

City SG - August 4-5, 2018

Bible Story: Walk This Way (Jesus Grows in Wisdom) • *Luke 2:41-52*

Bottom Line: If you want to be wise, search for wisdom.

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

1. Where Is It?

What You Need: Prepared "Where's Wisdom" Activity Pages, tape line

What You Do:

- Divide the kids into two teams.
- Guide each team to stand behind the tapeline, and tell teams to line up.
- When you name an item from the pictures, the first person in each line will run to their picture, search for the item, and then point to it and say, "Found it!" when they've found it.
 - You can use the following items and/or add others that you see in the pictures: ball, kite, scooter, eyeglasses, heart, dog, book, and baby.
- Then the next kids in line will take a turn.

What You Say:

"You've searched for and found a lot of things here already today. Sometimes it's hard to find what you're searching for, and sometimes it's easy."

2. Where's Wisdom?

What You Need: Prepared "Where's Wisdom" Activity Pages, tape line

What You Do:

- Guide the teams to line up behind the tapeline again.
- Explain that this time they'll be running to the pictures and searching for kids who are doing something wise OR something that's not wise, depending on what you tell them.
- When they find something, they point to it and say, "Wise" or "Unwise," whichever they were looking for originally.
- Tell the first two kids to get ready, and yell, "WISE!"
- When one of them finds a wise scenario, tell them to describe what is happening and why it's a wise choice.
- Repeat the process with the next two kids, and so on. Alternate between "Wise" and "Unwise."
- These are some of the wise scenarios they'll find:
 - Kid helping someone who is hurt
 - Kid helping elderly person plant flowers or pull weeds
 - Kid doing homework
 - Kid handing a water bottle to someone who looks thirsty
- These are some of the unwise scenarios they'll find:
 - Kid riding his bike down the middle of the street
 - Kid staring at a phone or tablet while a baby sibling gets into a nearby trash can
 - Kid yelling at his mom
 - Kid who has just thrown a ball that's about to hit a window

What You Say:

“The best way to know if something is wise is to know what God’s Word says about it. But when we don’t have a Bible handy, or there’s nobody around to ask, we can usually still figure it out. If you want to know whether a decision is wise, think about what other people would say if they saw you doing it, like we see in these pictures. Think about what your mom would say or what I would say. Would we think it’s a wise choice? If so, then it probably is. But if not, then it’s probably not a wise choice.

[Bottom Line] If you want to be wise, search for wisdom.”

3. Verse Bookmarks

What You Need: Bibles, “Memory Verse” Activity Pages, cardstock, scissors, glue/tape, markers

What You Do:

- Guide kids to look up James 1:5a using the tips below.

Finding verses with 1st, 2nd, and 3rd graders: Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (*Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.*) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find James in the list under “New Testament.” When the kids find James, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find James. Help the kids find the page. When they find James, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 1. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 5 in chapter 1. Ask one kid to read James 1:5a aloud.

- Set out the supplies, including the memory verses from the Activity Page.
- Tell kids to use the supplies to make a bookmark with the memory verse on it.
- They can make it any size or shape.
- They can use the printed verse or write it themselves.
- Encourage them to be creative.

What You Say:

“I want you to put these bookmarks in your Bibles as a reminder that ***[Bottom Line]*** if you want to be wise, search for wisdom. And where do you search for wisdom? Using God’s Word, we can follow Jesus’ example from today’s Bible story and grow in wisdom, friendship, and faith, when we search for wisdom and find it in the Bible.”

[Make It Personal] (Tell kids a story about a time you looked to God’s Word for wisdom. What were you searching for? What did you learn? How did it help you in your situation?)

4. Ways to Wisdom

What You Need: “Ways to Wisdom” Activity Pages (1 per kid), markers

What You Do:

- Help each child find a partner.
- Give every child a “Ways to Wisdom” Activity Page and a marker.
- Guide the pairs to work together to find all the ways kids in the picture are searching for wisdom.
- When teams finish, invite them to choose one picture they circled to pantomime for the group. Let the other kids guess what they’re doing.
- ***NOTE:*** If a child is shy or reluctant to pantomime, don’t force him.
- Invite each child to name one way they will search for wisdom this week.
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What You Say:

“Does God want us to have wisdom? Yes, He does! He wants us to have wisdom because when we’re wise, we can make the right choices. We can also live the way Jesus lived.

“So how can we find wisdom? Can we find it by going to church and hearing Bible stories? Can we find it by reading our Bible or by listening to someone read the Bible to us? Can we find it by asking people who love God what they know about Him? Can we find it by praying and asking God for it? Yes! So remember, **[Bottom Line] if you want to be wise, search for wisdom.**”

5. Pray and Dismiss

What You Need: Bibles, kids’ bookmarks from the “Verse Bookmarks” activity

What You Do:

- Tell kids to hold their Bibles with the bookmarks in them.
- Guide kids to pray silently and ask God to help them search His Word for wisdom when they need it.
- Close with the prayer below.

What You Say:

“Dear God, we know You are wiser than anyone. Thank You for giving us Your Word to help us find wisdom. Thank You for putting wise people in our lives that can help us. Guide us to always search for wisdom when we need it; and we know you will always provide wisdom when we ask and seek for it. In Your name, amen.”

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

IF CHILDREN BRING THEM BACK THE FOLLOWING WEEK, THEY RECEIVE A PRIZE!