



WEEK FOUR – SEPTEMBER 2025 – PRETEEN

Bible Story: *The Kings | 1 + 2 Kings*

Conversation Starter: *Why do your choices matter?*

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. Thank God for the opportunity to speak into the lives of future leaders! Ask God to help your preteens recognize the power of their choices—not just big ones, but in how they speak, treat others, and lead themselves. Ask God to help you create a group environment where it’s okay to be honest, ask hard questions, and even mess up sometimes. Ask God to help you lead with grace and clarity, and to help your preteens realize that wisdom starts with trusting Him and His Word!**
- *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: “Get To Know You” Activity Page; Die

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 kids into groups of 2-3.
- Give each group a “Get to Know You” Activity Page and a die.
- Explain that the number on the die matches a question from the “Get to Know You” Activity Page.
- Instruct the kids to take turns rolling the die, reading the matching question aloud, and answering it.
- After several rounds, gather the kids together.

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- If it works better for your group, offer to read the questions aloud instead of having the kids read the questions in their groups.

What You Say:

“I love watching you share your answers with each other! All of those things ...

who you hang out with,
what you watch,
what you love to do.

“They’re part of the choices you make every day. And guess what? Your choices really matter.

“In fact, today’s true story from the Bible is all about a time when the kings who led God’s people had to make big choices about who to follow and how to live. Some kings chose wisdom, and some ... didn’t. Let’s go see how their wisdom (or lack of it) changed everything!”

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

We’ll wrap up the month in First and Second Kings. Yes, you heard that right – we’re taking a high-level roller coaster ride through all the kings of Israel and Judah! We’ll land on a few kings, like Rehoboam and Ahab, who led the people far from God with their foolish choices. And we’ll highlight several more, like Hezekiah and Josiah, who made wise choices, leading the people back to God.

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; coloring supplies

What You Do:

- Give each kid a Fast Pass card from the “Fast Pass” Activity Page.
- Set out the coloring supplies.
- On the back of the card, invite the kids to write their names and draw a picture of an action step they can take this week that connects with the question on the card.
 - Example: If the card talks about being gentle with words, they might draw themselves speaking kindly to a friend or sibling.
- Give the kids time to think and draw.
- After several minutes, invite them to share their drawings with the entire group.
 - *[Make It Personal] (Share an age-appropriate time when you were faced with two choices to make—one wise, and one unwise. What did you do? Talk to God? How did your choice affect you or others?)*
- Explain that wisdom is more than just knowing what God wants you to do. It’s about choosing to live it out!
- Share with kids that they can choose to talk to God before reacting, choose to say kind words, choose to walk away from trouble, etc.
 - *NOTE: Each week, kids will receive a “Fast Pass.” Encourage them to collect them and take them home!*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Why do your choices matter?
- If you could ask God for anything today, what would it be?
- How do you think asking the Holy Spirit for help changes the way we make choices?

- What could you ask the Holy Spirit before you have to make a choice?
- What are some wise choices tht you think Jesus lived out?
- What do you think it means to “build” your life on godly wisdom?

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- Be sensitive to kids who may need extra time to process their thoughts and respond. Be patient and create a safe space where everyone has a chance to share when they’re ready.
- Frequently check for understanding during discussion by asking questions like, “Can someone share in their own words what we’re talking about?”

MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

[Pray To God | Prayer Activity]

What You Need: Index cards; pencils

What You Do:

- Give every kid a pencil and an index card.
- Ask: “Why do wise friendships matter?”
- Encourage the kids to think about their friends and ask: “Are they helping you grow closer to God?”
- Invite kids to write or draw a prayer asking God for help choosing friends who are wise and kind.
- Close in prayer.

What You Say:

“God, thank You so much for bringing people into our lives. Thank You for friends, leaders, and others who remind us and challenge us to live more like Your Son, Jesus. When we say yes to Jesus, You welcome us into Your family, and that means we’re all connected! Help us to find friends who follow You and love You, friends who show their faith in You by how they live and treat others. Help us to ultimately be that friend for others too. You know best, so help us to seek You for wisdom

*about our lives. We love You so much, God. We pray these things in Jesus' name.
Amen."*