

# CITY LG August 10-11, 2024

**Today's Bible Story:** See Yourself (Speck and Plank) • *Matthew 7:1-5*

**Today's Bottom Line:** When you see yourself clearly, you can make the wise choice.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone and doesn't find fault.* James 1:5 (NIRV)

**Monthly Virtue:** Wisdom—Finding out what you should do and doing it

## WORSHIP

For Your Glory

Who You Say I Am

**Have kids get into their small groups Before you start Large Groups.**

### SLIDE: Theme

Hi, friends! It's so great to see all of you! We're 'diving deep' this month and finding out how God can help us grow in wisdom.

We have so much fun planned for today, and I am ready to get started! Are you? If you are, give someone a high-five like this! (*Demonstrate.*) All right—let's get started with a question.

I'm going to give you some time to discuss this question as a group....

**Who is someone in your life that you think is wise? What makes you think they are wise?** (*walk around and listen to kids' answer is their groups. Bring them back together in a few minutes when most groups are done). If time, have a couple of kids share their answers with the group.*

Hi, everybody! I'm excited to tell you something Jesus said that's a really important part of being wise. We can find this idea right here in the book of Matthew, in the Bible. (*Hold up Bible.*)

The book of Matthew is one of the four books that are called the Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. If you want to find out more about Jesus for yourself, these books are a great place to start! They show us how Jesus lived, and the things He did and said. Matthew, the man who wrote the book of Matthew, was a tax collector until his life was completely turned around by his friendship with Jesus.

When Jesus was about 30 years old, He began to travel from town to town, teaching and healing people. Everywhere Jesus went, big crowds gathered, because people wanted to be close to Jesus and hear what He had to say. Jesus healed people who were sick, but He also cared about people's hearts and minds. In everything Jesus did, He showed people what it looks like to love God and love others. Let's take a look...

### VIDEO: Bible Story

It can be really frustrating when you feel like someone is judging you for something they don't even seem to realize THEY'RE doing too.

If we're not careful, we'll tend to judge the people around us. But Jesus said that we should choose NOT to judge. Instead, we should ask God to help us see ourselves clearly . . . so we can work on fixing what needs to be fixed in ourselves. God will begin to change us from the inside out. And that will lead us to wisdom.

That doesn't mean we should never help others grow. But Jesus made it clear that our FIRST priority is to ask God to help us look at ourselves . . . and see where we can change. Let's stand up and check out our bottom line.

### VIDEO: Bottom Line

**SLIDE: Bottom Line**

**When you see yourself clearly, you can make the wise choice.**

**SLIDE: Theme**

I think all of us can work on seeing what's true about ourselves. That will help us to know [how to make the wise choice. And it'll help us to know how to treat other people.

Jesus' example of the speck and the wood shows us a great way that we can live with wisdom.

**SLIDE: Virtue**

Remember, wisdom is about **finding out what you should do and doing it.**

**SLIDE: Theme**

This week, let's ask God to help us treat others with kindness instead of judging them. And if something about someone else is really bugging you, stop and ask God to show you what's going on inside of you. You can also ask a parent or other adult who knows you really well to help you see what's going on more clearly.

And remember, we can ALWAYS pray and ask God to give us wisdom. All wisdom comes from God to begin with! That's what we read in our Memory Verse for this month, James 1:5.

**SLIDE: Memory Verse**

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

Let's pray and ask God to give us wisdom.

Dear God, thank You for this reminder that we need to see ourselves clearly so we can **[Basic Truth] make the wise choice.** It can be easy for us to judge other people and see the things we think THEY need to change. But it's not so easy for us to do that for ourselves. Help us to see ourselves clearly and act with wisdom in our relationships with other people. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

**CHECK THE TIME: There should be 20-25 minutes for small group. If LG is running late, skip the next part and just have kids bring up their money.**

**OFFERING:**

We have started raising money for an organization called Hope Mobility. It was founded by Michael Panther who grew up as a child with a disability in Sudan. Check out Michael's story.

**VIDEO: Michael's Story**

Our focus will be raising money for wheelchairs for kids. Each pediatric wheelchair costs \$275 and we will see how many wheelchairs we can purchase to help kids in Africa!

**\*\*AT YOUR COORDINATOR'S DIRECTION, YOU WILL EITHER DISMISS TO SMALL GROUP OR DO ACTIVITIES TOGETHER.**

**SLIDE: Theme**