



WEEK ONE - AUGUST 2018 - SECOND/THIRD

Bible Story: *Walk This Way • Luke 2:41-52*

Bottom Line: *If you want to be wise, search for wisdom.*

Memory Verse: *"If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you." - James 1:5a NIV*

Life App: *Wisdom - Finding out what you should do and doing it.*

Basic Truth: *I need to make the wise choice.*

Summary: We start the month with Jesus and our only glimpse into His life as a child. In Luke 2:41-52 we discover that Jesus knew His Father's house was where he needed to be. We're told that Jesus grew in wisdom, faith, and friendship. This is the model we should follow as we seek to grow in our own relationship with God.

8:50-9:00 | 10:20-10:30 | 11:50-12:00 - EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITIES

1. Early Arriver Idea

Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Direct kids to play "I Spy."
 - One kid secretly chooses an item in the room and says, "I spy something [red/square/tiny]."
 - The other kids take turns asking yes-or-no questions to try to figure out what the item is.
- If you have more time or interest in the game wanes, ask the following questions:
 - What kinds of things do you have to search for?
 - What do you have to search for on a daily basis? (shoes, water bottle, etc.)
 - What do you have to search for when school starts back up? (backpack, school supplies at the store, favorite pencil from last year, new classroom, etc.)

2. Where Is It?

Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: Prepared "Where's Wisdom" Activity Pages,

What You Do:

- Divide the kids into two teams.
- Guide each team to stand behind a line, and tell teams to line up.
- When you name an item from the pictures, the first person in each line will run to their picture, search for the item, and then point to it and say, "Found it!" when they've found it.
 - You can use the following items and/or add others that you see in the pictures: ball, kite, scooter, eyeglasses, heart, dog, book, and baby.
- Then the next kids in line will take a turn.

What You Say:

"You've searched for and found a lot of things here already today. Sometimes it's hard to find what you're searching for, and sometimes it's easy. [Transition] Let's go to Large Group, where we'll hear about something we'll ALWAYS find if we search for it."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

9:10-9:45 | 10:40-11:15 | 12:10-12:45 - LARGE GROUP

OVERVIEW:

Bottom Line: *If you want to be wise, search for wisdom. "Kids are growing up in the information age. There is access to more data than we could possibly need or imagine. But our knowledge is only as good as how we apply it. We pray that kids find value in searching for wisdom through God's Word, trusted friends, Small Group Leaders, and their family. Wisdom is out there; we just need to find it.*

9:45-10:05 | 11:15-11:35 | 12:45-1:05 SMALL GROUP

1. Where's Wisdom?

[Application Activity]

Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: Prepared "Where's Wisdom" Activity Pages

What You Do:

- Guide the teams from Social to line up behind a line again.
- Explain that this time they'll be running to the pictures and searching for kids who are doing something wise OR something that's not wise, depending on what you tell them.
- When they find something, they point to it and say, "Wise" or "Unwise," whichever they were looking for originally.
- Tell the first two kids to get ready, and yell, "WISE!"
- When one of them finds a wise scenario, tell them to describe what is happening and why it's a wise choice.
- Repeat the process with the next two kids, and so on. Alternate between "Wise" and "Unwise."
- These are some of the wise scenarios they'll find:
 - Kid helping someone who is hurt
 - Kid helping elderly person plant flowers or pull weeds
 - Kid doing homework
 - Kid handing a water bottle to someone who looks thirsty
- These are some of the unwise scenarios they'll find:

- Kid riding his bike down the middle of the street
- Kid staring at a phone or tablet while a baby sibling gets into a nearby trash can
- Kid yelling at his mom
- Kid who has just thrown a ball that's about to hit a window

What You Say:

"The best way to know if something is wise is to know what God's Word says about it. But when we don't have a Bible handy, or there's nobody around to ask, we can usually still figure it out. If you want to know whether a decision is wise, think about what other people would say if they saw you doing it, like we see in these pictures. Think about what your mom would say or what I would say. Would we think it's a wise choice? If so, then it probably is. But if not, then it's probably not a wise choice. [Bottom Line] If you want to be wise, search for wisdom."

2. Verse Bookmarks

[Memory Verse Activity]

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing/building/designing

What You Need: Bibles; "Memory Verse" Activity Pages; cardstock; scissors; glue/tape; markers

What You Do:

- Guide kids to look up James 1:5a using the tips below.
 - *When finding verses with second and third graders, guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find James in the list under "New Testament." When the kids find James, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find James. Help the kids find the page. When they find James, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 1. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 5 in chapter 1. Ask one kid to read James 1:5a aloud.*
- Set out the supplies, including the memory verses from the Activity Page.
- Tell kids to use the supplies to make a bookmark with the memory verse on it.
- They can make it any size or shape.
- They can use the printed verse or write it themselves.
- Encourage them to be creative.

What You Say:

*"I want you to put these bookmarks in your Bibles as a reminder that **[Bottom Line]** if you want to be wise, search for wisdom. And where do you search for wisdom? Using God's Word, we can follow Jesus' example from today's Bible story and grow in wisdom, friendship, and faith, when we search for wisdom and find it in the Bible."*

***[Make It Personal]** (Tell kids a story about a time you looked to God's Word for wisdom. What were you searching for? What did you learn? How did it help you in your situation?)*

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: Bibles; kids' bookmarks from the "Verse Bookmarks" activity

What You Do:

- Tell kids to hold their Bibles with the bookmarks in them.
- Guide kids to pray silently and ask God to help them search His Word for wisdom when they need it.
- Close with the prayer below

What You Say:

"Dear God, we know You are wiser than anyone. Thank You for giving us Your Word to help us find wisdom. Thank You for putting wise people in our lives that can help us. Guide us to always search for wisdom when we need it; and we know you will always provide wisdom when we ask and seek for it. In Your name, amen.

As adults arrive to pick up, prompt kids to show off their Verse Bookmarks and what they talked about during small group.