

Alley SG - August 11-12, 2018

Bible Story: Danger Zone (Wise People See Danger) * *Proverbs 22:3 (1 Kings 3)*

Bottom Line: If you want to be wise, look before you leap.

Key Question: What could keep you from being wise?

Memory Verse: "If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you." *James 1:5a (NirV)*

1. Just For Fun

What You Need: Floor Tape (campus supplies), plastic jumping frogs (1 per kid)

What You Do:

- **Give** each student a plastic jumping frog
- **Mark** a line of tape on the floor/table.
- **Let** students line their frogs along the tape then compete to see whose frog can leap the farthest.
- Variations:
 - Ask students to guess how far they think their frogs will jump, mark the spot with tape then have them leap their frogs and see how close they come.
 - Create a targeted area using a Hula-Hoop or an "X" on the floor. Challenge students to see whose frog can hit the target from the farthest distance away.

2. Take a Snapshot

What You Need: Plastic or origami frogs (from Worship Experience) (1 per kid), two Hula-hoops (per group)

What You Do:

- **Give** everyone a jumping frog and instruct your group to form a circle around the Hula-hoops.
- **Explain** that you will read a "wise" saying.
 - If they think it is wisdom from the Bible, indicate which of the Hula-hoops they should leap their frog into.
 - If they don't think the wisdom is from the Bible, tell them to leap their frog into the other Hula-hoop.
 - Correct answers earn a point.
- **Allow** kids to retrieve the frogs after each round.
- **Explain** any of the sayings students don't understand.
 - A gentle answer turns away wrath. (Proverbs 15:1)
 - Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me. (not in Bible)
 - A man is innocent until proven guilty. (not in Bible)
 - It is better to be safe than sorry (not in Bible)
 - Pride goes before destruction. (Proverbs 16:18)
 - Man does not live bread alone. (Deuteronomy 8:3)
 - Do to others as you would have them do to you. (Matthew 7:12)
 - If you play with fire, you will get burned. (not in Bible)
 - You are what you eat. (not in Bible)

- Two heads are better than one. (Ecclesiastes 4:9)
- You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink. (not in Bible)
- A watched pot never boils. (not in Bible)
- The squeaky wheel gets the oil. (not in Bible)
- If at first you don't succeed, try, try, again. (not in Bible)
- A good name is more desirable than great riches. (Proverbs 22:1)
- Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also (Matthew 6:21)

3. Bible Story Extension

What You Need: Bibles, crepe paper (1 roll per group)

What You Do:

- **Review** Proverbs 22:3 by reading the verse to the students and then letting them share their thoughts by finishing this sentence: "I think this is saying . . ."
- **Invite** them to use their phones or a Bible to look up and read Proverbs 4:6.
- **Challenge** them to finish the following sentence with reference to their thoughts about this verse: "One thing I totally agree with is . . ."
- **Illustrate** the way fences can protect us:
 - **Form** two teams.
 - **Ask** a player from Team One to tie a two-foot strip of crepe paper around his ankle then have the rest of his team form a tight circle (a fence) around him. It's their job to protect him and keep Team Two from snatching the crepe paper.
 - **Tell** Team Two that they have one minute to grab the crepe paper from the ankle of the person on Team One.
 - **Caution** students against any unnecessary roughness then begin.
 - **After a minute** (or when the crepe paper is pulled off), bring everyone together and repeat the game, but this time give each person on Team Two a foot-long piece of crepe paper.
 - **Let** Team One circle around their player once again.
 - **Explain** that Team Two will have one minute to get one of the crepe paper streamers into the hands of the person in the middle. The job of Team One is to prevent that from happening.
- After the game, **ask:**
 - What is the purpose of a fence?
 - How does a fence provide protection and safety?
 - Are fences ever a bad thing? Why or why not?
 - What about when a fence doesn't exist? How does someone keep himself from going over the edge of a cliff?

4. Discussion Questions

- What are some reasons why we don't look before we leap? In other words, why do we do things without thinking them through?
- Are there times when it's harder to act from a place of wisdom than other times?
- What are some reasons why it's good to think before we speak or act?
- Share a time when you really messed up and did something unwise and sort of stupid. What happened? What did you learn from the experience?
- Who do you know that helps you "look before you leap"?
- What's one way you can slow down and think before you act?

5. Make it Personal with Prayer

What You Need: Jumping frogs from earlier

What You Do:

- **Invite** students to sit in a circle.
- **Ask** them to take turns “leaping” their frogs into the circle. The person whose frog lands the closest to theirs is the friend they will pray for.
- **Repeat** until everyone has someone to pray for as well as someone praying for them. Note that students may have to intentionally “aim” their frogs directly at someone if the pairing doesn’t happen naturally.
- **Allow** a few minutes for prayer inviting students to pray silently or out loud for one another.

(Kids can take the frog home)

What You Say:

Dear Jesus, forgive us for times when we don’t think twice about what we say or do. Help us to be careful with our words. Help us to look before we leap. Teach us how to make wise choices. In Your name we pray, Amen.

HAND OUT “GOD TIME” SHEETS TO EACH STUDENT BEFORE DISMISSING

IF STUDENTS BRING THEM BACK THE FOLLOWING WEEK, THEY RECEIVE \$3 IN ALLEY CASH