

CITY SG – October 25th- 26th, 2025

Today's Bible Story: The Kings • 1 & 2 Kings

Today's Bottom Line: Be wise because your choices matter.

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: No supplies needed

What To Do:

- Welcome kids to group with a high five or fist bump!
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container cast their vote by standing up for A or sitting down for B.
- Ask a few kids to share why they made their choice.
- Repeat the process until all questions have been answered.

Would You Rather Questions

- Would you rather: A) always win at rock-paper-scissors or, B) always win at hide-and-seek?
- Would you rather: A) ride the world's fastest roller coaster or, B) go down the world's biggest water slide?
- Would you rather: A) only have pizza forever or, B) only have ice cream forever?
- Would you rather: A) be famous on YouTube or, B) be a world-famous athlete?
- Would you rather: A) have unlimited slime or, B) Have unlimited fidget toys?
- Would you rather: A) never have to brush your teeth again or, B) never have to take a bath again?
- Make up some of your own, or have the kids help you!

Say, "Today, we'll hear a true story from the Bible about different people who had to make important decisions, and what they chose shows us that choosing wisely matters."

SMALL GROUP TIME

1. Kings and the Kingdom

Bible Story Review

What You Need: “Map of Israel” Activity Page (2 on 11x17 paper per group), large craft sticks 8 per group), Black marker

What To Do:

- Lay the map of Israel in the center.
- Grab 8 craft sticks.
- Leader will write the name of one king on each craft stick. (Solomon, Rehoboam, Jeroboam, Ahab, Asa, Joash, Hezekiah, Josiah)
- Say, “This is Israel, the land God promised to His people! It’s where the kings ruled, and where big choices were made.”
- Use the craft sticks to walk through the Kings’ Recap from the Bible Story, holding up the matching king’s name as you go.

Kings’ Recap

- **Solomon** ruled with wisdom at first. But later, he made unwise choices. *(Hold up Solomon.)*
- His son **Rehoboam** didn’t listen to wise advice and was very harsh with the people. *(Hold up Rehoboam. Encourage the kids to give you a thumbs-down.)*
- The kingdom split! *(Rip the map in half! Use the black marker to label “N” for “Israel” and “S” for “Judah.”)*
- In the north, kings like **Jeroboam** and **Ahab** led the people away from God. *(Hold up Jeroboam and Ahab. Encourage the kids to cover their ears!)*
- In the south, **Asa**, **Joash**, **Hezekiah**, and **Josiah** made wise choices and led people closer to God. *(Hold the craft sticks up one by one. Encourage the kids to clap and celebrate each one!)*
- But after Josiah, the people stopped following God again. *(Encourage the kids to give you a thumbs-down.)*
- Say, “Each of the kings had a big choice to make: *Would they follow their own way, or follow God’s way?* You might not wear a crown like these kings did, but we all have this same choice each day. We get to make a choice every day: *Will I follow my own way, or will I follow God’s way?*”

2. Cause and Effect

Application Activity

What You Need: “Cause and Effect” Activity Page (One per group), Pens

What To Do:

- Give every kid a “Cause and Effect” Activity Page and a pencil.
- Say, “We’re going to do an activity together to help us think about how our choices lead to different outcomes! On one side of your page, you’ll see **causes**, things someone might do *(point to them)*. On the other side, you’ll see **effects**, what might happen next *(point to them)*.”
- Instruct the kids to work together to draw lines from each cause to its possible effect.

- Refer to your copy of the “Cause and Effect” Activity Page, and, one by one, talk through each of their choices as a group!
- Ask, “Can you think of a time you made a wise choice and it led to something good?”
- Ask, “What are some ways we can practice listening to the Holy Spirit in everyday life? Like at school, with our friends, or at home?” (*Pausing before reacting, asking God for help in the moment, and reading the Bible to learn God’s voice.*)
- Say, “As we try to live wisely, we won’t be perfect, but we’ll grow in God’s wisdom as we keep asking for it and practicing, even when it’s hard. This week before you react, pause and remind yourself to **be wise because your choices matter!**”

3. Verse Tower Challenge

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bibles, Floor tape, “Cup Stack” Activity Page (2 per group), Plastic cups (36 per bin)

What To Do:

- Before you begin, use floor tape to mark two starting lines on one end of your group space.
- 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
- Divide the kids into two teams and have them stand behind each line.
- Place a stack of 19 cups a few feet away from each starting line.
- Repeat the verse together several times.
- Show the kids the “Cup Stack” Activity Page and say, “Are you ready for a verse relay? One at a time, you will each race to:
 - Grab one cup from the stack.
 - Bring it back to your group.
- After your team has all of the cups, you’ll work together to make a cup pyramid with the verse in order. When your team is done, shout, ‘PROVERBS 16:16!’”
- At your signal, begin the game!
- Once a team has collected all of their cups., give them a “Cup Stack” Activity Page to follow to build their pyramid.
- Play until both teams have stacked the verse words in correct order.
- Say, “I love that we can trust the Bible because it’s God’s true Word. The King of all gave it to us. Every word helps us know who God is, how much He loves us, and how we can live in a way that honors Him!

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 showing us how important our choices are. Thank You for Jesus, who not only showed us how to live wisely, but also gave us a way to be close to You! We want to live like Him! Please fill our hearts with Your wisdom. Remind us to read Your Word, and surround ourselves with others who follow Your Son, Jesus. We love You, God, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to tell their grown-ups what they learned from the true story of the kings: **be wise because your choices matter!**