



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Too Much
Too Much of a Good Thing
Proverbs 25:16

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Know when to stop.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

God's power has given us
everything we need to lead
a godly life.
2 Peter 1:3a, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Self-control—Choosing to do what's
best even when you don't want to

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.

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 ("Sing Your Praise" and "I'm So Grateful")
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: Know When to Stop (*k-1st grade*), Wheel of Winning (*2nd-3rd grade*)
Application Activity: Stack the Cats (*k-1st grade*), Spinning in Control (*2nd-3rd grade*)
Memory Verse Activity: Sweet! (*k-1st grade*), Fill in the Blank (*2nd-3rd grade*)
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

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



WEEK
FOUR
OCTOBER 2024

LARGE GROUP
K-3

PRELUDE **SOCIAL** **STORY** **WORSHIP** **GROUPS** **HOME**

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS KIDS ENTER.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

Host enters.

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME INTRO

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

OPENER

HOST: "Helloooooooo, everyone! I'm so glad to see all of your smiling faces. It's a great month here at [name of your environment] as we find out how God can help us choose what's best. "To start us off today . . . are you ready for some game show fun? *(Pause for response.)* Well, get up on your feet and get ready to play '_____!'"

SLIDE:

"_____!"

AUDIO: FUN, INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Go through as many of the game questions as you have time for. Give the kids a different fun action to do each time if they got the question right (as noted on the sheet).

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

"All right—everybody give yourselves a big hand! You did great! Stay on your feet, because it's time for us to lift our voices and worship God."



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

WORSHIP LEADER: "I've been waiting for this moment all week. I love it when we come together to lift our voices and worship God. God is SO good, always! God is faithful—through anything we might face in life. We can trust God over and over again. Because of that, God deserves our praise. Let's sing his praise right now!"

VIDEO: "SING YOUR PRAISE" LIVE LYRICS

"Have you ever thought about how great and how GOOD God is? God shows us what's right and which way to go. As David wrote in Psalm 23:6: *'I am sure that your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life. And I will live in the house of the Lord forever.'* (NirV)

Isn't that amazing? His goodness follows us. His love follows us. For all of our days. That's good news. Let's sing God's praises with everything we've got and express how grateful we are to him! Let's go!

VIDEO: "I'M SO GRATEFUL" LIVE LYRICS



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BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "Hi, everyone! Today I want to tell you a Bible story. (*Hold up Bible.*) Although actually, this isn't so much a story, but more of a wise idea of how we can choose what's best. "We can find this idea here in the Bible, in the book of Proverbs. This book is a collection of lots of wise sayings, or proverbs . . . many of which came from King Solomon. "You might remember how Solomon became king over God's people at a young age. He was worried about leading an entire nation without having any experience. "One night, God spoke to Solomon in a dream. God told Solomon that he could have ANY gift he wanted. Solomon could have asked for money or power, but instead, he asked God for wisdom so he could be the best leader for the people. And sure enough, God made Solomon one of the wisest people who ever lived. "Many of the wise things Solomon learned and said were written down and collected here in the book of Proverbs. (*Hold up Bible.*) These wise sayings can help us make wise decisions in our lives today.

TOO MUCH HONEY

STORYTELLER: "I've got a wise idea here that Solomon shared in Proverbs 25:16. This wise Idea Involves food. Actually, It Involves something that's really yummy. Let's see If you can guess what food Solomon Is talking about.

- It's really sweet
- You usually don't eat It by Itself - you put It on or In other stuff
- It's sticky
- Bees make It

You got It. Honey! Let's hear what Solomon had to say about honey? All right—listen to this.

Open the Bible to Proverbs 25:16 (NIRV) and read.

If you find honey, eat just enough.

If you eat too much of it, you will throw up. (NIRV)

"Whoa! Let me read that again.

If you find honey, eat just enough.

If you eat too much of it, you will throw up. (NIRV)

"In Solomon's time, people didn't have much sugar of any kind.

Hold up the container of honey.

"So if someone found honey, it was a big deal!



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“Raise your hand if you like to eat honey. *(Pause for response.)* How about cookies or candy? *(Pause for response.)* I thought so. Most of us really like to eat sweet things. But I bet you’ve already discovered something important about sweet treats—if you eat too much, that’s when something good turns bad. If you just keep eating, you’ll make yourself sick. So it’s important that we **know when to stop**.

Set down the honey.

MORE THAN HONEY

STORYTELLER: “Now I’ve got a question for you. Do you think this wise idea Solomon shared is **ONLY** true about honey? Was Solomon just really into sweet treats or do you think he was talking about other stuff as well?”

This idea is about more than just honey . . . or even cookies or candy. “You see, **ANY** good thing in your life is a gift from God. You can probably think of your favorite toys or sports or things you like to do in your free time. There’s nothing wrong with those things. God wants us to enjoy them! And we can really love them and appreciate them if we spend the right amount of time on them. But any good thing can get out of control and cause trouble if we don’t know when to stop.

FACE-OFFS

STORYTELLER: “Let me show you what I mean with a face-off. “I’ll read some different examples of things that might happen in your life.

SLIDE: “FACE OFF” STORY SLIDE

“If you look on the screen, you’ll see a thumbs-up on this side *(reference that side of the room)*, and a thumbs-down on this side *(reference the other side of the room)*. When I read the situation, I want you to turn and face the direction of how you think you’d feel in that situation. In other words, would you feel good *(face the ‘thumbs-up’ direction)* . . . or not so good *(face the thumbs-down direction)*? Ready? Let’s go!

*Note: For this section, use the printed script for reference.
Put on the pair of sunglasses.*

“You stay out in the sun too long and you get a sunburn. Do you feel good . . . or not so good? *(Pause for response.)*

Put down the sunglasses. Pick up the children’s book.

“You just picked up a new book from the library that you’ve been looking forward to reading. You set a timer and read for 15 minutes. Do you feel good . . . or not so good? *(Pause for response.)*

Put down the book. Pick up the bag of chips.

“You’ve found a big bag of chips in the pantry, and you sit in front of the TV and eat every single one. Do you feel good . . . or not so good? *(Pause for response.)*



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Put down the chips. Pick up the video game controller.

“You got a new video game, and instead of playing for 10 minutes like usual, you played for a whole hour! How do you feel? Good . . . or not so good? *(Pause for response.)*”

Put down the video game controller. Pick up the cookie.

“You get home from school and discover that your grandma baked fresh cookies! Yum! You decide to have just one cookie for now, and a small glass of milk. Do you feel good . . . or not so good? *(Pause for response.)*”

Put down the cookie. Pick up the megaphone.

“You get into an argument with your friend and you just want to yell at her! But you don’t. You stay calm. You use your words to explain how you feel. And you’re able to talk with her and make things right. Does that make you feel good . . . or not so good? *(Pause for response.)*”

Put down the megaphone.

“Okay, great job, everyone! You can have a seat.”

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “All of those examples were good things, right? And when we stay in control of those things . . . when we **know when to stop** . . . we feel good! But if we have too much of something, or spend too much time DOING something, and we lose control . . . we feel . . . well, not so good.

“It’s important that we **know when to stop**. Remember, that’s what Solomon said:

Open the Bible to Proverbs 25:16 (NirV) and read.

If you find honey, eat just enough. (NirV)

“That’s true about honey and sweet treats, and it’s also true about other good things in our lives. Remember, God is always there to help us so that we’ll **know when to stop**. “That’s something for us to keep in mind this week, and all the time:

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

“**Know when to stop**. Say that with me.”

STORYTELLER AND KIDS: “**Know when to stop**.”

VIDEO: PLAY LIVE LOUD



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PRELUDE **SOCIAL** **STORY** **WORSHIP** **GROUPS** **HOME**

25 MINUTES

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

WHAT'S OUR PART IN THE STORY?

HOST: *(Picking up the honey container)* "Mmmm, honey! I do love honey . . . but Solomon was right. I wouldn't want to have too much of it."

STORYTELLER: "That's some good self-control, [Host's name]!"

SLIDE: VIRTUE

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME TRANSITION TO VIRTUE

"Self-control is about choosing to do what's best even when you don't want to."

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): VIRTUE TRANSITION TO THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

HOST: "God has given us lots of good things in life. And with God's help, we'll be able to have self-control so we can really enjoy those things without letting them take over all of our time or energy."

STORYTELLER: "If there's something that's hard for you to stop, talk to someone about it. Talk to God about it. Ask God to help you stay in control."

HOST: "That's right. This isn't something you have to do by yourself. When we follow Jesus, God sends the Holy Spirit to live inside of us. Self-control is actually something God's Spirit creates IN us . . ."

STORYTELLER: ". . . so that we'll **know when to stop!**"

HOST: "Let's pray and ask God to help us do that."

PRAYER

STORYTELLER OR HOST: "Dear God, thank You for the way You give us good gifts. Thank You for the things in our lives that we love to do, and thank You for the people You've put around us. Please guide us to **[Basic Truth]** make the wise choice and live each day with self-control. Show us how to pause and stay in control of the good things in our lives so that they don't end up causing trouble for us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP