



WISDOM | WEEK 2 | OCTOBER 12, 2025 | ELEMENTARY

DAVID AND THE PSALMS

Key Application: Wisdom: Finding out God's best and doing it.

Bible Story: David and the Psalms • *Psalm 1:1-4 (supporting: Psalm 23:1-2; 8:1; 18:2)*

Key Question: How do you know what's wise?

Basic Truth: I am loved by God no matter what so I can trust God to guide me.

Memory Verse: It is much better to get wisdom than gold. It is much better to choose understanding than silver. Proverbs 16:16 (NIRV)

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

How many times recently have you heard a celebrity or influencer promote "you do you" or "live your truth"?

Though it's true God has created each of us with unique gifts and desires, it all falls apart if we don't seek wisdom from God in everything we say and do. Our world is all about popularity, appearance, and intelligence, but in God's kingdom, wisdom is of far greater value. Jesus showed us perfectly what a wise life looks like: stay connected to God and seek God's best in every circumstance. Then follow through and do it!

As we continue to journey with God's people through the story of Scripture, we meet the kings of Israel and Judah—those who made wise choices and those whose foolish choices brought down a nation. Through the lives of David and Solomon, we also take a look at the Bible's wisdom literature in the Psalms and Proverbs. Kids will discover that true wisdom comes through constant connection with God, just as a well-rooted tree on river banks draws life from the water. And the best news of all? God wants us to ask for wisdom and delights to give it.

Pre-Service Check List

- HUDDLE AS TEAM → You're in this together! Pray together and talk about the activities for the day.
- PLAY MUSIC
- PUT OUT TOYS → A welcoming environment is important! We want it to be obvious from the moment kids walk in that they belong HERE!
- PUT ASIDE DISTRACTIONS
- ENGAGE WITH KIDS

Morning Flow

Doors
Open
9:15/11:00

Large Group
Starts
9:35/11:20

Small Group
Starts
10:05/11:50

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN AND WELCOME (3 Minutes)

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN, SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS)

LGL: “Welcome everyone! I’m so glad you are able to come hang out with us in KidCity today. My name is [INSERT NAME]. We are going to have a lot of fun today, but before we do let’s go over these announcements/KidCity Expectations.

(SLIDE: COSTUME DAY) “Halloween is at the end of this month, and here in KidCity we like to dress up in family-friendly costumes on the last Sunday of the month! Feel free to wear your costume to church, just please nothing scary and no masks that cover your face.

(SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS) “Now, let’s quickly go over our KidCity Expectations (rules) so we can make sure that we make the most of our time today: *(Don’t dwell on these too long, but make sure you review them briefly so we can set everyone up for success.)*

1. Be Kind
2. Be Safe
3. Have Fun

LARGE GROUP GAME (5 Min)

NORTH AMERICA, SOUTH AMERICA

(No Supplies)

“Welcome to Wisdomland, everybody! Wisdomland is a theme park, but you don’t just ride roller coasters—you become wiser! God, the wisest, wants to go with you through every up and down of your life and help you make choices to help you live well. Let’s define WISDOM....

(SLIDE: KEY APPLICATION) Wisdom: Finding out God’s best and doing it.

“The Bible says wisdom is more precious than gold. When you find it, it helps you live a better life.

“Let’s check out our memory verse for the month.

(SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE) It is much better to get wisdom than gold. It is much better to choose understanding than silver. Proverbs 16:16 (Nlrv)

Take a minute to explain that ‘Psalm’ is a book in the Old Testament, and that the first number means ‘chapter’ and the second one means ‘verse’. ‘Nlrv’ is what translation the Bible is in. The Bible wasn’t originally written in English! There are different translations.

“You’ll have more time to practice this month’s verse, but for now let’s play a game!”

(SLIDES: GAME SLIDE with MUSIC)

HOW TO PLAY

- This is an all-play game that you can play either with elimination or just for fun. Your choice!
- Have kids all line up in a straight line down the middle of the room (you can put a tape line if you want or just stand where you want kids to line up). They are now standing on 'Central America'.
- Point to one wall and designate it as 'North America' and the opposite wall as 'South America'.
- Randomly call out one of the 'Americas'. Kids must run to the correct one.
 - To play elimination, kids that either arrive last or flinch in the wrong direction are out.
- You can try to trick kids by pointing to one 'America' but saying a different one, or by saying the same one twice.
- Make sure the game lasts no longer than 3 minutes.

"That was so fun! Now everyone stand up and let's worship God!"

WORSHIP (6-7 Minutes)

(VIDEO: PRAISE, I THANK GOD)

BIBLE STORY (12 Minutes)

(No Supplies)

"Today we are asking the question, 'How do you know what's wise?' We make decisions every day. In fact, kids make about 3000 decisions a day. That's a lot of choices! Some choices are easy, like, should I brush my teeth or not? The answer is yes, you definitely should. But some maybe aren't so straightforward. Like, my friend is sad. Do I not say anything and just give them a hug, or do I try to say something funny or encouraging to cheer them up?

"With all of these decisions to make every day, that brings me back to our question. 'How do you know what's wise?'

"The greatest source of wisdom is God and His Word. Let's check out what we can learn from Him today..."

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY 6 MIN)

"So, what about us? David wrote songs about every part of his life—joy, heartbreak, mess-ups, victories, questions, even doubts. He brought it all to God, over and over. He discovered that wisdom isn't about having the perfect answer every time. It's about going to God when you don't. It's about bringing everything—your best moments, your hardest choices, your mess-ups—to God, and trusting Him to lead you.

"Here's what's true: God's wisdom isn't just an old story or something for 'church people.' It's for you, right now, in the middle of whatever you're facing. You might not always feel wise. You might wonder:

(SLIDE: KEY QUESTION) 'How do you know what's wise?'



“That’s a good question. Start by doing what David did: focus on God. Ask Him for help. Look for wisdom in His Word, in the example of Jesus, and in people you trust who are following God too. So—what’s our part in the story? It’s to keep asking, ‘How do you know what’s wise?’ It’s to keep showing up, keep being honest, keep coming back to God—even when you’re not sure. You’re about to turn to our neighbors and answer this question, but I want you guys to think of specific examples of situations where you may not know what to do. Help each other think through solutions.

Got it? Alright, let’s turn and talk...”

(SLIDE: KEY QUESTION) ‘How do you know what’s wise?’

Have kids turn and talk to their shoulder partner for 60 seconds. Your KQ slide on Playlister will keep track of time for you. While kids are talking, walk around and listen in to what they are saying and give prompts if needed. Don’t try to resolve anything, kids will have a further discussion within their small group time.

“Ok friends, come back together in 3, 2, 1....

“I heard some great thoughts floating around. You are going to have more of a chance to talk about this in small group time, but for now let’s pray.

“God, thank You for being with us in the highs and lows, in every season. Thank You for giving us the book of Psalms, for showing us that we can bring You every feeling and every question. Please give us wisdom for our choices, courage to ask hard questions, and trust to follow where You lead. Help us remember that Your wisdom is for us, right now, every day. We want to be Your close friend and go through life with You. Please teach us how. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

DISMISS TO SMALL GROUPS



SMALL GROUP

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Consider praying before you start small group to set the tone. It is just as important as the activities.

TALK ABOUT IT (K-5th)

There are no right or wrong answers but try to challenge the kids to think deeper.

Key Question: How do you know what's wise?

(Answers will vary; Experience, when you mess up you are humble and learn from your mistakes, you remember what you've learned along the way, and you ask God for wisdom.)

LOOK IT UP (K-5th)

Grab Bibles, look up, and read the following passage.

Look Up: Psalm 1:1-4

Say: Psalms is right in the middle of the Bible and is in the Old Testament. King David wrote a lot, but not all of it. You can match up some of the psalms that David wrote with what is going on in his life (as found in the book of 1 Samuel).

PRACTICE IT (K-5th)

("Wisdom Nugget" Activity Page printed double-sided – 1 set per group, Bibles)

What You Do:

- Explain that the kids are going to be completing a series of challenges. After each challenge, they (the whole group) will get a 'nugget of wisdom'. The goal is to work together to earn all of the wisdom nuggets.
- After each 'challenge', flip the gold nugget card over and ask the questions on the back. Once answered, move to the next challenge. Be sure to read the questions in order.
- **Challenge #1:**
 - SAY: After David defeated Goliath he became a hero. However, King Saul became jealous of David and tried to kill him. David and his friends were forced to run for their lives.
 - DO: Run in place as fast as you can for 30 seconds (or 15 seconds if you lead K/1).
- **Challenge #2:**
 - SAY: David became king, just as God promised. David was far from perfect, but was called 'a man after God's own heart' because he always repented and came back to

God whenever he sinned or failed.

- DO: Read one of David's real prayers. Play a game of 'Draw Your Swords'. Each kid (or pair of kids) gets a Bible. The quickest to find and read out loud **Psalm 51:10** wins.
 - *K/1st Adaption: Still play as above, but only have kids find the book of Psalms. Take time to point them to the table of contents. You may need to write the word 'Psalm' on a piece of paper so they can see how it is spelled.*
- **Challenge #3:**
 - SAY: "When David was sad, he didn't pretend he was okay. He wrote things like: *(Open the Bible to 6:6 (NIRV)) and read.) My groaning has worn me out. All night long my tears flood my bed.* David didn't fake it for God.
 - DO: Plank for 30 seconds (or 45 for 4th-5th graders).
- **Challenge #4:**
 - SAY: Wisdom doesn't mean never having questions. Sometimes, wisdom means *asking* good questions. Sometimes, it means sitting in the tension of 'I don't know yet.' But the Psalms show us: if you want to be wise, you start by focusing on God. Not just looking for quick fixes or shortcuts, but really being honest with Him—about your struggles, your victories, and your doubts.
 - DO: 30 jumping jacks as fast as you can.

GET STRONGER (K-5th)

("New Testament" Activity Pages precut – 2-4 sets per group [Matthew-Colossians], Prizes [like DumDums], Bibles)

From September – November we will be focusing on kids learning the Books of the Bible. September will focus on the Old Testament. October will focus on the New Testament, and November will review both. Encourage kids to memorize the books by giving prizes to those who do. Kids can do it every week if they want! (without help, of course)

What To Say:

"This is the Bible. (Open to the Table of Contents) This is the Old Testament – it tells the story of how the world was broken by sin, but because of God's great love for us He promised to send a Savior. This is the New Testament. It tells us the good news of the promised Savior – Jesus! Jesus died on the cross and came back to life – defeating sin and death. Because of Him, we can have a right relationship with God again."

What You Do

- Pass out Bibles –3-4 kids per Bible.
- Open to the Table of Contents.
- Point out the list of Old and New Testament.
- Share with kids that this month we are going to work on memorizing the Books of the New Testament.
 - *There will be a prize for everyone who learns all the New Testament Books.*
- We will focus on **Matthew-Colossians** today and next week 1 Thessalonians-Revelation.
- Give each group of kids a set of New Testament books. On 'GO', have the teams put the books in order. Play 5 rounds of speed sorting, encouraging them to say the books out loud



- and in order after each round...and of course encouraging them to beat their previous time!
- Repetition is the key to memorizing. Have fun, make it a game and your kids will follow your lead.

PRAYER

What You Say:

“Dear God, thank you for giving us the wise example of King David. I pray that we also strive to become men and women after your own heart and that we come to you for everything! Amen.