



## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**Growin' Up**  
Jesus Grows in Wisdom  
Luke 2:41-52

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Wisdom is worth searching for.

### MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

If any of you needs wisdom,  
you should ask God for it. He will  
give it to you. God gives freely to  
everyone and doesn't find fault.  
James 1:5, NIV

### MONTHLY VIRTUE

Wisdom—Finding out what you  
should do and doing it

### BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

### PRELUDE: Setting the Tone for the Experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare. Check out our Pinterest page here <https://bit.ly/447HSZi> or a visual on some of the activities.

### SMALL GROUP

15  
MIN

#### SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

Early Arriver  
Opening Activity

### LARGE GROUP

35  
MIN

#### STORY: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways WORSHIP: Inviting People to Respond to God

Opener  
Worship  
Bible Story  
Bottom Line  
What's Our Part in the Story?  
Prayer

### SMALL GROUP

25  
MIN

#### GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Bible Story Review: Treasure Map  
Application Activity: Treasure Hunt  
Memory Verse Activity: Find the Pearl of Wisdom  
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

### HOME: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)  
Devotionals for Kids  
Parent Cue App



WEEK  
**ONE**  
AUGUST 2024

SMALL GROUP  
**K-1**

**PRELUDE      SOCIAL      STORY      WORSHIP      GROUPS      HOME**

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

### MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding



*Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Pray for insight to keep learning from your mistakes and from the people around you. Ask God to help the kids of your group discover what to do with the wisdom they gain from your time together.*

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**Growin' Up**  
Jesus Grows in Wisdom  
Luke 2:41-52

### 1. EARLY ARRIVER

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Offering container, and magnifying glass

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- As kids arrive, greet them by name and welcome them to the group!
- Encourage kids who have brought an offering to put it in the offering container.
- When enough kids have arrived, hold up your magnifying glass and ask kids if they know what it's called and what it's used for.
- Look at each kid with the magnifying glass and say, "Good morning! I spy with my little eye, someone named [kid's name]! I'm so glad you're here!"
- Invite the kids to take turns leading a game of I Spy. (Lead a sample round first.)
  - Choose one kid to go first, and give them the magnifying glass to hold during their turn.
  - Direct them to say: "I spy with my little eye, something or someone that's [description]."
  - Share that the descriptions that kids provide can include a clue about color, size, use, etc.
- Encourage the kid who guesses correctly to lead the next round.
- Continue until all kids who would like to have a turn have gone.

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**Wisdom is worth searching for.**

### MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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James 1:5, NIV

### MONTHLY VIRTUE

**Wisdom—Finding out what you should do and doing it**

### BASIC TRUTH

**I can trust God no matter what.**



WEEK  
**ONE**  
AUGUST 2024

SMALL GROUP  
**K-1**

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 working as a group



### 2. OPENING ACTIVITY

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Small plastic gems; *Optional: use "Gems" Activity Page instead*

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- If you have not already done so, ask kids to close their eyes as you "hide" the gems all around your group area.
- Show kids one of the gems so they know what to look for.
- Explain that they will be working together to find a different kind of gem each round.
- Describe the first type of gem that you'd like the kids to look for.
- While the kids are still seated, direct the kids to look around the group space to see if they can find that gem.
- Invite kids to stand up, retrieve the matching gem, and bring it to you.
  - Depending on your group size, kids can search all at once for all of the gems, or they can take turns finding one gem at a time.
- After each round, look at the gem that was found to make sure it is the correct gem.
- Describe the next type of gem to search for, and repeat until all gems have been found.

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### MONTHLY VIRTUE

Wisdom—Finding out what you should do and doing it

### BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Excellent searching, friends! Great job finding all of the treasure that was hidden! **[Transition]** Today we're discovering something else that's worth searching for. Let's find out what Jesus searched for!"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

*NOTE: If today is promotion week and you have a new group of kindergartners, take a moment to explain what is about to happen. They will handle change better if they know what's coming. For instance, you might say, "Friends, we're going to walk together as a group to our Large Group room. Once we arrive, we'll sit together with all the other small groups to sing in worship and listen to our Bible Story. Then we'll travel together right back here to our Small Group spot."*



WEEK  
**ONE**  
AUGUST 2024

SMALL GROUP  
**K-1**

PRELUDE      SOCIAL      STORY      WORSHIP      GROUPS      HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing



### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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### MONTHLY VIRTUE

Wisdom—Finding out what you should do and doing it

### BASIC TRUTH

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## \* 1. TREASURE MAP

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Story Images" Activity Pages, "Treasure Map" Activity Page, and pencils (or crayons or markers)

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Review the events from the Bible Story by showing kids the pictures from the "Story Images" Activity Pages.
- Read the caption at the bottom of each page to review the story.
- Give each kid a "Treasure Map" Activity Page and a pencil to draw with.
  - Or, set out crayons or markers for kids to share, if that's a better fit for your group.
- Explain that kids will fill in each empty bubble of their "Treasure Map" Activity Page by drawing pictures that go along with today's story.
- Direct the kids to find the first bubble on their "Treasure Map" Activity Page with "Start" and the "1" near it.
- Show kids the first picture from the "Story Images" Activity Pages by holding it up.
- Read the caption at the bottom of the "Story Images" Activity Page to review that part of the story.
- Ask kids to illustrate their own drawing of this part of the story inside the first bubble on their "Treasure Map" Activity Page.
  - Encourage kids to be creative and come up with their own drawings based on that part of the story.
  - Continue to hold up the first picture for reference for kids who need it.
- When kids have finished drawing in the first bubble, continue in the same way until kids have finished filling in each bubble on their "Treasure Map" Activity Page.
- Help kids write their names somewhere on their paper, then set them aside for later.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

"Your treasure maps look amazing! Treasure maps help you find something special if you follow them carefully. Mary and Joseph were definitely searching for something, well, Someone, very special!"

"When they finally found Jesus, where was He? (*Invite responses.*) Yes! Jesus was in the temple, listening and asking questions. He was in a place where wisdom could be found! After that, Jesus returned home to Nazareth with His parents and continued to obey them. As He grew up, Jesus became wiser and stronger and grew in His relationships with God and other people.

"It's important for us to remember that if Jesus was searching and growing in wisdom, then it's important for us too! His example shows us that **wisdom is worth searching for.**"



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### (\* 1. TREASURE MAP, CONTINUED)

*[Make It Personal] (Share an age-appropriate story from your life where you had to search for wisdom to know what to do in a situation, and then had to put it into practice. It could be a time you had to comfort someone or a time you reacted to a situation where you were being honored and had to decide between humility or pride, etc. )*



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

## MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery



## 2. TREASURE HUNT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Wisdom Hunt" Activity Page, yarn, tape, and treasure chest (or brown paper bag)

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Show kids the prepared treasure chest (or brown paper bag).
- Invite the kids to guess what's inside the treasure chest (or brown paper bag).
- Tell kids the treasure chest is full of gems to help us figure out all the different ways we can find wisdom.
- Remind kids that wisdom is finding out what you should do and doing it.
- Choose one kid to go first.
- Invite them to "find" the first gem by slowly pulling the yarn from the treasure chest (or bag) until they reveal a gem.
- Read the word on the gem.
- Choose another kid to go next, revealing the next gem, and so on.
- Continue until the yarn has been removed from the treasure chest completely (after all five gems have been revealed and read).
- Return the prepared yarn to the treasure chest (or bag) after the first five kids.
- Repeat until all kids have had a chance to reveal a gem.
- Discuss how each gem helps us grow in wisdom.
  - Oops: We can learn from our mistakes, so we know how to make a better choice next time.
  - Family: We can learn from the people closest to us when they make wise choices.
  - Friends: When we have friends who follow Jesus, we can learn about wisdom from them too!
  - Bible: We can learn a lot about wisdom from God's Word—it's full of wise sayings and stories from which we can learn wisdom.
  - Prayer: We can talk to God and ask for help making wise choices.

## TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

### Growin' Up

Jesus Grows in Wisdom  
Luke 2:41-52

## TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Wisdom is worth searching for.

## MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone and doesn't find fault.

James 1:5, NIV

## MONTHLY VIRTUE

Wisdom—Finding out what you should do and doing it

## BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

"We usually think of 'treasure' as being something we can hold on to and enjoy looking at or playing with. Even though wisdom is something we can't hold onto, it's an amazing treasure we can always keep! The story we heard about Jesus today shows us that **wisdom is worth searching for!**

"Wisdom isn't just being smart or knowing things. Wisdom is knowing what to DO with what you learn. As we saw on the gems we discovered, there are some great people and things all around us that can help us find wisdom! We can talk to God anytime and learn from the Bible. Once we learn what we should do, then we need to do it! It's good to learn and know, but then we need to put wisdom into practice and do it!"





WEEK  
**ONE**  
AUGUST 2024

SMALL GROUP  
**K-1**

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

**MADE TO MOVE**

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



**3. FIND THE PEARL OF WISDOM**  
[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Bibles prepared with "Pearls of Wisdom" Activity Page

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Give each kid a prepared Bible and explain that they will find a pearl of wisdom hidden inside.
- If the kids are struggling to find the "pearl of wisdom" in James 1:5, help lead them to it by using the Bible Navigation Tips below:

***Finding verses with kindergartners:** Guide children to open the Bibles to the marked page. Point to the word James at the top of the page as you say "James" aloud. Then guide children to find the big number 1 on the page. Explain that this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big 1 for the little 5; this is the verse number. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read the verse aloud. Then lead everyone to say the verse together.*

***Finding verses with 1st graders:** Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find James in the list under "New Testament." You can help by telling them that James starts with the letters J-A. When the kids find James, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find James. Help the kids find the page. When they find James, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 1. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 5 in chapter 1.*

- Once each kid has found the pearl, read the Memory Verse aloud to the group a few times.
- Ask:
  - Who does this verse say sometimes needs wisdom? (anyone)
  - Where should we go to find it? (God)
  - How do we "get" wisdom from God? (ask)
  - Do we have to wonder if God will give us wisdom or not? (No—God gives it to us freely and generously.)
  - So, what's the best way to find wisdom? (ask God)
- Invite all the kids to hold their pearls and stand up on one side of your group space.
- When you say, "go!" instruct the kids to run to the other side of your group space, place their pearls on the floor, then run back and sit down.
- When all the kids have returned, invite them one at a time (or in smaller groups) to run back to the other side of the room, pick up any pearl, and return to their spot.

**TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

**Growin' Up**

Jesus Grows in Wisdom  
Luke 2:41-52

**TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

Wisdom is worth searching for.

**MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE**

**If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone and doesn't find fault.**

James 1:5, NIV

**MONTHLY VIRTUE**

Wisdom—Finding out what you should do and doing it

**BASIC TRUTH**

I can trust God no matter what.



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### (3. FIND THE PEARL OF WISDOM, CONTINUED)

- Tell kids to look at their pearls carefully.
- Ask them if the words or anything else changed on the pearl they picked up.
- Say: "Each pearl looks the same. The words did not change because God's Word is always true. We can ask God for wisdom, and God will give it to us."

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

"Remember that wisdom is finding out what you should do and doing it. This verse shows us where we should go to find wisdom because **wisdom is worth searching for!** We learned in our Bible Story today that Jesus grew in wisdom, and we can see in our verse that God says we can ask for it. Take your Memory Verse pearls home with you this week and let them remind you to ask God for wisdom."





WEEK  
**ONE**  
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SMALL GROUP  
**K-1**

**PRELUDE      SOCIAL      STORY      WORSHIP      GROUPS      HOME**

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

**MADE TO REFLECT**

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application



**TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

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Jesus Grows in Wisdom  
Luke 2:41-52

**TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

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**MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE**

**If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone and doesn't find fault.**  
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**MONTHLY VIRTUE**

Wisdom—Finding out what you should do and doing it

**BASIC TRUTH**

I can trust God no matter what.

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

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Pearls of Wisdom" Activity Pages from the previous activity, and Bible

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Direct the kids to sit or stand with a pearl from the "Pearls of Wisdom" Activity Page.
- Open the Bible to James 1:5.
- Instruct the kids to hold their pearls up in the air each time they hear the words "wisdom" or "God" in the Memory Verse you're going to read.
- Read the Memory Verse to the kids, pausing for them to raise and then lower their pearl each time you say "wisdom" or "God."
- Remind kids that they can ask God for wisdom anytime, and God will give it to them.
- Close the group time in prayer.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"God, thank You for today! Thank You for giving us such great Bible Stories to learn more about You! And, thank You for showing us that even Jesus searched for wisdom! Please give us wisdom to make good, wise choices this week in everything we do. Thank You for promising to give us wisdom when we ask. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, invite kids to show their "Treasure Map" Activity Page to retell today's Bible Story.



WEEK  
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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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HOME

## GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

### SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

(Choose one or both of these activities.)

#### 1. EARLY ARRIVER

**Made to Connect:** an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

- Offering container
- Magnifying glass, one for each Small Group

#### 2. OPENING ACTIVITY

**Made to Play:** an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Small plastic gems, 10-20 for each Small Group
  - *Optional: Print "Gems" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart, two to four sets for each Small Group instead*
- Before group time:
  - "Hide" the gems all around your group space in a way they can be seen from where kids are seated.

### GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

(Choose as many of these activities as you like.)

\* If you don't have time to do all these activities, be sure to do activity #1.

#### \* 1. TREASURE MAP

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**Made to Create:** an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print "Story Images" Activity Pages on paper, one set for each Small Group

- Print "Treasure Map" Activity Page on paper, one for each kid
- Pencils, one for each kid
  - Or crayons or markers (enough for each Small Group to share)

#### 2. TREASURE HUNT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**Made to Explore:** an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print "Wisdom Hunt" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart, one set for each Small Group
- Yarn, one skein for each Small Group
- Tape, one roll for each Small Group
- Treasure chest or brown paper bag, one for each Small Group
- Before group time:
  - Cut a piece of yarn about 8 feet long.
  - Tape the gems from the "Wisdom Hunt" Activity Page onto the yarn.
  - Leave a couple of inches of space on the ends of the yarn and between each gem.
  - Place the prepared yarn inside the treasure chest or bag with one of the ends peeking out.
  - *NOTE: Kids will be slowly pulling the yarn out to reveal gems, so avoid tangling the yarn.*

#### 3. FIND THE PEARL OF WISDOM

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

**Made to Move:** an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bibles, one for each kid
- Print "Pearls of Wisdom" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart, one pearl for each kid
- Before group time:
  - Place a pearl inside each Bible to mark it at James 1:5.



WEEK  
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**K-1**

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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GROUPS

HOME

## GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

### 4. PRAY AND DISMISS

#### [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

*Made to Reflect:* an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

#### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Pearls of Wisdom from the "Find the Pearl of Wisdom" activity, one for each kid
- Bible
  - *NOTE: If you did not do the "Find the Pearl of Wisdom Activity, print the "Pearls of Wisdom" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart one pearl for each kid.*

#### HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource: **Parent Cue app.**