

# CITY SG – 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 (NIV)*

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

## **PRE-SERVICE ACTIVITY**

**What You Need:** "Choices" ABC Pages, and buzzer (1 set per group)

- Greet kids by name as they arrive.
- Ask them about their week.
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the container.
- Ask:
  - Do you have a favorite game show?
  - If you do, what do you like about it?
- When enough kids have gathered, set out the "Choices" Activity Pages on the table or floor in the middle of the group.
- Share that you're going to ask a question with four choices—A, B, C, or D.
- Instruct the kids to listen to the question, then stop and think about their answer in the time you provide.
- Direct the kids to touch the sign—A, B, C, or D—to show their response after you tap the buzzer.
- Read a multiple-choice question from below.
  - Remind kids not to tap, but to stop and think about their answer, until they hear the buzzer.
  - Tap the buzzer when you are ready for kids to show their choice.
- Once kids have answered, invite them to share why they made that choice.
- Have kids take their hands away for the next question.
- Repeat for each question.
- *Optional: Let kids come up with a few four-choice questions of their own.*

### **Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. If you had to choose only one food to eat for the rest of your life, which of these would it be?
  - A) pizza
  - B) sushi
  - C) pasta
  - D) cookies
2. If you could only pick one live entertainment to watch, which of these would you choose?
  - A) sports
  - B) musical or play
  - C) gymnastics or dance
  - D) marching band or parade
3. If you had to face your fears and do one scary thing, which of these would it be?
  - A) jump off the highest diving board
  - B) fly in a plane
  - C) rock climb up the side of a mountain
  - D) go on a fast roller coaster
4. If you had the chance to win one million dollars on a game show and were able to have help with the last question, which of these would you pick?
  - A) call someone
  - B) ask the audience
  - C) skip the question, but lose \$5,000
  - D) get rid of two of the four choices

5. If you could travel to any of these places, which one would you choose?

- A) Paris, France
- B) the rainforest
- C) the beach
- D) Yosemite National Park

- Say, “Today we’re going to discover just how important it is to think before we respond.”

## **SMALL GROUP TIME**

### **1. Game Show Review**

*Bible Story Review*

**What You Need:** Bible, and buzzer

#### **What You Do:**

- Divide your group into two teams.
- Direct both teams to gather on different sides of your group space or table.
- Encourage each team to come up with a team name.
- Set out the buzzer in the middle of your group space.
- Place the buzzer in the middle of two kids and tell them to hit it to answer a review question.
- Share that the kid who hits the buzzer first gets the chance to answer.
  - If the kid answers correctly, their team earns two points.
  - If the kid answers incorrectly, the other team gets the chance to answer for one point.
- Read a question from the list below.
- Repeat until all questions have been correctly answered.
- Celebrate the team with the most points as the winner.

#### **Review Questions:**

1. What book of the Bible does the verse we heard about today come from? (*Proverbs*)
2. What is the book of Proverbs known for? (*It’s a collection of wise sayings—many from King Solomon.*)
3. Early in King Solomon’s reign, how did God speak to Solomon? (*a dream*)
4. What did God say to Solomon? (*God told Solomon that he could have any gift he wanted.*)
5. What gift did Solomon ask for? (*wisdom*)
6. Why did Solomon want the gift of wisdom? (*He wanted to be the best leader for his people.*)
7. The wise saying from Proverbs we heard about today says that: “*the words of thoughtless people cut like \_\_\_\_\_.*” (*Proverbs 12:18, NIV*) What word goes in the blank? (*swords*)
8. What do you think it means that words that are thoughtless can cut like swords? (*Our words can hurt someone deeply.*)
9. Proverbs 12:18 (NIV) also says that: “*the tongue of wise people brings \_\_\_\_\_.*” What goes in the blank? (*healing*)
10. What does it mean that the tongue can bring healing? (*Our polite words can be helpful and bring healing to people.*)

*Bonus question (repeat as desired):* What is one healing or kind word you could speak to someone this week? (*answers will vary*)

## 2. THINK

### *Application Activity*

**What You Need:** White cardstock (one per kid), markers, and additional craft supplies

**What You Do:**

- Give each kid a piece of white cardstock.
- Set out the markers and other craft supplies.
- Grab a marker and a piece of paper for yourself.
- Instruct kids to write down the letters “T-H-I-N-K” down the left side of their paper, leaving space to write beside each word.
- Explain that kids will be creating an acronym to help them remember how they can choose their words carefully.
- One by one, talk through each letter, inviting kids to share what they think each letter could stand for, leading them to each question listed below in the “THINK Acronym.”
- Instruct kids to write down what each letter represents as you talk about each one.
- Create your own acronym alongside the kids so they can reference it.
- After writing in each question, give kids time to decorate their paper however they wish.
- As kids are working, invite them to share scenarios when they may need to ask themselves these questions in order to choose words that are healing, not hurtful.
- Instruct the kids to write their names on the back of their papers.
- Set the papers aside for the Pray and Dismiss activity.

**THINK Acronym:**

**T:** Is it true?

**H:** Is it helpful?

**I:** Is it inspiring?

**N:** Is it necessary?

**K:** Is it kind?

## 3. Memory Verse Tap

### *Memory Verse Activity*

**What You Need:** Nothing

**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 from a Bible aloud to your group.
  - *God’s power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life.* 2 Peter 1:3a
- Instruct the kids to circle up (OP City will circle up outside of their cube)
- Select one kid to start the game.
- Instruct that kid to walk around the circle while tapping each kid’s head as they recite the words of the verse.
  - If they struggle to remember the words, encourage the group to recite the verse together
- When the kid walking around the circle gets to the reference, instruct the kid they tap to get up and chase the tapper around the circle until one of them sits back down in the empty spot, Duck Duck Goose Style.
- Instruct the last kid standing to start a new round.
- Repeat as time and interest allow.

## 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...

“God, thank You for the power to slow down our words. We want to remember to **think before we speak**. We know it’s not always easy to pause when we’re angry or excited. Help us find the self-control to slow down so we can bring You glory with healing and helpful words. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

- If there is still time, pass out the Discussion Guide 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:** As adults arrive to pick up, ask the kids to show off their acronyms and read off what each letter stands for.