



## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**Brand New**  
Renew Your Mind  
Romans 12:2

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Never stop growing in wisdom.

### MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone and doesn't find fault.  
James 1:5, NIV

### LARGE GROUP SUPPLIES

- Cue card for the Host, with the shorthand names of the moves (Run through the jungle, sweep the leaves, swing on a vine, monkey high-five, sand dune jump, boulder hop, fossil dig)

### SMALL GROUP SUPPLIES

- Table
- Potted, full grown plant vibrant flower(s)
- An empty pot that looks the same as the one the plant is in
- soil
- seeds
- bucket
- lamp
- Mixing spoon

### PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

### SMALL GROUP

**15**  
MIN

#### SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arriver  
Opening Activity

### LARGE GROUP

**35**  
MIN

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- MONTHLY CHALLENGE - WISDOM
  - Shares stories each week with your groups that showed someone who was wise.

#### WORSHIP:

- THE BEST IS YET TO COME
- GRAVES INTO GARDENS

### SMALL GROUP

**25**  
MIN



WEEK  
**FIVE**  
AUGUST 2021

LARGE GROUP  
**K-3**

**PRELUDE**      **SOCIAL**      **STORY**      **WORSHIP**      **GROUPS**      **HOME**

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

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### MONTHLY LIFE APP

Wisdom—Finding out what you should do and doing it

### BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

## LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

**AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS KIDS ENTER.**

**SLIDE: THEME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**

## WORSHIP

*Worship Leaders enter*

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Hello, friends! Right now we have a chance to lift our voices and sing to God. When we worship Him, we're doing what He created us to do. Every day, we can choose to follow Him and find His wisdom.

**AUDIO: THE BEST IS YET TO COME**

**AUDIO: GRAVES INTO GARDENS**

*Host enters, dressed like Indiana Jones™.*

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (30- OR 60-SECOND VERSION)**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME**

## OPENER

**HOST:** "Hi, friends! It's so great to see you today! My name is [your name], and this month in [your environment's name], we're digging deep. We're searching high and low to find something that's more valuable than buried treasure. Do you know what it is? *(Pause for response.)* It's wisdom!

**SLIDE: LIFE APP**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME TRANSITION TO LIFE APP**

**"Wisdom is finding out what you should do and doing it.**

**SLIDE: THEME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): LIFE APP TRANSITION TO THEME**

"Why is wisdom so valuable? Well, it comes from God. With God's wisdom, we can live each day the way HE wants us to live. We can make wise choices and show love to others. Each day, we can grow wiser and wiser as we grow in our relationship with God.



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"Why is wisdom so valuable? Well, it comes from God. With God's wisdom, we can live each day the way HE wants us to live. We can make wise choices and show love to others. Each day, we can grow wiser and wiser as we grow in our relationship with God.

"But remember, we've got to dig deep to find wisdom. We've got to LOOK for it, so we can find it!

*Hold up the shovel and strike an adventurous pose.*

"If we were archaeologists or paleontologists, we'd dig deep to find fossils of plants and animals, as well as artifacts from long ago. We'd need to be in good shape and be able to find our way around the jungle, the desert, or anywhere else. So today, I thought we'd get warmed up . . . with our own version of a Dig Deep Workout!

**SLIDE: "DIG DEEP WORKOUT"**

"Everybody stand up. I'll show you the moves, then we'll play the music and do them all together. Here, practice with me.

*Demonstrate each move as you explain it.*

"First, we're running through the jungle. *(Run in place.)*

**SLIDE: "DIG DEEP WORKOUT" MOVE #1**

"We're sweeping the leaves out of the way. *(Use big hand gestures like you're clearing away the vines from your path.)*

**SLIDE: "DIG DEEP WORKOUT" MOVE #2**

"Now, we're grabbing onto a vine and swinging across a cliff to the other side. *(Grab an imaginary vine and slide from side to side.)*

**SLIDE: "DIG DEEP WORKOUT" MOVE #3**

"Up next, we're high-fiving some monkeys! *(Do some air high-fives.)*

**SLIDE: "DIG DEEP WORKOUT" MOVE #4**

"Now we're jumping over sand dunes in the desert. *(Do a long slow-motion jump.)*



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**SLIDE: "DIG DEEP WORKOUT" MOVE #5**

"We're hopping and dodging the boulders in the canyon. (*Hop back and forth.*)

**SLIDE: "DIG DEEP WORKOUT" MOVE #6**

"And finally, we're digging with our shovels to find the fossils. (*Do a digging motion, alternating arms.*)

**SLIDE: "DIG DEEP WORKOUT" MOVE #7**

"Great job! Okay, let's start over from the top—this time, with the music!

**AUDIO: "THE RAIDERS MARCH (A.K.A. INDIANA JONES THEME)" BY JOHN WILLIAMS**

**SLIDE: "DIG DEEP WORKOUT" MOVES #1-7, FOLLOWING THE HOST'S LEAD**

*Lead the kids through the moves at a steady pace. Use shorthand to cue the moves: Run through the jungle, sweep the leaves, swing on a vine, monkey high-five, sand dune jump, boulder hop, fossil dig.*

"All right, now just the Small Group Leaders!

**SLIDE: "DIG DEEP WORKOUT" MOVES #1-7, FOLLOWING THE HOST'S LEAD**

*Lead the Small Group Leaders through another round.*

"Now, one last time for everyone—at super speed!

**SLIDE: "DIG DEEP WORKOUT" MOVES #1-7, FOLLOWING THE HOST'S LEAD**

*Lead everyone through one last round, double-time.*

**SLIDE: THEME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**



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## BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

*Storyteller enters.*

### SETTING UP THE STORY

**STORYTELLER:** “Hi, everyone! We’ve had a great month here at [your environment’s name] finding out how we can live with wisdom. We’ve seen how important it is for us to find God’s wisdom so we can live His way each day. But let me ask you something. Do you think finding wisdom is just a one-time thing? Do we just find God’s wisdom, then we’re done? *(Pause for response.)*”

“I think we might find some clues about that if we look at a letter written by a man named Paul. *(Hold up Bible.)* Paul was a religious leader. He knew the Jewish laws really well, but didn’t believe that Jesus was the Son of God. Paul was convinced that he knew the right way to live, and he did his best to follow all of the laws.

“But one day, Paul actually MET Jesus in a flash of light . . . and his way of thinking completely changed! He realized that Jesus IS God’s Son who had come to save the world. Paul began to travel around, starting churches as he told everyone about Jesus. He wrote letters to the churches he started and also to the churches he wanted to visit. Many of Paul’s letters are included in our Bible today!

“Listen to what Paul wrote in his letter to the Romans.

*Open the Bible to Romans 12:2 (NIRV) and read.*

*“Don’t live the way this world lives. Let your way of thinking be completely changed. Then you will be able to test what God wants for you. And you will agree that what he wants is right. His plan is good and pleasing and perfect.”*

### PLANTING SEEDS

**STORYTELLER:** “So Paul wrote that we shouldn’t let the things AROUND us control the way we think. Instead, we should let our way of thinking be completely changed by God’s wisdom—each and every day!

*Walk behind the table.*

“For example, take a look at this flower pot.

*Set the flower pot on the table.*

“If I want a flower to grow out of this pot, what do I need to do? *(Pause for response.)* Right. First, I need to put in some soil.

*Put some soil in the pot so it’s about 2/3 full.*

“What else do I need to put in here? *(Pause for response.)* Yes! Seeds.

*Pour the seed packet into the pot. Use the trowel to mix them up with the soil.*



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"Now we've got everything we need for our flower to grow . . . right? (Pause.) So why isn't it growing?"

"Well, if you want a flower to grow, you also have to add something TO it. What else do we need to add? (Pause for response.) Yes! Water.

*Pull out the watering can and water the pot.*

"And there's something else we need, too: sunlight.

*If you have a window with natural light, set the flower pot on the windowsill. If that's not an option, turn on a desk lamp over the pot.*

"There. Now our flower is sure to grow!"

*Walk in front of the table on stage to address the kids directly.*

### THE WAY OF THE WORLD

**STORYTELLER:** "Did you know that our minds are kind of like this flower pot? We've got everything we need to grow in God's wisdom. But it's tough for us to grow if we forget to add the right things into our lives.

"If we're not careful, we can let the world around us tell us how to act, what to say, and how to treat other people. If we're not careful, we can forget to think about what really matters.

"We can see how some people talk and act—in real life or maybe in some of the movies we see or the songs we hear. We can start to think that life is all about getting what WE want . . . having things OUR way . . . and having lots of money and possessions. We can spend our time worrying instead of trusting that God will take care of us. We can see how other people make unwise choices . . . and how they often seem to get away with it. That can tempt us to make unwise choices, too.

"If we start to think like that, do you think we'll grow in wisdom? (Pause for response.) Not at all.

*Go back to the flower pot. Bring the bucket with you.*

"It would be like I planted seeds in this pot then covered it with a bucket of slime!

*Pick up the bucket and act like you're about to pour it over the top of the flower pot.*

"Do you think the seed could grow like it's supposed to if I did that? (Pause for response.) No way!"

*Set the bucket down.*

### CHANGING YOUR MIND

**STORYTELLER:** "So what can we do instead? How can we grow in wisdom instead of focusing on the world around us? Listen again to what Paul wrote.



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Open the Bible to Romans 12:2 (NirV) and read.

*“Don’t live the way this world lives. Let your way of thinking be completely changed.”*

“We can ask God for His wisdom. We can ask Him to CHANGE our way of thinking—again and again and again! We can remember what’s true, by reading the Bible and finding the amazing wisdom from God that’s written down in these pages.

“Like this, from Proverbs 3:5.”

*Open the Bible to Proverbs 3:5 (NirV) and hand it to a leader to read.*

**LEADER:** *“Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding.”*

**STORYTELLER:** *“Or this one, from the book of Philippians.”*

*Open the Bible to Philippians 4:6-7 (NirV) and hand it to a leader to read.*

**LEADER:** *“Don’t worry about anything. No matter what happens, tell God about everything. Ask and pray, and give thanks to him. Then God’s peace will watch over your hearts and your minds.”*

**STORYTELLER:** *“Or this, which is also from Paul’s letter to the Romans.”*

*Open the Bible to Roman 8:39 (NirV) and hand it to a leader to read.*

**LEADER:** *“Nothing at all can ever separate us from God’s love. That’s because of what Christ Jesus our Lord has done.”*

**STORYTELLER:** *“Doesn’t it make you feel so good to hear those verses from God’s Word? Doesn’t it change the way you think about things when you know how much God loves you? If we change our minds by talking to God . . . reading the Bible . . . and talking to other people ABOUT God, we’ll be able to grow in wisdom every day.*

*Walk to the flower pot.*

“Our minds will be like our little plant here . . . when we give it the water and sunlight it needs to grow.

*Water the pot again and hold it up to the light (or move the lamp closer).*

“Over time, we’ll grow wiser and wiser as we grow in our relationship with God.”

*Reach under the table and hold up the full-grown plant. Set it next to the pot with the seeds and soil.*



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### WRAPPING UP THE STORY

**STORYTELLER:** "This is something we need to do every day. We need to keep adding the things that will change our minds and make us grow in wisdom . . . by praying, reading the Bible, and talking to other people about what we believe. Then we'll be able to stop any selfish thoughts and worries that might come into our minds and replace them with the things we know are true.

"And remember—this isn't just a one-time thing. It's something that happens over and over again, all throughout your life. It's part of your relationship with God. His wisdom will help you grow as you follow Him and learn how to live His way.

#### SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

**"Never stop growing in wisdom.**

"Let's pray and thank God for helping us grow!"

#### SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

### PRAY

**STORYTELLER:** "Dear God, thank You so much for this reminder from Paul's letter—that You're always there to help us grow in wisdom. Please help us do the things that will make us grow in our relationship with You. Help us remember to pray to You, read the Bible, and spend time with wise people. When we start to have unwise thoughts, please replace them with Your truth so we can grow closer to You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."



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## CLOSER

*Host enters as Storyteller exits.*

**HOST:** "I'm so glad to know that God is always working in my life! He's always helping me grow in wisdom. And every day, I can choose to do the things that I know will help me grow stronger in my relationship with Him. I can talk to Him, talk to other people who believe in Him, and read the Bible.

"Each one of us can make those choices. We can make a habit of doing the things that will help us grow more and more wise . . . today and every day!

**SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE**

**"Never stop growing in wisdom.**

"If we can do that, we'll change our way of thinking, just like Paul wrote in his letter. We'll remember what's true—that God is always with us and **[Basic Truth] we can trust Him no matter what.**

"We can also think about Jesus and about all that Jesus did FOR us. We can think about how Jesus loved others, and that will make us want to love others, too. People wanted to be near Jesus because the way He loved and treated people was different from anything they had ever seen before!

"When we put our faith in Jesus and believe that He died for us then came back to life, His Holy Spirit will CHANGE us. We'll be able to live in a completely new way, because His love transforms us and makes us want to share His love with the people around us.

"In Small Group, you'll get to talk some more about how you can grow in God's wisdom. I'll see you next time!"

*Dismiss kids to their small groups.*

**AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT.**

**SLIDE: THEME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**