

K-5TH

LARGE & SMALL GROUPS

OCT-WEEK 2

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

PRE-SERVICE

GAME 15 MIN

LARGE GROUP [33 MIN]

OPENING GAME 10 MIN

WORSHIP 5 MIN

STORY VIDEO 13 MIN

BOTTOM LINE

WHAT'S OUR PART IN THE STORY

SALVATION MOMENT 5 MIN

SMALL GROUP [30-35 min]

APPLICATION 1 12 MIN

APPLICATION 2 12 MIN

CLOSING PRAYER 6 MIN

THIS MONTH



Today's Bible Story

David and the Psalms
Psalm 1:1-4

Bottom Line

If you want to be wise,
focus on God.

Memory Verse

"It is much better to get
wisdom than gold. It is
much better to choose
understanding than
silver."
Proverbs 16:16 NIV

PRE-SERVICE GAME

What You Need

- ☐ Construction Paper
- ☐ Markers
- ☐ Scissors

What You Do

Welcome kids with a high five, fist bump, or a wave as they arrive.

Give each kid two pieces of construction paper, scissors, and a marker.

Instruct the kids to draw two hearts, one on each piece of paper.

Encourage them to use the scissors to cut the hearts out.

On one heart, ask them to write or draw something they love.

On the second heart, instruct them to write or draw something they want to understand better about God, or something they want to learn to be wise about.

→ For example, maybe they want to learn how to be a better friend. Or maybe they have a question about the Holy Spirit.

While they work, spark conversation and ideas with the following questions:

→ “Have you ever needed help making the right choice or knowing what to do?”

→ “Is there something about God or the Bible you’d love to understand more?”

“I loved getting to hear your questions and the ways you want to grow in wisdom!”

“Let’s go hear about someone who wasn’t perfect, but made knowing God and being His friend the biggest focus of his life!”

LARGE GROUP

OPENING GAME

“Fast Pass Decision Dash!”

What You Need

- ☐ Flash pass cards

WORSHIP

STORY VIDEO

SALVATION MOMENT

What You Need

- ☐ Salvation cards
- ☐ Salvation sheet

What You Do

“Welcome to Wisdomland, everyone! This is a place where every day is an adventure—and the best part is, you get to make choices that help you grow wise. And God wants to help you get wise! He is the wisest! Are you ready to hang out in Wisdomland today?”

“We’re going to start with a super-fun game called ‘Fast Pass Decision Dash!’ Just like at a real theme park, you get special cards to help you decide what to do next. Sometimes, you have to think fast and make a choice. That’s an important part of being wise—making the best choice, even when you have lots of options!

“Let me divide our group into teams for our game today!” Try to divide them into two teams.

Instruct the kids to sit in a circle. Put a pile of ‘Fast Pass’ cards in the middle of the circle facedown.

“Here’s how it works: In the center of your group is a pile of ‘Fast Pass’ cards with a challenge on each card. When I say, ‘Go!’ your group must complete the challenge listed on the card as quickly as you can. When you’re done with one card, grab another. After the game, we’ll talk together about which choices were wise, silly, or tricky!

“Once a team completes a challenge, they will draw another card. The team with the most completed cards wins. We will make sure you complete the challenges!

“Are you ready to start the game?
(PAUSE FOR RESPONSES. MAKE SURE EACH OF THE TEAMS HAS A SET OF CARDS IN THEIR CIRCLE.)

“Alright! Ready, set, go!!!!”

→ Stop the game after a few minutes, before a group has gone through all of their cards.

(FOR THE LEADER’S REFERENCE)

→ Find someone in your group wearing the same color shoes as you and give them a high five.

→ Everyone in the group, jump three times, then freeze in a silly pose for five seconds.

LARGE GROUP

OPENING GAME (CONT.)

- Work together as a group to make up a short cheer for “Wisdomland.”
- Pretend you’re all riding the wildest roller coaster—scream (politely) and throw your hands up!
- Decide as a group—would you rather wait in line for your favorite ride, or try something new with no wait? Share your answer.
- Choose a group leader to pick a “theme park snack”—then act out eating it together.
- Line up shortest to tallest.
- Tell the person next to you in the group one thing you think a wise person does every day.
- Make up a handshake with a new friend in your group.
- Imagine you lost your ticket—what would you do? Let each person in your group act it out.
- Sit in a circle as a group and pretend to paddle a boat together—nominate a leader to guide the boat, and shout “Splash!” every time you switch directions. Change directions at least three times.
- Share with your group: What’s the wisest thing you’ve heard? (Let each person share.)
- Pretend you’re a theme park mascot—be in character for 10 seconds.
- Think of a question you’d want to ask God if He was right here face-to-face with you. Share it with your group.
- Move as slowly as possible from one side of the room to the other— like you’re in slow-motion traffic!
- As a group, freeze like you’re taking a souvenir photo—big smiles!
- Say together: “If you want to be wise, focus on God!” in your best robot voices.
- Decide: Would you rather have wisdom or a suitcase full of candy? Why?

WORSHIP

STORY VIDEO

SALVATION MOMENT

What You Need

- ☐ Salvation cards
- ☐ Salvation sheet

“You guys did a great job! Let me ask you something: So when a challenge involved having to make a choice, which ones were silly? Which ones required thinking?
(INVITE DISCUSSION, REFER TO THE LIST OF CHALLENGES AS YOU DISCUSS.)

“That was awesome! At Wisdomland, making decisions is part of every adventure. And you know what? God goes through every moment with you and He wants to help you make wise choices. That’s what we’re learning all month!

“Now, let’s get on our feet and get ready to worship the God who wants us to live wisely and well and who goes through everything with us!”

SMALL GROUP

APPLICATION 1

“Stick or Shift”

What You Need

☐ Bible marked at

Psalm 1

☐ Floor tape

☐ “Stick or Shift”

Activity
Page

What You Do

Mark a straight line with floor tape down the center of your group space. The line should be long enough for every kid to stand on it.

Invite the kids to line up on the tape line.

Move Together:

1. One at a time, read the “Stick or Shift” Activity Page scenarios.

After each scenario, give the kids a chance to respond.

→ If the person in the scenario is making a wise choice (God’s way), encourage the kids to stay on the tape line and stomp their feet.

→ If the person in the scenario is making an unwise choice, encourage the kids to take one big step to either side.

2. Continue until all scenarios have been read and discussed.

Talk Together:

3. Open the marked Bible to Psalm 1.

4. Select a kid to read Psalm 1:1-4 to the group.

5. Ask:

→ What do you think it means to be like a strong tree planted near a stream of water?

→ What kinds of things help you grow your faith roots deep in God?

Share with kids that Psalm 1 teaches us that people who stay close to God and follow His ways are like strong trees planted by a stream.

Explain to kids that this verse reminds them that when they focus on God (reading the Bible, praying, learning from Jesus, and trying to make wise choices) they’re like that tree. They’re soaking up God’s truth like water! It means when hard things happen, like someone is unkind or they don’t know what to do, they don’t fall apart, they can stay rooted and ask God for wisdom along the way. They can keep trusting God, and He will help them stand tall, just like that tree! If they want to grow wise and live a strong life that honors God, focus on Him!”

Awesome job, friends! When we choose God’s way (STAND ON THE LINE AND STOMP), we are choosing the way that will make us strong and our roots go down deep!

“We just read some of Psalm 1. We don’t know if David wrote the psalm we just read, but we do know that he wrote many, many psalms—and we know he knew the truth of Psalm 1. He knew that God is good and that His ways are good.

SMALL GROUP

APPLICATION 1 (CONT.)

“God is the wisest! That means that His ways to live are best. If we follow His ways, which He tells us in the Bible, we will be like a strong tree, with strong roots.

“So David spent his whole life working on his friendship with God. He wasn’t perfect, but he focused his life on growing closer to the wise One. “And God wants all of us to live wisely too. One of the reasons He gave us the Bible is so we can learn about Him and His wise ways.

“So, be like King David, and be like the psalmist, and get to know God and His ways! You will find that as you follow Him, you’ll be a strong tree with deep roots. As you get to know the wise One, you will grow wise. If you want to be wise, focus on God!”

SMALL GROUP

APPLICATION 2

“Focus and Follow”

What You Need

- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ “Focus and Follow”
Activity Pages

What You Do

Give every kid a Bible.

Lead them to find Proverbs 16:16 using the Bible Navigation Tips.

Repeat the verse together several times and review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.

Play Together:

1. Place the “Focus and Follow” Activity Page cards face-down all around your group space.
2. Say, “When I say, “Go!” everyone will work together to flip cards over, find the correct words, and put the verse in the right order.
3. “If you find a card with a word that’s not in Proverbs 16:16, spin around three times before picking up another one!”
4. Play until the kids place the words from Proverbs 16:16 in the correct order.

“Way to go, everyone! When you picked up a word that wasn’t in our Memory Verse, you spun around. Life can be like this. So many things can try to pull our attention away from God (BUSYNESS, WORRIES, EVEN FUN STUFF!) but you stayed focused and found the truth in God’s Word. That’s what we need to do every day!

“I love this verse SO much, it reminds us that wisdom is so precious! And God wants to give us something so precious! He wants to show us the best way—that’s one of the reasons why He gave us His Word. When we focus on God, the wise One, and the truth from the wise One in the Bible, we will get wise! So, if you want to be wise, focus on God.”

SMALL GROUP

CLOSING PRAYER

What You Need

- ☐ 3rd-5th index cards & pens

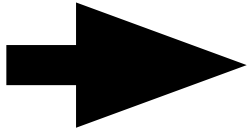
What You Do

“Dear God, thank You for being the source of ALL wisdom! Thank You that You gave us the Bible because You want us to be wise. And also thank You for putting people in our lives who follow You because you want us to be wise. Help us to be like David and to focus our lives on our friendship with You. We want to be close to You and wise like You are! Teach us to listen to You and the people who know You well. We love You, God, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

3rd-5th write down a prayer request and place in the prayer box.

GETTING READY

What You Need



PRE-SERVICE GAME

- ☐ **Construction Paper**
- ☐ **Markers**
- ☐ **Scissors**

OPENER GAME

- ☐ Flash pass cards

SALVATION MOMENT

- ☐ Salvation cards
- ☐ Salvation sheet

APPLICATION 1

- ☐ **Bible marked at Psalm 1**
- ☐ **Floor tape**
- ☐ **“Stick or Shift” Activity Page**

APPLICATION 2

- ☐ **Bibles**
- ☐ **“Focus and Follow” Activity Pages**

CLOSE OUT IN PRAYER

- ☐ 3rd-5th graders - index cards and pens