

CITY LG – October 12-13, 2024

Today's Bible Story: These Words (Choose Your Words Carefully) • *Proverbs 12:18*

Today's Bottom Line: Think before you speak.

Monthly Memory Verse: *God's power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life. 2 Peter 1:3a (NirV)*

Monthly Virtue: Self-control—Choosing to do what's best even when you don't want to

WORSHIP

Believe It

Unshakeable

SLIDE: Theme

Hi, everyone! It's so great to see all of your smiling faces today! We've got some game show fun planned today here in the City. If you like to have fun, give someone a high five like this. (*Demonstrate.*)

Today's game show is called 'What's the Right Price?'

SLIDE: "What's the Right Price?"

I'll show an item on the screen and you'll talk with your small group and try to guess how much you think that item costs. Each of these items is something that you need self-control in order to use wisely. I'll give you two choices of what the price could be. Which one is correct? Well, the choice is yours!

The only catch is that your Small Group Leader can't join in the guessing. They probably know how much these things cost because they may have actually bought them before. So, talk about it with the other kids in your group, and then let your leader know what your answer is—A or B. Then your leader will be the one to share your answer with the room. Make sense? Okay, let's play!

Here's your first item . . .

For each round of the game, click to the slide and offer two different price options below (A and B). The starred answer is correct.

Let each group come up with their answer, then have their leader show their group's answer by making either an A or B with their hands.

Reveal the correct answer. Tell the groups that got it right to give each other a thumbs-up.

SLIDE: Chips Ahoy

- A \$3.89. ***
- B \$6.99

SLIDE: Chocolate Milk

- A \$4.77 ***
- B \$10.89

SLIDE: Box of candy

- A \$5.50
- B \$1.99

SLIDE: Nintendo Switch

- A \$259.59
- B \$179.99

SLIDE: clock

- A \$35.69
- B \$17.99

SLIDE: Theme

That was so much fun! You were really good at guessing those prices. It's a little easier to have self-control when you remember how much some of those things cost, right?

Well, I'm excited to be here with you as we talk about how God can help us do what's right. Today we'll look at an important idea here in the Bible, in the book of Proverbs. (*Hold up Bible.*)

This book is actually a collection of wise sayings. Many of these sayings came from King Solomon. Solomon became king over God's people at a very young age. As you might imagine, he was worried about leading an entire nation because he didn't have any experience.

One night, God spoke in a dream and told Solomon that he could have ANY gift he wanted. Solomon could have asked for money or power. But, instead, he asked God for wisdom so that he could be the best leader for the people. Sure enough, God made Solomon one of the wisest people who ever lived!

Many of the things Solomon learned and said were collected here in the book of Proverbs. (*Hold up Bible.*) These sayings, called proverbs, are short sentences or stories that help people make wise decisions in their everyday lives. Let's check out our Bible Story today...

VIDEO Bible Story (10:44)

It's not easy to have self-control with what you say—especially if you try to do it on your own. We need God's help to make the wise choice with our words. And remember, when we choose to follow Jesus, God sends the Holy Spirit to live inside us and guide us. Over time, as we rely on God's Spirit, we'll be able to choose words that heal.

SLIDE: Memory Verse (11:15)

It's like our memory verse this month says, *God's power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life.* 2 Peter 1:3a

This is what we need to remember today. Let's all stand up and take a look.

VIDEO: Bottom Line

SLIDE: Bottom Line

Think before you speak.

SLIDE: Theme

idea is such an important way for us to show God's love to other people. Our words ARE powerful! And that's why we need to use healing words instead of hurtful words—or 'sword words.

When we choose our words wisely and think before we speak, we're practicing self-control.

SLIDE: Virtue

Self-control is about **choosing to do what's best even when you don't want to.**

SLIDE: Theme

As followers of Jesus, we have the help of God's Holy Spirit—always! God's Spirit can give us the guidance and strength we need to choose our words with kindness and compassion.

So let's remember to stop and think about what we're about to say . . . BEFORE we say it. Let's pause instead of just saying the first thing that comes to mind. Let's take time to pray and ask God to help us slow down . . . and think BEFORE we speak . . . so we can choose words that are healing and not hurtful."

Let's pray.

Dear God, thank You for reminding us today of how powerful our words can be. Please help us to remember that the words we say have the power to hurt or to heal. Help us to choose words that help! Help us to stop and think instead of just saying the first thing that comes out. Guide us to speak carefully so we can show Your love to others. 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 are collecting money for an organization called Hope Mobility. It provides wheelchairs to people with physical challenges in Africa. But they provide a lot more than just wheelchairs. Check out this video.

VIDEO: Michael's Story 2

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!

SLIDE: Theme