



WEEK ONE - AUGUST 2018 - KINDERGARTEN/FIRST

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

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

What You Need: "I Spy" Sheets

What You Do:

- Invite kids to place their offerings in the container.
- Ask: "Have you ever found something that was lost? What was it? How did you find it?"
- Set out the I Spy sheets for the kids to look at and solve.
- Interact with the kids by saying things such as: "Wow! You searched hard for that! Way to go!" "Great job sticking with it until you found it!"
- If kids need hints to find particular items, offer clues such as: "It's beside the small, red car" "It's below the yellow bicycle."
- Directional and descriptive hints like these will engage the kids' thinking as much as possible!

2. I Spy

Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation & discovery

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Invite kids to gather around you and then lead them in a real-life game of "I Spy."
- Stealthily scan your environment and choose an object that every child can see.
- Call out a single descriptive clue about the item, such as: "I spy with my little eye something that is red." "I spy with my little eye something that is round."
- Invite kids to take turns guessing the object. If the group gets stumped, add a second clue.
- When kids guess the object, choose another item and begin again. Play as time allows.

What You Say:

*"You guys did a great job searching for the things I spied! You kept looking and never gave up! [Transition] In Large Group, we'll hear about a time when two people looked for **SomeONE** for three days, and they didn't stop looking until they found Him! Let's go learn more."*

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. Ways to Wisdom

[Application Activity]

Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy & facilitates biblical application through role-play

What You Need: "Ways to Wisdom" Activity Page; markers

What You Do:

- Help each child find a partner.
- Give every child a "Ways to Wisdom" Activity Page and a marker.
- Guide the pairs to work together to find all the ways kids in the picture are searching for wisdom.
- When teams finish, invite them to choose one picture they circled to pantomime for the group. Let the other kids guess what they're doing.
 - **NOTE: If a child is shy or reluctant to pantomime, don't force him.**
- Invite each child to name one way they will search for wisdom this week.

What You Say:

"Does God want us to have wisdom? Yes, He does! He wants us to have wisdom because when we're wise, we can make the right choices. We can also live the way Jesus lived.

"So how can we find wisdom? Can we find it by going to church and hearing Bible stories? Can we find it by reading our Bible or by listening to someone read the Bible to us? Can we find it by asking people who love God what they know about Him? Can we find it by praying

and asking God for it? Yes! So remember, [Bottom Line] if you want to be wise, search for wisdom."

2. Eye Spy Eyes

[Memory Verse Activity]

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

What You Need: Bibles; craft sticks; markers; googly eyes; "Wise Words" labels from Activity Page

What You Do:

- *Give each child a craft stick.*
- *Set out the markers (and/or Washi tape and scissors) and invite kids to decorate their sticks as they choose.*
- *When they finish, give each child one or two googly eyes.*
- *Guide them to attach the eye(s) to one end of their craft sticks to create "Eye Spy reading pointers!"*
- *Help kids look up the memory verse using the navigation tips below.*
 - *When finding verses with kinders, guide children to open the Bibles to the marked page. Point to the word James at the top of the page as you say "James" aloud. Then guide children to find the big number 1 on the page. Explain that this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big 1 for the little 5; this is the verse number. Tell them to put their "Eye Spy Eyes" on the verse as you read the verse aloud. Then lead everyone to say the verse together.*
 - *When finding verses with first 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." You can help by telling them that James starts with the letters J-A. 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. Tell them to put their "Eye Spy Eyes" on the verse as you read the verse aloud. Then lead everyone to say the verse together.*
- *Unpack the word wisdom, highlighting that wisdom is finding out what you should do and DOING it.*
- *Emphasize that we can be wise if we follow how Jesus lived.*

- Give each child a "Wise Words" sticker and guide them to attach the sticker to their pointer.
- Reread the verse aloud.
- Encourage kids to take their "Eye Spy Eyes" home and use them when they search their Bibles for wisdom.

What You Say:

"James 1:5 tells us that God wants to give us wisdom. All we need to do is ask! [Make It Personal] (Tell the kids about a time when you needed wisdom and asked God to help you make the wise choice. Tell how God answered your prayer either through His Word, through prayer, or through the God-given wisdom of another person.)"

"So when you need help to make the wise choice, ask God. He might give you the wisdom through a verse in the Bible, through learning what Jesus did, through prayer, or through talking with someone who loves Him. Just like He helped me, He'll help you, too. So remember, [Bottom Line] if you want to be wise, search for wisdom."

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: Your Bible

What You Do:

- Lead kids in one final round of "I Spy," this time leading kids to identify the Bible!
- Use the conversation below to lead kids into prayer.

What You Say:

"Yes! It's my Bible! (Pick up your Bible.) Do you know why I chose my Bible for our final round of 'I Spy'? I chose my Bible because it's FULL of God's wisdom! It tells us all about how much God loves us and how He wants us to live. It tells us all about His Son, Jesus, and how He died for us so that we can live forever with Him. I chose my Bible because when I need wisdom, my Bible is the BEST place to look. So if you ever need wisdom, look in your Bible or ask someone to help you look in your Bible. Because the Bible is God's very special Word for you and for me. Let's pray.

"Dear God, thank You that Your Word is full of wisdom. Help us search our Bibles for wisdom when we need it. Help us grow in wisdom just like Jesus. We love You, Lord. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, prompt kids to tell their parent today's Bottom Line: [Bottom Line] If you want to be wise, search for wisdom.