K-1st Grade

Small Group

October — Week 4

GROUPS 1/4

Kings and the Kingdom

Bible Story Review



Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Map of Israel" Activity Page
- □ Prepared Craft Sticks
- □ Black Marker



Inclusive Pro Tips

Repeat each king's name slowly and clearly, and point to the craft stick or the map when referencing them. This helps visual and auditory learners stay engaged.

1 What You Do

- 1. Gather the kids together around a table or in a circle on the floor.
- 2. Lay the map of Israel in the center.
- 3. Say, "This is Israel, the land God promised to His people! It's where the kings ruled, and where big choices were made."
- 4. Use the craft sticks to walk through the Kings' Recap from the Bible Story, holding up the matching king's name as you go.
 - → NOTE: Call on kids in your group to help you hold the tongue depressors.

Kings' Recap

- Solomon ruled with wisdom at first. But later, he made unwise choices. (HOLD UP SOLOMON.)
- 2. His son **Rehoboam** didn't listen to wise advice and was very harsh with the people. (HOLD UP REHOBOAM. ENCOURAGE THE KIDS TO GIVE YOU A THUMBS-DOWN.)
- 3. The kingdom split! (RIP THE MAP IN HALF! USE THE BLACK MARKER TO LABEL "N" FOR "ISRAEL" AND "S" FOR "JUDAH.")
- 4. In the north, kings like **Jeroboam** and **Ahab** led the people away from God. (HOLD UP JEROBOAM AND AHAB. ENCOURAGE THE KIDS TO COVER THEIR EARS!)
- In the south, Asa, Joash, Hezekiah, and Josiah made wise choices and led people closer to God. (HOLD THE CRAFT STICKS UP ONE BY ONE. ENCOURAGE THE KIDS TO CLAP AND CELEBRATE EACH ONE!)
- 6. But after Josiah, the people stopped following God again.

 (ENCOURAGE THE KIDS TO GIVE YOU A THUMBS-DOWN.)

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② What You Say

"Whoa, what a rollercoaster of choices these kings chose to make. Some kings followed God, and the people were blessed. Other kings chose to ignore God, and it hurt everyone! Yikes.

"Each of the kings had a big choice to make: Would they follow their own way, or follow God's way? You might not wear a crown like these kings did, but we all have this same choice each day. We get to make a choice every day: Will I follow my own way, or will I follow God's way?

"Friends, our choices matter. That's why I'm so glad we don't have to make daily choices on our own! When we choose to follow Jesus, He came to move inside of us through the Holy Spirit to help us make the wise choice. The Holy Spirit reminds us of what's true. He helps us remember God's Word. He helps us love others, even when it's hard. He helps us WANT to make the wise choice, even when others around us don't! I hope today reminds you that whether the choice feels big or small, you can be wise because your choices matter."

Make It Personal → Share an age-appropriate time you had to make a big decision, and the Holy Spirit gave you wisdom. Maybe a friend wanted you to join them in talking badly about someone else. Was it a verse you remembered? Share how seeking God first changed your thoughts.

K-1st Grade

Small Group

October — Week 4

GROUPS 3/4

Silver and Gold



Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Bibles marked at Proverbs 16:16
- ☐ "Proverbs 16:16 Coins" Activity Page
- ☐ Gold and silver paint pens (or yellow and gray crayons)

1 What You Do

- 1. Invite a kid to open the Bible to Proverbs 16:16 and help them read it
- 2. Repeat the verse together several times.
- Review any words in the verse that might be unfamiliar to the kids.

Create Together:

- 1. Set out the coloring supplies and coins from the "Proverbs 16:16 Coins" Activity Page.
- 2. Show the kids Side 1. (Make sure they see the little "1" on that side.)
 - → Read the first part of Proverbs 16:16.
 - → Encourage the kids to color the first side gold or yellow.
- 3. Show them Side 2. (Make sure they see the little "2" on that side.)
 - → Read the second part of Proverbs 16:16.
 - → Encourage the kids to color that second side silver or gray.
- 4. Encourage the kids to take their coin home and keep it somewhere special—like in their backpack, in their bedroom, or on the refrigerator!

Talk Together:

- "Have you ever had to make a hard choice? What helped you choose what was right?"
- "If you follow Jesus, did you know the Holy Spirit can help you choose God's way?"

② What You Say

"I love that these coins remind us of an important truth from the Bible, God's Word! Why do you think wisdom or understanding is better than gold or silver? (INVITE RESPONSES.) Those things are shiny and fun, but they can be lost or taken away. When God gives us wisdom, no one can take it away from us! Wisdom sticks with you and helps you make choices that honor God every day.

"God's wisdom is also so valuable because it comes from the King of kings!

"You'll probably have some big choices (AND SMALL ONES) this week. Like how to treat your brother, or what to say to a friend, or how to listen even when you don't feel like it. So, before you choose, pause and ask God to help you! HE WILL! God wants us all to be wise because our choices matter!"

* Look for opportunities to have conversations about what it means to make a decision to follow Jesus! (IF YOU NEED HELP WITH WHAT TO SAY, ASK YOUR MINISTRY LEADER.)