape line on the opposite end of your group space and direct the teams to stand behind it.
- Say, “Here’s how to play! Each kid on your team will take turns running across to pick up one item and return it to your team.”
- At your signal, begin the game!
- Halfway through, introduce a backpack to each team. Let them know that they can pack the backpack to gather items faster and bring it back to their team.
- The team with the most items wins.

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- To adjust the movement in this activity, instead of running across the room, place all the items on a table. Have the teams race to pack their backpacks as each kid takes turns grabbing one item at a time.

What You Say:

“That backpack was a GAME CHANGER! There are so many things that we face in life and carry, and trying to do it all on our own can get messy. I love that God’s wisdom is like this backpack. It helps us carry all the things that come our way with wisdom. We travel through life better with God’s wisdom. And God wants us to go through life well! He wants to give us what we need to go through life well.

“That reminds me of today’s true story from the Bible. God is good and His ways are good! And there was someone who loved God so much for His goodness and wisdom that this man spent his whole life focusing on his relationship with God. As we’ll see, when you focus on God, when you keep coming back to Him, no matter what—God gives you the wisdom you need for each moment, for each thing you face.

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

In Week 2, we’ll take a look at David’s life, from his days in the fields as a shepherd to his reign as one of Israel’s best kings. We’ll focus on the Psalms that David helped to write and collect, including Psalm 1:1-4, along with Psalm 23:1-2; 8:1; and 18:2. In Psalm 1, we discover that wise people focus on and find joy in God’s laws. They soak up God’s Word like a tree rooted by the river draws up fresh water.

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

TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[Live for God | Application Activity]

What You Need: “Fast Pass” Activity Page; tape; writing utensil; prepared cardstock signs

What You Do:

- Before you begin, tape the prepared cardstock signs around your group space.
 - *NOTE: If you can't tape them, place them on the floor.*
- Give each kid one Fast Pass card from the “Fast Pass” Activity Page and a pen or pencil.
- Encourage the kids to write their names on their Fast Pass.
- Collect the pens or pencils.
- Invite the kids to read the verse on their Fast Pass.
- Direct them to go find the matching verse sign.
 - *NOTE: If you have a small group, combine verse signs and allow those kids to discuss their verses together.*
- At each sign, instruct the kids to:
 - Read the passage together.
 - Discuss what they think the Scripture is saying.
- After several minutes, gather the group together. Read through each Bible reference, and invite the kid(s) who have that Scripture reference on their “Fast Pass” to share something they talked about.
- Explain:
 - *“The world might throw different messages at us like what we should say, or how we should act. But God’s Word always leads us to wisdom! God wants us to be wise, and He wants us to go through life well. So one of the reasons He gave us the Bible is so we can find wisdom!”*
 - *“Throughout your life, you can pause, ask God to show you His wisdom, and listen to the Holy Spirit to show you what the wise thing is to do. God wants to lead you through life well!”*

- *NOTE: Each week, kids will receive a “Fast Pass.” Encourage them to collect them and take them home!*

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- Offer a longer time to reread or personally reflect on the verse before discussing it with the group. Some kids need more time to process their thoughts before sharing aloud.

VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU

[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

What You Need: Bible; “Verse Scenarios” Activity Page; Timer

What You Do:

- Divide the group into two teams.
- Give each team a Bible and direct them to look up this month’s Memory Verse, Proverbs 16:16.
- Use the Bible Navigation tips below to help kids find the verse.
- Repeat the verse together several times.
 - ***Finding verses with 4th-5th graders:** Ask kids to tell you if the book of the Bible they’re looking for is in the Old Testament or New Testament. If it’s in the Old, instruct kids to flip slowly, starting at the front of the Bible and heading toward the back, until they find the book they’re looking for. If it’s in the New, instruct kids to start flipping from the back, going forward to find the book they’re looking for. Once they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. First, have them find the chapter they’re looking for. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Tell kids to find the verse within the chapter they’ve already found.*
- Place a stack of “Verse Scenarios” Activity Page cards face down in the middle of each group.
- Explain how to play.
- You will set a three-minute timer.

- Before reading each scenario card, a kid from their team must recite Proverbs 16:16 from memory or with the Bible open.
- Then, the team can pick up a scenario card and discuss as a group:
 - Is this wise or unwise choice?
- Once they finish, they can move to the next card—but only after reciting the verse again!
- When the time is up, the team that gets through the most scenario cards wins.
- Explain to kids that God’s wisdom is worth more than gold! Proverbs 16:16 reminds us that wisdom is more valuable than anything this world can offer.
- God wants to give you His precious, precious wisdom, so you can go through life well. He wants you to make a wise choice in every scenario you face because He knows following His ways is the best way to live.
- When we focus on God, we become wiser day by day!

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- Write Proverbs 16:16 in large letters on a whiteboard and place it where all the kids can see. This can be helpful for visual learners!

MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

[Pray To God | Prayer Activity]

What You Need: Pencils; Index Cards; Fast Passes

What You Do:

- Invite every kid to find a quiet space in your group area.
- Give each kid their Fast Pass from earlier, and give the kids some time to think about the Scripture on the card.
- Encourage them to pray to God silently.
- Invite the kids to share any prayer requests they might have.
 - Provide index cards and pencils for kids who would rather write down their prayer requests than share them aloud.
- Encourage a kid to pray for the group!
- Close in prayer.

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Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- Allow the kids to draw or doodle to God on the index card if that works best for the kids in your group.

What You Say:

“God, thank You that You are wise and You want us to go through life wisely and well. Help us to pause, focus on You, and remember what we’ve learned in Your Word. Help us to follow Your voice above all. Help us to be honest with You in all things. We want to go through life with You! We love You so much, God. We pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen!”