

CITY SG – January 17th- 18th, 2026

Today's Bible Story: The Wise and Foolish Builders • *Matthew 7:24-27 (Supporting: John 10:27-28)*

Today's Bottom Line: Practice hearing from God.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come.* • 1 Timothy 4:8 NIV

PRE- SERVICE ACTIVITY

What You Need: Winter activity sheets

What You Do:

- Greet each kid by name with a fist bump, high-five, smile, or wave as they arrive!
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Give each kid an activity page.
- Discuss what the kids are excited for in this New Year.

SMALL GROUP TIME

1. Wise Build

Bible Story Review

What You Need: Large Craft sticks, Markers

What You Do:

- Open the Bible to Matthew 7:24-27 and read the story to the kids.
- Give each kid 2-3 craft sticks and a marker.
- Challenge the kids to think of what it means to be a wise builder and write (or draw) each thing on a craft stick (ex: go to church, read the Bible,, listen to godly people , pray, listen to the Holy Spirit when He guides you throughout your day).
- Use all the sticks from the group to build the outline of a house.
- Say: "The house on the rock stayed strong! Jesus told this story to help His friends understand something very important. He said that when we listen to Him and do what He says, it's like building our house on a solid rock. One of the most important ways we listen to Jesus is when we read the Bible. That's how we **practice hearing from God.**"

2. See the Verse

Application Activity

What You Need: Bible

What You Do:

- Explain to the kids to listen closely as you read a verse or verses from the Bible.
- As you read the verses from the Bible, encourage the kids to make a motion or movement that relates to the verse. (e.g. “God so loved the world” could be heart hands or making the world with their hands in a circle above their head.)
- Read the verses one at a time and give the kids time to think and move.
 - John 3:16
 - Philippians 4:6
 - Psalm 119:105
 - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18
- **Say:** “One of the ways we can hear from God is through the Bible! The Bible teaches us who God is and how to live like Jesus.

3. Bookmark Verse

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bibles, Blank bookmarks, Coloring supplies, Stickers

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.
 - *Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come.* • 1 Timothy 4:8 NIV Repeat the verse together several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
 - Share that “being godly” means getting to know God and following His good ways!
- Give each kid a cardstock strip.
- Make the coloring supplies and stickers available.
- Tell the kids they are going to make a special bookmark to use in their Bibles at home.
- Encourage them to decorate their bookmark however they would like.
- While they work, say this month’s Memory Verse together a few times.
- When they are done decorating, help them punch a hole at the top of their bookmark and tie a piece of yarn or ribbon through it.

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 that You speak to us. Help us to hear what You say and do what You say so we can build our lives on a firm foundation, like this rock. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive, ask the kids to tell them one thing they can do to be wise.