



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Wildest Dreams

Solomon Asks God for Wisdom
1 Kings 3:4-28

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

Why do you need wisdom?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Trust God to give you 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

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Wisdom—Finding out what you should do and doing it

SUPPLIES

- Four blindfolds
- Eight paper plates
- Random foods for game such as:
 - Mustard
 - Sour candy
 - Marshmallows
 - Olives
 - Sour cream
 - Tomato
 - Lime
 - Bread

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

Just for Fun
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35
MIN

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- MONTHLY CHALLENGE - WISDOM
 - Shares stories each week with your groups that showed someone who was wise.
- L@K WEEK -- : 9; K TO SCHOOL BASH
 - YOU WILL ALL GET A BOX that has some fun stuff, but also some things to start off your school year the best way possible! One fun item is a gratitude journal.

WORSHIP:

- THROUGH IT ALL
- THERE'S NOTHING THAT OUR GOD CAN'T DO

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN



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

25 MINUTES 10 MINUTES

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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 STUDENTS ENTER.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter

WORSHIP LEADER: "I'm so glad to see all of you here today! One of the things I hope you learn early on in life is that you can trust Jesus, period. He is always with you, no matter what. He always good and true.

AUDIO: THROUGH IT ALL

AUDIO: THERE'S NOTHING THAT OUR GOD CAN'T DO

Host enters . . .

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

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

WELCOME

Host has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to [Name of Environment]. Host is relatable and inviting. Host can talk about something that happened culturally throughout the week like a big sports game, movie opening, a viral video on YouTube, holiday (National Book Lovers Day, National S'mores Day, Global Kinetic Sand Day, International Left Handers Day), etc. Host tells them how excited he or she is that they're there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what's happening.

OPENER

HOST: "Welcome to Mission where every single day is an adventure. We know you could be a number of other places instead of right here, but we're so grateful you showed up today. My name is [Name of Host], and I am needing several volunteers who aren't afraid to go on a culinary discovery with me. You'll need to be fearless and ok with eating unusual foods. Any takers?"



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TWO
AUGUST 2021

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25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

Host brings one male SGL, one boy, one female SGL, and one girl to the stage.

"We call this game, EAT IT!"

SLIDE: EAT IT! TITLE

"The guys will be competing against the girls to see who can quickly identify a food. We'll blindfold your Small Group Leader and they'll taste the food.

When they think they know what it is, they will describe the food without using any of the words in the name of the food. If you're the first person who can name the food based on their description, you get a point. Then we'll give your leader another plate of food. We will time you to see how long you can identify three plates of food. Then we will give the other pair a chance to identify three different foods. The team with the shortest time wins. Make sense? Oh! One last thing, everyone will be blindfolded, not just your leaders! Are there any questions? *(Pause for response.)* Great! Let's play!"

AUDIO: UPBEAT GAME MUSIC

Host allows both pairs to taste and guess the food. Host should make a big deal about the first pairs finishing time. After the second pair has finished, the host should make a big reveal for the team with the fastest time.

"That was incredible! Both Small Group Leaders did a fantastic diving face-first into the plates of their unknown foods! However, there can only be one EAT IT CHAMPION! Let's go crazy for [Names of winning pair]! Great job to both groups.



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COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT (STORY)

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit.

INTRODUCTION

COMMUNICATOR: "Hey, everybody! Love getting the chance to hang out with you! Let's kick off this time with a question. Have any of you been on a scavenger hunt before? *(Pause for response.)* Yes! Several of us have! Okay, what about a treasure hunt for real treasure? And I'm not talking about digging through your granny's jewelry box and discovering vintage clip-ons or finding a half dollar in your grandpa's junk drawer. I'm talking about discovering real, legit riches. Anybody? *(Pause for response.)* Not too many of us!"

Communicator shares a true story of someone who discovered an amazing treasure accidentally or use the following.

"A number of years ago, there was a man who came upon a staggering treasure accidentally. In the Philippines, this man was fishing off the coast of an island when he noticed a big, white object stuck to his anchor in the water. The 75-pound mass was over two feet long, but the man managed to haul it into his boat. Whatever it was, the man thought it looked cool but never told anyone about the find. He placed it under his bed where it sat for ten years until his house burned down. Remarkably, the big, white treasure survived the fire and is actually on public display. Anybody know what the man found? *(Pause for response.)* Good guesses! The man stumbled upon the world's biggest natural pearl from a giant clam. How much do you think this giant pearl was valued at? *(Pause for response.)* It is estimated to be worth \$100 million."

TENSION

COMMUNICATOR: "It's crazy to think he found an item of such value by chance! In life we likely won't find a valuable hunk of pearl attached to an anchor or a big bag of gold doubloons. Regardless, this story reminds me of the way a lot of us have found wisdom."

"Reflect back on your life. I would venture to say most in this room who have heard incredible words of wisdom from coaches, discerning teachers, sensible grandparents, or some YouTube sensation. Most of you were likely not seeking the wisdom. Instead, the pearl of wisdom stumbled into your life by happen stance!"

"Is this how we are supposed to gain wisdom? Are we supposed to walk through life hoping to stumble upon wisdom with no idea of where it will come from or how it will be used? What if there was another way? What if you could seek out more wisdom instead of waiting for wisdom to appear?"

"Questions like this are important. When we have these sorts of questions, it's good to start with the Bible. In the Bible, not only can we find all sorts of wisdom from SUPER wise people who had personal experiences with God, but we can also find out how we can BE super wise people. Let's head there now."

TRUTH

COMMUNICATOR: "Many of us have heard stories of the life of King David, the man after God's own heart and who toppled Goliath. After David died, his son, Solomon, became the third king of Israel."



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“One evening after King Solomon had gone to Gibeon to offer sacrifices to God, he fell asleep. While snoozing, something fantastic happened. God came to him in a dream and said something unbelievable. God said to Solomon,”

Open the Bible to 1 Kings 3:5b (NirV) and read.

“Ask for anything you want me to give you.”

“A thousand ideas must have exploded into Solomon’s mind—gold, power, immortality. There’s no telling what he may have thought, but we do know his response to God. In his dream, Solomon thanked God for His kindness.”

“Then he said,”

Open the Bible to 1 Kings 3:7-9 (NirV) and read.

“Lord my God, you have now made me king. You have put me in the place of my father David. But I’m only a little child. I don’t know how to carry out my duties. I’m here among the people you have chosen. They are a great nation. They are more than anyone can count. So give me a heart that understands. Then I can rule over your people. I can tell the difference between what is right and what is wrong. Who can possibly rule over this great nation of yours?”

“In other words, Solomon had a simple request but one that would change Solomon’s life forever. Solomon asked for wisdom to help rule over God’s people!”

“God responded to Solomon. Check it out.”

Open the Bible to 1 Kings 3:10-12 (NirV) and read.

“The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for that. So God said to him, “You have not asked to live for a long time. You have not asked to be wealthy. You have not even asked to have your enemies killed. Instead, you have asked for wisdom. You want to do what is right and fair when you judge people. Because that is what you have asked for, I will give it to you. I will give you a wise and understanding heart. So here is what will be true of you. There has never been anyone like you. And there never will be.””

“Solomon returned to Jerusalem where he offered more sacrifices before the Lord and gave a feast for all of his officials. Soon, Solomon’s wisdom was tested by two women who had a big dispute.”

Host enters with a prop box to play all of the characters in the story. Host quickly puts on Solomon wig and crown and looks really concerned. NOTE: If your host is not a woman, find one who could help you with this part of the script. Actor should be over-dramatic.

COMMUNICATOR: “As King Solomon was doing super important royal duties, two women burst into the room arguing.”

Host quickly changes into woman #1 wig.

COMMUNICATOR: “The first woman spoke, explaining the friends lived in the same home and had baby boys born around the same time.”



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HOST AS WOMAN #1: "Nope! Wrong! We are not friends!"

HOST AS WOMAN #2: *(changing into woman #2 wig)* "Finally! We can agree on one thing."

COMMUNICATOR: "The first woman explained her friend's child sadly died during the night. But the friend swapped the babies."

HOST AS WOMAN #1: *(changing into woman #3 wig)* "Still wrong. We aren't friends! But she did take my baby."

HOST AS WOMAN #2: *(changing into woman #2 wig)* "Lies! All lies!"

HOST AS WOMAN #1: *(changing into woman #1 wig)* "No, they aren't!"

HOST AS WOMAN #2: *(changing into woman #2 wig)* "Look, your majesty! Her nose is growing!"

HOST AS SOLOMON: *(changing into king's wig/crown)* "Her nose looks fine to me."

COMMUNICATOR: "Both women were telling King Solomon the baby was hers. God gave Solomon a wise idea."

HOST AS SOLOMON: "Bring me my sword."

COMMUNICATOR: "When King Solomon received the sword, he ordered the baby to be cut in half! Solomon wasn't going to hurt the baby. He just wanted to see what was in the women's hearts. In that moment, the first woman, whose son was alive, pleaded with the king to give the baby to the second woman. Not to kill the child."

HOST AS WOMAN #1: *(changing into woman #1 wig)* "STOP! Give the baby to the liar. Just don't kill him!"

HOST AS WOMAN #2: *(changing into woman #2 wig)* "Yeah! Give the baby to me!"

COMMUNICATOR: "The test worked! King Solomon recognized the first woman was telling the truth and returned the baby to his momma."

HOST AS WOMAN #1: *(changing into woman #1 wig)* "COME TO MOMMA!"

HOST AS WOMAN #2: *(changing into woman #2 wig)* "Be quiet!"

COMMUNICATOR: "As word spread to the Israelites about the king's decision, their respect for Solomon grew."

Host exits the stage.

APPLICATION

COMMUNICATOR: "The reason this story stands out to me is because we have a new king who could have asked God for anything! Instead of wasting the opportunity on a temporary treasure, Solomon asked for wisdom! During a dispute, we see how God's wisdom helped King Solomon. The king wasn't going to harm the baby, but he was wise



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enough to recognize the true mother of the baby. Because of the wisdom God gave Solomon, the Israelites trusted he was a wise king who would rule them justly. God made Solomon so wise that his understanding couldn't even be measured—like the sand on the seashore."

"The story reminds us where all wisdom comes from—God! If you are facing a tough decision, you can go to God and ask for wisdom like Solomon did. When you don't know what to do, talk to God! Our memory verse this month echoes this truth. It says,"

Open the Bible to James 1:5a (NirV) and read.

"If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you."

"Pearls of wisdom should not only be found accidentally stuck to the anchors of life. Wisdom should be sought from God. Wisdom can be found when we trust God."

LANDING

COMMUNICATOR: "As you head to Small Group today, think about this:

SLIDE: KEY QUESTION SLIDE

"Why do you need wisdom?" Think about the different sorts of decisions you make throughout the day. Will you study for this test? Will you talk to that kid? How do you respond to that question? What do you say in that situation? How could wisdom help you in those sorts of situations? If you're not sure, that's ok, too. You'll have a chance to chat all about it with your Small Group. Before you head to groups, let's pray and thank God for giving us wisdom when we need it. Let's pray."

Communicator leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard. After prayer, Communicator dismisses kids to Small Group.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS STUDENTS EXIT.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP