



WEEK  
**THREE**  
AUGUST 2024

SMALL GROUP  
**K-5**  
STARTER

## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

**NOTE:** This version of the curriculum is designed especially for churches with fewer leaders and kids. You may want to use it if you have just one or two leaders and if you combine all your kids in both Large and Small Group time.

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**Much Needed Advice**  
Rehoboam Listens to Fools  
2 Chronicles 10  
(supporting: Proverbs 13:20)

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Hang out with wise people.

### 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 need to make the wise choice.

### 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> for 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: Loud Talkers  
Application Activity: Sharks and Sea Turtles  
Memory Verse Activity: Dive Chain  
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

### HOME: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

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



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**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. Thank God for the wise people in your life who have led you to make wise choices and follow Jesus. Ask God to help the kids in your group discover that who they spend time with impacts their wisdom and the choices they make.*

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### MONTHLY VIRTUE

Wisdom—Finding out what you should do and doing it

### BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.

### 1. EARLY ARRIVER

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Offering container, drawing paper, coloring materials, and dry-erase board and dry-erase marker (or poster board and washable marker)

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive to group.
- Encourage kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- As kids arrive, ask them to share if they could be an underwater sea creature for a day, which one they would choose to become, and why.
- When enough kids have arrived, give each one a piece of drawing paper.
- Set out the coloring materials.
- Using a dry-erase board and dry-erase marker (or poster board and washable marker), show kids how to draw two or three large circles on their paper.
- Instruct the kids to copy those circles on their paper.
- Encourage the kids to fill in those circles by writing the names of different groups of people (one category per circle).
- Some ideas for each category could be:
  - names of the kids from a team they're on
  - names of school friends
  - names of online gamer friends
  - names of neighborhood friends
  - names of church friends, etc.
- Help younger kids with writing names, as needed.
- Invite kids to share their circle categories with the group.
- Talk about what these groups have in common, and what makes them different.



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**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:** Drawing paper, and crayons or markers

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Invite kids to think about people they know who are wise.
  - If further prompting is needed, ask:
    - “Who helps you when you don’t know what to do?”
    - “Who gives good advice about getting along with friends?”
    - “Who have you seen make choices that help keep people safe?”
- Give each kid a piece of paper.
- Set out the markers or crayons.
- Instruct the kids to draw a picture of the person they’re thinking of who is wise.
- As kids are working, ask them to share stories of when they noticed their person making a wise choice.
- When everyone is finished, invite them to share with the group who they drew and why.
- Collect their drawings.
- Set the drawings out face down on one side of your group space.
- Gather the kids on the other side of your group space.
- When you say, “Go,” direct each kid one at a time to walk to the other side of the group space and choose one paper at random to flip over.
  - If the kid happens to flip over their paper, direct them to go back to the other side of your group space.
  - If the kid flips over someone else’s paper, give them time to figure out who it belongs to and hand it to them.
- Once everyone has their original paper, invite them to return back to the other side of the group space.

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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 need to make the wise choice.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

“We have a lot of people around us who say a LOT of stuff, but how do we know who to trust with the BIG stuff? When you have a decision to make or need important advice, who do you talk to? **[Transition] Today, we’re going to hear about what happened when someone had a big decision to make and asked the wrong people for help.**”

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment



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## 1. LOUD TALKERS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Loud Talkers Script" Activity Page

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Explain that you will review today's Bible story, and each time you mention certain people from the story, you'll pause for kids to respond with the responses below.
- Review the following people from the story, teach the kids their responsive role, and practice them a few times together.
  - Solomon: *Direct kids to say, "All hail the king!"*
  - Rehoboam: *Direct kids to say, "I don't know?"*
  - Wise Advisors: *Direct kids to say, "Make the wise choice!"*
  - Friends: *Direct kids to say, "Brooooooo!" ("Bro," drawn out)*
  - Israelites: *Direct kids to make angry crowd noise.*
- Once kids understand their responsive roles, read the "Loud Talkers Script" Activity Page with enthusiasm—pausing slightly each time kids need to contribute a character response (which is in bold).

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

"When Rehoboam chose to listen to the foolish words of his friends rather than the wise words of his experienced advisors, it led to disaster. Why do you think Rehoboam listened to his friends instead of to the wise advisors? (*Invite responses.*)

"Who are some of the wise advisors in your life? (*Invite responses.*) Think about people in your life who might give you foolish advice if you ask. When you are deciding how to act at different times, who are you most likely to listen to? Older people like teachers, coaches, and parents? Or your friends? Why? (*Invite responses.*)

"When it comes to making wise choices, you should **hang out with wise people**. God wants us to become more like Jesus in everything we do—including our choices."



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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



**\* 2. SHARKS AND SEA TURTLES**  
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** No supplies needed

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Direct the kids to form a large, standing circle.
- Teach the kids dive hand signs for shark and sea turtle:
  - Shark: Put one hand on the top of your head, sticking straight up, palm facing the side, like a shark fin
  - Sea Turtle: Place one open hand on top of the other and rotate both thumbs to look like a turtle
- Instruct the kids to “swim” in place with their arms until you make the sign for either shark or turtle.
- Make a sign for “shark” or “sea turtle.”
- Direct the kids to copy the sign you make.
- Inform the last kid to make the sign to be out.
- Play several rounds as time allows—have older kids take turns to be the dive leader, if desired.

**TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

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(supporting: Proverbs 13:20)

**TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

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**MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE**

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**MONTHLY VIRTUE**

Wisdom—Finding out what you  
should do and doing it

**BASIC TRUTH**

I need to make the wise choice.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

“If you're diving in the ocean, what's the biggest difference between a shark and a sea turtle? (*Invite responses—sharks are dangerous.*) You probably won't come across a shark on the playground or in your backyard, but sometimes the choices we make are like sharks and sea turtles—choices that could be dangerous and choices that are safe.

“You want people in your life who can help you tell the difference between those kind of choices. You don't want a friend who is always encouraging you to make ‘shark’ choices. You want friends to share cool experiences and make ‘sea turtle’ choices. You want to **hang out with wise people.**”

“We can grow in wisdom by spending time with people who follow Jesus and make good choices. Ask your parents or other wise adults for advice and help. Notice which of your friends and classmates make wise choices. It's important to be friendly and kind to everyone, but you want to spend the MOST time with people who you know are wise.”

**[Make It Personal]** (*Share about wise friends you've had as a kid or as an adult—what makes you think they are wise? What kind of choices do they make, or advice do they give? If you have an age-appropriate story to share about a ‘shark’ type of friend, you can let kids know that sometimes shark friends seem cool, but following their advice leads to problems.*)



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

## (\* 2. SHARKS AND SEA TURTLES, CONTINUED)

*Optional Discussion Questions for Older Kids*

If you lead 4th, 5th, or 6th graders, consider asking these discussion questions:

- Who do you know who is wise? How do you know they're wise?
- Have you ever followed bad advice? What happened?
- How can you be sure to **hang out with wise people?**





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25 MINUTES

### MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group



### 3. DIVE CHAIN [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY] WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Divide the group into teams with 2-4 kids in each one.
- Give each group a Bible.
- Together, look up James 1:5, following the Bible Navigation Tips below:

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

#### Much Needed Advice

Rehoboam Listens to Fools  
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**Finding verses with a multi-age group:** Guide all kids 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, ask a middle elementary kid (2nd-3rd grade) to find James in the list under "New Testament." When the kid finds James, lead them to look at the page number beside the word and say it aloud, explaining that the number tells them on what page they can find James. Ask older elementary kids (4th-5th grade) to help younger ones find the correct page in their own Bibles. When they all find James, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Ask a kindergartner or 1st grader to find chapter 1, and give time for all the kids to turn the pages to find it. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers, and ask a middle elementary kid to find verse 5 in chapter 1. Then, read the verse slowly, especially for your pre-readers; or ask older elementary kids to read it to the group.

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Hang out with wise people.

- Assign each team a different part of the verse to come up with a dive sign for.
- Give teams some time to agree on a dive sign or hand motion for their part of the verse.
- Ask the teams to line up in verse order, but with space between each team.
- Direct the team with the first part of the verse to "swim" to the next team and show their dive sign.
- Instruct that team with the second part of the verse to "swim" to the next group, make the sign they were shown, and add their own sign as well.
- Direct the teams to continue in this way until the verse is completed.
- By the last group, there should be signs for each part of the verse.
- Bring everyone together.
- Make the dive signs for the whole verse as you say the verse together.

### 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

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

"You guys came up with some really cool signs! And now we know our whole verse! Our verse reminds us that God will give wisdom to anyone who asks. God wants us to grow in wisdom and become more like Jesus. The more we **hang out with wise people**, the more we become like Jesus.

### MONTHLY VIRTUE

Wisdom—Finding out what you should do and doing it

### BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.

"If you don't have wise friends in your life, what should you do? (Invite responses, like: ask God to bring you wise friends, look for people making wise choices and become friends, ask wise adults for advice, etc.) If you do have wise friends in your life, what should you do? (Invite responses, like: spend more time with them, talk about important stuff together, pray with them, thank God for them, etc.)



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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



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

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Index cards, construction paper, or blank greeting cards; coloring materials; and pens or pencils

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Set out the supplies.
- Invite kids to make a thank-you card for someone in their life who has given them wisdom or good advice—a friend, classmate, teacher, teammate, coach, grandparent, or leader.
- When everyone is finished, close in prayer.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

“Dear God, thank You for these friends and leaders in our lives. Thanks for giving us good opportunities to **hang out with wise people**. Please help us listen to those around us who are giving good advice and who point us to You when we need wisdom. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, ask kids to demonstrate the shark and sea turtle signs to their families. Explain that those signs show wise and dangerous choices. Encourage families to use those signs as reminders when they need to make the wise choice.

**TODAY’S BIBLE STORY**

**Much Needed Advice**

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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

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Offering container
- Drawing paper, one piece for each kid
- Coloring materials, enough for each Small Group to share
- Dry-erase board and dry-erase marker (or poster board and washable marker), one set 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:**

- Drawing paper, one piece for each kid
- Crayons or markers, enough for each Small Group to share

### 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 #2.

#### 1. LOUD TALKERS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**Made to Imagine:** an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Print "Loud Talkers Script" Activity Page on paper, one for each Small Group

#### \* 2. SHARKS AND SEA TURTLES

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- No supplies needed

#### 3. DIVE CHAIN

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

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

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Bibles, one for every 2-4 kids

#### 4. PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

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

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Index cards, construction paper, or blank greeting cards; one for each kid
- Coloring materials, enough for each Small Group to share
- Pens or pencils, one 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.**