



UPPER ELEMENTARY

WEEK 3- STARTER



Activity Name: Firm Foundation

What You Need: any type of building toy—Magnatiles, Legos, blocks, etc...

What You Do:

- Encourage kids to build together
- Challenge them by saying, “What can you build with these things?”
- Encourage them to work together or on their own to build anything they can imagine—a tower, a robot, a car, or a castle.
- Give them plenty of time to build and create.

What to Say:

Wow, look at all the amazing things you built! You are all such great builders.] Today in our true story from the Bible, we’re going to hear about two different builders. One was very wise, and one was ... not so wise. Let’s go find out what they built!”

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

UPPER ELEMENTARY

WEEK 3- SMALL GROUP

Discussion Questions:

- Why do you think Jesus compared hearing His words and doing them to building a house on rock? And not doing them to building a house on sand?
- What are some things that can make it hard to hear from God in your everyday life?
- What are some ways you can slow down and make time to listen for God's voice?
- What are some ways you hear from God?
- When have you felt like God helped you make a wise choice or encouraged you through someone else?
- How can reading the Bible, talking with people who love Jesus, or listening to the Holy Spirit and doing what you hear help you build a strong foundation like the wise man?



Bible Story

The Wise and Foolish Builders | *Matthew 7:24-27 (Supporting: John 10:27-28)*

Bottom Line

Practice hearing from God.

Monthly Memory Verse

Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come. | 1 Timothy 4:8 NIV

Conversation Starter

How can you hear from God?

Activity Name: Wise Builders

What You Need: craft sticks markers

What You Do:

- Give each kid 2-3 craft sticks and a marker.
- Challenge the kids to think of what it means to be a wise builder, and write each thing on a craft stick (go to church and do what you hear, read the Bible and live out what you read, listen to godly people and take their advice, listen to the Holy Spirit when He guides you throughout your day).
- Use all the sticks from the group to build the outline of a house.

What You Say:

Look at the house we built together. What a strong house! Jesus' point was clear. It's not enough to hear what God says—we have to also put it into practice. We have to build our lives on a firm foundation. The main way we do that is to **[Bottom Line] practice hearing from God** by reading the Bible, by listening to people who love Jesus, by hearing the Holy Spirit as He guides us, and then actually doing what we hear.

Let's practice talk to and hearing from God. Everyone find a partner.

What You Do:

- Invite the kids to pair up. Help as needed.
- Instruct the pairs to play one game of "Rock, Paper, Scissors."
- Explain that in each pair, the person who WINS the game gets to pray first for the person who lost. The person who lost will pray second
- Give them a simple prayer prompt: **"God, please help [kid's name] to be a wise builder this week by listening to Your words and doing them. Amen."**

What You Say:

It's awesome to be able to pray for each other. That's one way we can help each other be wise builders. Let's finish our time by praying together for our whole group.

"God, thank You that You speak to us in so many ways—You want us to build our lives on a firm foundation. Help us not just to be hearers of what You say, but doers. Help us make the wise choice to listen and obey You this week. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

KEEP GROUP TOGETHER UNTIL PICK UP