

WEEK  
**FOUR**  
JANUARY 2022

SMALL GROUP  
**K-3**

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

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

### MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group



*Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Ask God to help kids understand the consequences of not choosing their words carefully. Pray that they would have hearts to build up relationships with others not tear them down. Ask God to provide opportunities for kids to choose their words carefully and give them the self-control to act on what they learn today.*

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

#### Blank Space

Choose Your Words Carefully  
Proverbs 12:18

### EARLY ARRIVER

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Offering container

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Invite kids who brought offerings to place them in the container.
- Challenge kids to say tongue twisters as quickly—and as many times—as possible!
- Examples:
  - black bug bit a big black bear
  - friendly fleas and fire flies
  - purple paper people
- Add to the fun by attempting the twisters yourself!

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**Think before you speak.**

### MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**"God's power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life."**  
2 Peter 1:3a, NIV

### MONTHLY LIFE APP

**Self-control—Choosing to do what you should even when you don't want to**

### BASIC TRUTH

**I need to make the wise choice.**



**MADE TO MOVE**

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



**THINK BEFORE YOU SPEAK**

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Think Before You Speak" Activity Page

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Stand where all of the kids can see you.
- Move your body and guide kids to mimic you as if they were a mirror.
- You might put one hand on your head and one hand on your shoulder.
- Slowly change positions multiple times, leading kids to continue imitating you. They can even imitate your facial expressions!
- End with the following motions, using the "Think Before You Speak" Activity Page as your guide.
  - **THINK:** Make your hand into a fist, leaving your index finger out. Touch your finger to your temple while tilting your head to the side with a quizzical look on your face.
  - **BEFORE:** Hold both hands open in front of you, fingers together, hands naturally curved, with thumbs sticking up. The fingertips of one hand should be slightly in front of the other. Move the hand nearest you a few inches closer to your body.
  - **YOU:** Make your hand into a fist, leaving your index finger out. Point outward.
  - **SPEAK:** Hold up four fingers on your hand and tap your index finger to your chin twice.
- Pause, then repeat the phrase until kids can do it fluently.
- Finally, say the phrase as you do the motions.

**TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

**Blank Space**

Choose Your Words Carefully  
Proverbs 12:18

**TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

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**MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE**

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**MONTHLY LIFE APP**

**Self-control—Choosing to do what you should even when you don't want to**

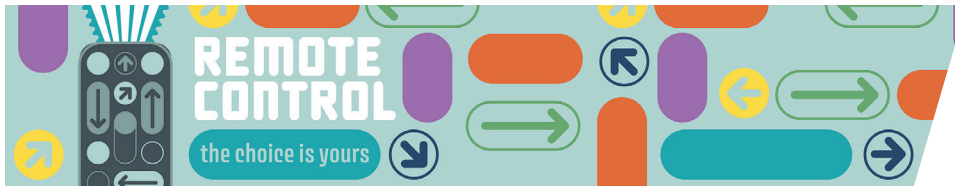
**BASIC TRUTH**

**I need to make the wise choice.**

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Can words hurt? (Yes!) Yes, words can hurt A LOT! What are some words that can hurt? (*I don't like you; I'm not your friend anymore; You're stupid.*) What are some words that can HELP? (*It's okay; I want to be your friend; Do you want to play? I love hanging out with you!*) Which words does God want us to speak—words that hurt or words that help? Yes! God want us to make the wise choice and choose words that HELP! He wants us to say words that show His love to others.

"So before you speak, go SLO-MO and (*do the motions as you say*) **THINK before you speak.** Ask yourself: How would I feel if someone said this to me? If the words are helpful, say them! But if the words might hurt, press your MUTE button—don't speak! Remember to **think before you speak.**"



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

**MADE TO EXPLORE**

an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery



**TELEPHONE TALK**

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Bibles, plastic cups, yarn pieces, clear tape, decorative supplies

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Make sure each kid has a Bible.
- Look up and read the memory verse aloud together.
- Give each kid two cups and a piece of yarn.
- Set out enough clear tape around your group for every two kids to share.
- Demonstrate how to thread one end of the yarn into the first cup.
- Show how to secure the yarn to the cup by placing a piece of tape over the yarn inside the cup.
- instruct kids to do the same with the other end of the yard and the other cup.
- Set out the decorative supplies.
- Invite the kids to decorate their cups.
- As kids finish, guide them to choose a partner.
- Direct the kids to use their cup telephones to say the memory verse to each other.
- Encourage kids to help each other out if one partner knows the verse better than the other.
- Allow kids to look in the Bible for help if needed.

**TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

**Blank Space**

Choose Your Words Carefully  
Proverbs 12:18

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**MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE**

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**MONTHLY LIFE APP**

**Self-control—Choosing to do what you should even when you don't want to**

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"How many of you remembered your memory verse without even thinking? (Pause for responses.) How many of you had to think before you said it? (Allow time for responses.) When you **think before you speak**, it's not only helpful for others. It's helpful for you, too! It gives us time to really think about what we will say to protect others' feelings and make sure we say what we mean.

"Sometimes, we want to talk too quickly without thinking because we're excited, angry, or in a hurry. But our verse today reminds us that God gives us the power we need to pause and think. **Think before you speak**. Remind yourself of the power you have within you and the big and awesome way God wants to use your words in this world!"

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

**MADE TO REFLECT**

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application



**PRAY AND DISMISS**  
[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** No supplies needed

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Gather the group for prayer.
- Ask all of the kids to stick out their tongues and keep them out.
- Challenge the kids to say the Bottom Line—**Think before you speak**—with their tongues out!
- Close your group time in prayer.

**TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

**Blank Space**

Choose Your Words Carefully  
Proverbs 12:18

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Dear God, thank You for giving us words to use! Thank You that we can use our words wisely to help, heal, and encourage! Please guide us to think before we speak this week. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, see if any grown-ups or other family want to try out the "Color Words" wall.

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