

CITY SG – October 11th- 12th, 2025

Today's Bible Story: David and the Psalms • *Psalms 1:1-4*

Today's Bottom Line: If you want to be wise, focus on God.

Monthly Memory Verse: *It is much better to get wisdom than gold. It is much better to choose understanding than silver.* Proverbs 16:16 (NIRV)

PRE- SERVICE ACTIVITY

What You Need:

Colored paper, Markers, Scissors

What You Do:

- Welcome kids with a high five, fist bump, or a wave as they arrive.
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Give each kid two pieces of colored paper, scissors, and a marker.
- Instruct the kids to draw two hearts, one on each piece of paper.
- Encourage them to use the scissors to cut the hearts out.
- On one heart, ask them to write or draw something they love.
- On the second heart, instruct them to write or draw something they want to understand better about God, or something they want to learn to be wise about.
- While they work, spark conversation and ideas with the following questions:
 - *"Have you ever needed help making the right choice or knowing what to do?"*
 - *"Is there something about God or the Bible you'd love to understand more?"*

SMALL GROUP TIME

1. Stick or Shift

Bible Story Review

What You Need:

Bible, "Stick or Shift" Activity Page (One per service)

What You Do:

- One at a time, read the "Stick or Shift" Activity Page scenarios.
- After each scenario, give the kids a chance to respond.
 - If the person in the scenario is making a wise choice (God's way), encourage the kids to stand up and stomp.
 - If the person in the scenario is making an unwise choice, encourage the kids to stay seated and lean to the side.
- Continue until all scenarios have been read and discussed.
- Open the Bible to Psalm 1.
- Read Psalm 1:1-4 to the group.
- Ask:

- *What do you think it means to be like a strong tree planted near a stream of water?*
 - *What kinds of things help you grow your faith roots deep in God?*
- Share with kids that Psalm 1 teaches us that people who stay close to God and follow His ways are like strong trees planted by a stream. When we choose God's way (*stand and stomp*), we are choosing the way that will make us strong and our roots go down deep!

2. Focus on God

Application Activity

What You Need: Butcher paper (two per group), Markers

What You Do:

- Draw the outline of a large open Bible on the butcher paper (or piece of poster board).
- Lay the butcher paper (or piece of poster board) on a table where everyone can gather around it. (*if you have a large group, form 2 groups using 2 pieces of paper*)
- Point to the drawing of the Bible on the paper.
- Say: "One of the reasons God gave us the Bible, His Word, is to help us know what wisdom is. God is the wisest! And He wants us to be wise so we can live the best way because He loves us."
- Ask, "Where do you hear God's Word?" (*Encourage responses, like: when they read the Bible, watch a Bible Story video, attend church, talk to a grown-up, or listen to worship music in the car.*)
- Have the kids, write or draw (depending on age) the ideas around the outside edges of the paper.
- Say, "Another way to grow in wisdom is to hang out with people who love God and make wise choices!"
- Ask the kids to name people they know and trust who follow God (*parents, Small Group Leaders, older siblings, teachers, coaches, etc.*).
- Have the kids write or draw those people on the outside of the paper too.
- Then have the kids draw an arrow pointing to the Bible's center from each of their answers.
- **Say:**
 - Look at all the amazing ways we can discover more about God and grow in wisdom.
 - God gave us all of these different ways to hear His Word and find wisdom because God wants us to live the best way!
 - When you're in a tough moment—maybe you feel left out or you're not sure which decision is God's way—you can ask God for help and He will help you! He wants to help you live the best way! **If you want to be wise, focus on God!**

3. Better than Silver & Gold

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bibles, Fake gold bar (one per bin)

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.

- *It is much better to get wisdom than gold. It is much better to choose understanding than silver. Proverbs 16:16 (NIV)*
- Repeat the verse together several times and review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Lead a brief discussion on gold and silver. Ask:
 - Gold and silver are known as 'precious metals. What do you think that means? (*It means they're valuable! Gold and silver are used to make things like coins and jewelry.*)
 - In Proverbs 16:16, it says that wisdom is worth even more than gold and silver. Why do you think that's true? (*God's wisdom lasts forever. No one can take it away! And it is more precious and better than anything—even gold and silver!*)
- Hold up the fake gold bar for the kids to see.
- Say, "We're going to pass this pretend gold bar around. When it comes to you, you'll recite the next word from Proverbs 16:16!"
- Repeat as time and interest allow. Try going slow and faster!

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*)"
- "Dear God, thank You for being the source of ALL wisdom! Thank You that You gave us the Bible because You want us to be wise. And also thank You for putting people in our lives who follow You because You want us to be wise. Help us to be like David and to focus our lives on our friendship with You. We want to be close to You and wise like You are! Teach us to listen to You and the people who know You well. We love You, God, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to say one way they can grow in wisdom.