

CITY SG August 17-18, 2024

Due to summer scheduling, these activities can be done in small groups or in one large group led by one leader.

1. Crocodile or Dolphin?

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Ask: "What are some things you know about crocodiles and dolphins?"
- Invite the kids to work together to come up with a sign for dolphin and a sign for crocodile.
 - For example: one hand on your head like a fin for dolphin and two arms snapping in front of you for crocodile
- Explain that you are going to share something from today's Bible Story.
 - If it's wise, they will make the dolphin sign.
 - If it's unwise, they will make the crocodile sign.
- One at a time, read the Bible Story Events below out loud to the group, pausing to allow time for the kids to make the "dolphin" (wise) sign or the "crocodile" (unwise) sign.
- Bible Story Events:
 - When Solomon was a young king, he asked God for wisdom rather than riches or fame. *(wise)*
 - It's very likely that Solomon didn't choose to teach this wisdom to his son, Rehoboam. *(unwise)*
 - A man named Jeroboam, along with some other Israelites, told Rehoboam that he should make their hard work easier, then the people would serve him. *(wise)*
 - Rehoboam talked with his experienced advisors, who said to be kind to the people he ruled over, please them, and give them what they're asking for. *(wise)*
 - Rehoboam then went to his own friends for advice, who had no experience running a kingdom. *(unwise)*
 - Rehoboam liked showing off his power and told Jeroboam that he was going to make their work even harder. *(unwise)*
 - Rehoboam listened to the foolish words of his friends instead of his father's experienced advisors, and it led to disaster. People strayed further and further from God. *(unwise)*

2. Wise or Foolish Relay

What You Need: "Wise or Foolish?" Activity Page (1 per group), two buckets or bowls (one with the word "wise" and one with the word "foolish" on it), blank paper, carpet tape

What You Do:

- Place the prepared, labeled buckets on one side of your group space.
- Tape a starting line on the floor a few feet from the buckets.
- Divide the group into two teams.

- Instruct both teams to line up at the starting tape line.
- Provide each team with a stack of blank paper for them to wad into balls.
- Read a scenario from the “Wise or Foolish?” Activity Page.
- Direct the teams to work together to decide if the decision from their scenario is wise or foolish.
- One at a time, instruct a kid on each team to toss a ball of paper into the “wise” or “unwise” bucket, then join the end of the line.
 - Use the “foolish” scenarios to discuss what could have been done differently to be “wise” instead.
- Continue in the same way until all kids have had a turn or until all scenarios have been read and placed in the appropriate buckets.

3. Wipe Out!

What You Need: Bibles, dry-erase board with dry-erase marker

What You Do:

- Depending on the age/ability of your group, **you can either:**
 - Give each child a Bible and look up the memory verse together.
 - Read the memory verse to the group.
 - *Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful!* Philippians 4:4 (NIRV)
- Write the Memory Verse on the dry-erase board.
- Say the Memory Verse together a few more times.
- Erase one word.
- Invite the group to read the verse, challenging them to fill in the missing word from memory.
- Continue with a second word and so on until the whole verse is erased.

AT THE 5- MINUTE CALL: PRAY

- Ask, “Does anyone have any prayer requests or things they want to thank God for from this week? *(Let the kids share their prayer requests and praises)*”
- Take some time to pray for these things as a group, then finish with the prayer below
“Dear God, thank You for all the people in our lives who show us what it looks like to make wise choices. Thank You for surrounding us with people who can show us how to live and how to love like Jesus. Guide us to make the wise choice. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”
- If there is still time, pass out the Parent Discussion Guides to the kids and begin to read through them together. Remind them they can do the activity at home and bring it back next week for a prize.

PARENT PICK UP POINT: Ask kids to explain what makes someone wise.