

K-3rd

Large Group

October — Week 1

Large Group Leader Guide

Today's Suggested Schedule

Kids arrival : 9:25 / 11:10

Play high-pitch music as kids arrive

Countdown : 9:30 / 11:15

Start the countdown with excitement!

Large Group : 9:30-9:55 / 11:15-11:40

→ **Opener**

→ **Bible Story**

→ **Talk It Out!**

→ **Memory Verse**

→ **Prayer**

Transition to Small group : 9:55-10:00
11:40-11:45

Kids move with their leader to small groups

Small group : 10:00-10:25 / 11:45-12:10

Creating a safe place to connect.

✧ Need activities for a K-5th group? Check out the 2nd-3rd guide.

THIS MONTH



Today's Bible Story

Samuel Anoints David

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Bottom Line

**God can help you
make the wise choice.**

Memory Verse

**"It is much better to
get wisdom than gold.
It is much better to
choose understanding
than silver."**

Proverbs 16:16 NIRV

10 MINUTES

Opener

①

Opener

AUDIO → Play high-energy music as kids enter.
SLIDE → Theme

→ Host enters.

Optional Video → Countdown
Optional Video → Theme Loop

HOST: "Hello, friends! Welcome to Wisdomland—the most amazing theme park ever! Today, we're exploring a very special part of Wisdomland called the Wisdom Adventure Zone! Who's excited for an adventure? Let me hear you! (ENCOURAGE EXCITED RESPONSES.)

"That's fantastic! Here in the Wisdom Adventure Zone, you'll find all sorts of fun activities that help us learn about making wise choices. You see, every day we face lots of choices—like sharing toys, eating healthy snacks, or being kind to our friends. Making wise choices helps us feel good and makes everyone around us happy too. God made it so that when we make wise choices, it helps us live in a really good way! God wants us to live wisely and well!

SLIDE → The Wisdom Toss!

"To practice making wise choices today, we have a fun game called: **The Wisdom Toss!**

Objective:

Kids will practice recognizing wise choices and unwise choices in a fun, tossing game.

Materials:

- 6 sets of baskets with pictures (one wise choice, one unwise choice per pair)
- Soft balls or beanbags to toss

Setup:

- Place the basket pairs on the stage so everyone can see them.
- Each pair should have one wise choice basket and one unwise choice basket.

How to Play:

1. Explain to the kids:
 - "We are going to practice making wise choices! Each basket shows a choice. Some are wise and some are unwise. Your goal is to toss the ball or beanbag into the basket with the wise choice."
2. Go through a practice round if needed. Show an example basket and ask:
 - "Is this a wise choice or an unwise choice?"
3. Guide each kid through each of the four stations, cheering them on, celebrating their wise choices, and gently guiding them if they make a mistake.

10 MINUTES

Opener

“Wow! You all did an incredible job! Choosing wisely helps us every single day. Did you know that God loves helping us make wise decisions? He is the wisest and He’s always there to guide us when we’re not sure what to do. Today, we’re going to learn a special story from the Bible about how God helped someone make a very wise choice.

25 MINUTES

Story

③

Bible Story

SLIDE -> Story Lab W1

WRAPPING UP THE STORY STORYTELLER: "Samuel listened to God too and God helped him make a wise choice too! Choosing David to be the next king was a wise choice— not because David was the strongest or the oldest, but because he trusted God and listened to Him. Samuel acted wisely too, because he listened to God's voice in the moment, even when everyone else thought something different.

"And do you know what's really amazing? God loves to give us wisdom too. Any time you're not sure what to do, you can stop, ask God for help, and listen for His voice. He is the wisest, and He'll always help you make the wise choice!

"Let's remember: It doesn't matter how big, small, old, or young you are— God can help you make wise choices, just like Samuel and David!"

SLIDE -> Bottom Line

[BOTTOM LINE] "God can help you make the wise choice. Say that with me."

STORYTELLER and KIDS: [BOTTOM LINE] "God can help you make the wise choice."


SLIDE -> Memory Verse

5 MINUTES

TALK IT OUT



“Wow! That was such a great story from the Bible. I love how God’s Word shows us amazing things we can learn and live out every day. Now, before we move on, I have a question for you... (lean in and whisper) do you know what time it is?”

It’s time to... (pause, cup your hand to your ear) **TALK IT OUT!** 
That means it’s your turn to do the talking! You get to share your thoughts, ask questions, and see how this story connects to YOUR life.

So, let’s put on our ‘thinking caps’ ... zip up our listening ears... and get ready to Talk. It. Out!”

07_SLIDE -> Talk It Out

Talk It Out Questions

1. Who did the Israelites ask for because they wanted to be like other nations?
☞ A king
2. What did God tell Samuel about how He looks at people?
☞ People look at the outside, but God looks at the heart.
3. Who was the youngest son that God chose to be king?
☞ David
4. What did David use to fight the giant Goliath?
☞ A sling and five stones
5. What is the big thing we should remember from this story?
☞ God can help us make wise choices if we ask Him.

5 MINUTES

Prayer

Prayer

HOST or STORYTELLER: "Dear God, thank You for always being with us and loving us. Thank You for giving Samuel wisdom to choose David, thank You for sending Jesus to show us how to be wise, and thank You for Your Holy Spirit who goes everywhere with us. Please help us listen for Your voice and trust You every day, so we can make wise choices too. We want to listen to Your voice more than anything. Please teach us how. We love You, God, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

STORYTELLER: "Thanks for being such great Wisdomland explorers today! Remember, you can always ask God for wisdom, and He will help you every time. See you next time in Wisdomland!"

Transition → Dismiss kids to their small groups.

AUDIO → Play high-energy music as the kids exit.

SLIDE → Theme

PLANNING

Getting Ready: Opener

What You Need

- ☐ Host
- ☐ 1 set of 4 beanbags
- ☐ Printed copies of "Choices Images"
- ☐ Painter's tape to secure the images at different "stations" around the room and to create a throwing line
- ☐ Small prizes or stickers to celebrate wise choices (optional)
- ☐ Volunteers: 1-2 adults/teens to help reset beanbags and guide kids as they move to stations

Music and Sound Effects

- ☐ Upbeat music to use as kids enter the room

Large Group Visuals

- ☐ Theme Slide
- ☐ Memory Verse Slide

Optional Videos

- ☐ Theme Loop
- ☐ Countdown
- ☐ Theme Intro

What You Do:

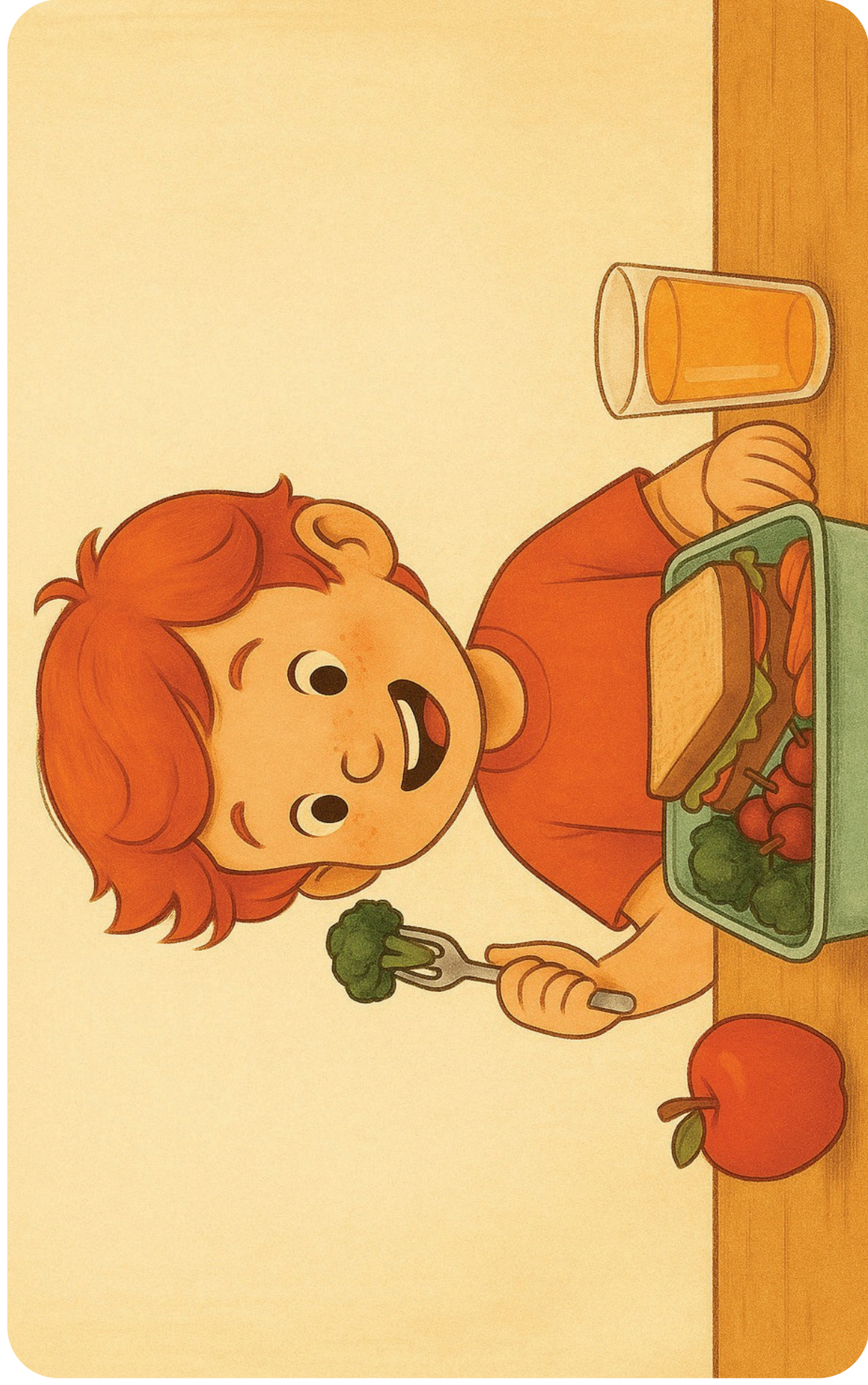
- Download music and/or sound effects on an authorized basis from a resource such as Apple Music®, Amazon Music®, and/or a sound effect library and have it ready to play. Or, if you choose to stream music, refer to the terms and conditions of your streaming service. Note that you will likely need a commercial license in order to stream music publicly. Also confirm that your church has appropriate licensing to perform music and sound effects in your kids' environments, such as a blanket PERFORMmusic™ license from CCS.
- Print out eight "Choices Images" (Laminate for durability if desired.)
- Before group time, use painter's tape or markers to attach pictures to the floor. Use the painter's tape to create a starting line about six feet away from each set of pictures. Place a beanbag on each of the four starting lines.



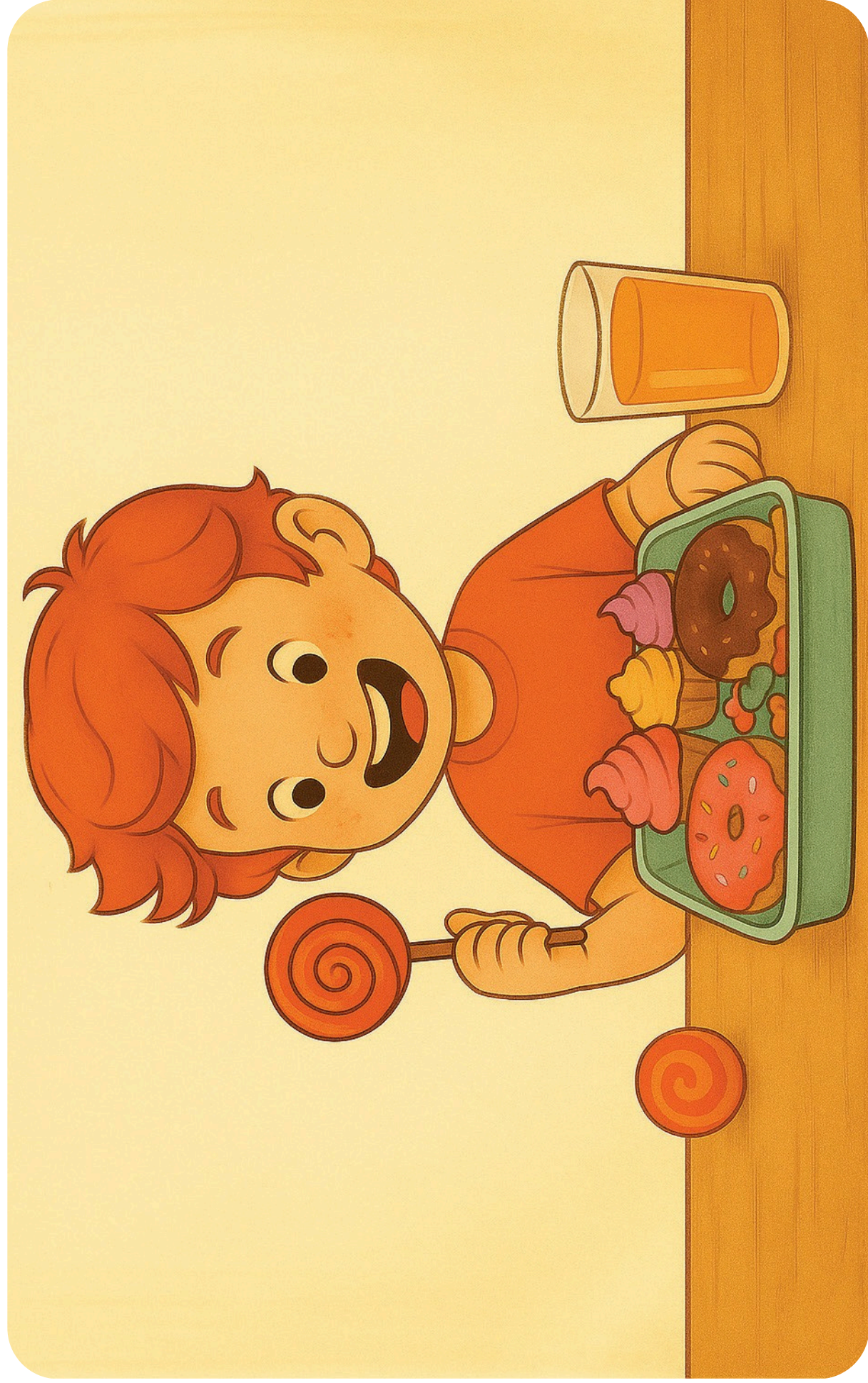
Sharing Toys



Not Sharing Toys



Eating Healthy



Eating Only Sweets



Helping a Friend



Ignoring Someone in Need



Studying for a Test



Playing Video Games
Instead of Studying