

K-3rd

Large Group

October — Week 3

# Large Group Leader Guide

## Today's Suggested Schedule

### 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 (10 minutes)

#### Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Opening Activity

### Large Group (30 minutes)

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

### Small Group (15 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect 1. Bible Story

### Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

→ Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)

→ Devotionals for Kids

→ Parent Cue App and ParentCue.org

THIS MONTH



### Today's Bible Story

## Solomon Chooses Wisdom

1 Kings 3:4-15

### Bottom Line

**You can ask God for wisdom.**

### Memory Verse

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

Proverbs 16:16 NIRV



### Inclusive Pro Tips

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.

5 MINUTES

# Opener

10 MINUTES

# Worship

20 MINUTES

# Story

## ① Opener

AUDIO → Play high-energy music as kids enter.

SLIDE → Theme

Optional Video → Theme Loop

→ Host enters.

Optional Video → Countdown

Optional Video → Theme Intro

Optional Video → Theme Loop

HOST: “Welcome to Wisdomland, everybody! (WAVE TO EVERYONE!)”

“I’m so glad you’re here for another super-special day at our very own theme park—Wisdomland! Give me your biggest, silliest rollercoaster scream! (PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.) Whoa! That was awesome!”

“All summer long, we’re learning to seek God to know which path we should follow—just like you would on a map at the world’s coolest theme park! Here at Wisdomland, there are also rides and games, and we’re learning that God goes with us through every single thing!”

“At Wisdomland, there’s SO much to discover—but the most important thing we can find here is WISDOM. Does anybody know what wisdom is? (LET A FEW KIDS ANSWER.)”

“Those are great ideas! Wisdom means making good choices. When you make good choices, you live wisely and well, and God wants that for us! So today, we’re going to see how God can help us with that!”

“But first, it’s time to open the gates to our Wisdomland Carnival Games.”

“Now I need four volunteers to come up to play our first game. This game is called ‘Duck Hunt Buddy.’”

→ Call four volunteers up and invite them to stand around the small inflatable pool filled with rubber ducks inside.

“In this inflatable pool area bunch of rubber ducks, but only one of the ducks has a star on the bottom. You will play this game in groups of two, and you will both work together to make the right choice. Only one person from each pair can pick up a duck at a time, but the other can advise which one to pick. The pairs will take turns too!”

→ Play the game and allow the pairs to work together to see who finds the duck first. After the game is completed, allow each participant to choose a rubber duck as a prize.

“That game was so much fun! Let’s play our next one, ‘RingToss!’ I need five volunteers to come up and play this game.”

5 MINUTES

## Opener

10 MINUTES

## Worship

20 MINUTES

## Story

“To play this game, you’ll stand behind this line, take these five rings, and try to loop them around the bottles we have set up. We’ll take turns, and after everyone has had five chances, whoever loops the most bottles, wins!

- Allow each of the kids to take turns standing behind the line and tossing the rings. Announce the winner. Allow all of the participants to choose a rubber duck after the game.

“Wonderful! Now let’s play our final game—‘Duck Walk.’ I need six volunteers to stand on these numbers up here. (WAIT AS SIX KIDS COME AND STAND ON THE NUMBERS.)

“Great! Now, here’s how to play ‘Duck Walk.’ I’m going to start the music, and you walk around on the numbers. When the music stops, make sure to be standing on a number!

“Once everyone is standing on a number, I’ll draw a number from this cup here! And if you’re standing on the number I call out, you win! You get to pick a rubber duckie as a prize!”

- Play several rounds of the game until all kids have won. If you draw a number and there isn’t a kid on that number, draw another number until you draw a number the kid is on. (YOU MIGHT DRAW A LOT WHEN ONE KID IS LEFT!)
- Once all games are through, hand out the rest of the rubber duckies to the kids in the audience. (OR GIVE OUT OTHER SMALL PRIZES FOR LARGER GROUPS.)

“Thank you so much for playing those Wisdomland Carnival Games! Sometimes the wise choice is asking for help when we don’t know what to do, just like our teams did when they were playing the ‘Duck Hunt Buddy’ game.

“Today, we’re going to learn about someone in the Bible who needed wisdom, and he knew just who to ask! But before our story, let’s get ready to sing and dance with some worship!

“Worship is one of my favorite parts of our Wisdomland adventure, because we get to sing to God, thank Him for His love, and remember that He is always with us!”

## ② Worship

- Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

WORSHIP LEADER: “Hey, everyone! Who’s ready to make some noise as we praise God? (PAUSE AS KIDS CHEER.) Awesome! Today, we’ve got some super-fun songs to sing—songs about learning and growing in our friendship with God. Even if you’re new here, you can jump in and follow along. Let’s sing with all our hearts!

5 MINUTES

## Opener

10 MINUTES

## Worship

20 MINUTES

## Story

“Our first song is called Alive. This song is about the joy we have because Jesus gives us new life. When we follow Him, we’re not the same anymore—we’re alive with His love and hope! So let’s make this song our celebration! God made us to live fully alive in Him!”

Video → ALIVE - Amazing Kids

“Wow! You all sang that with so much energy—I love it! Being alive in Jesus is **the best!** Now let’s slow down for a moment and sing a song that helps us remember just how amazing our God is. He gives us life, He gives us breath, and everything we have comes from Him. Let’s sing together, Great Are You Lord.”

Video → Great Are You Lord - Amazing Kids

“You all sound amazing! One more thing—let’s look at our Memory Verse for this month. I’ll read it first, and then let’s say it together with big, bold voices:

SLIDE → Memory Verse

*It is much better to get wisdom than gold.*

*It is much better to choose understanding than silver.*

—Proverbs 16:16, NIV

“Let’s say out loud together!

→ Lead the group as they repeat the verse line by line. Add hand motions like you’re putting on a royal crown for “wisdom” and “understanding.”

“That was incredible! Remember, worshipping God through music isn’t just about singing songs—it’s about letting God know you love Him and want to follow His way every day.

“Now, let’s all take a deep breath and get ready for another part of our adventure—our true story from the Bible!”

### ③ Bible Story

SLIDE → Theme Background

→ Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.

#### INTRODUCTION

STORYTELLER: “I’m so happy you guys are here today! I just love learning about God with you!”

5 MINUTES

## Opener

10 MINUTES

## Worship

20 MINUTES

## Story

“And let me tell you about something really amazing that we’re doing this year! We’re going to go through the key stories in the Bible so we can learn the big story the Bible is telling! We started at the very beginning of the Bible, and we’re going to look at some key stories all the way to the end of the Bible!

“Why are we doing that? Well, it’s not just so we can just learn all about the Bible. God gave us the Bible so we can know about Him! The Bible tells us all about who God is and what His heart is like. So as we go through the Bible, we hope we learn about God! He is the most important part of every Bible Story!

### GOD’S BIG STORY OPENER (OPTIONAL)

“We’re going to go through God’s Big Story!” (GESTURE TO SLIDE.)

SLIDE → God’s Big Story

“Each week, we’ll look at a story from God’s Big Story and add a picture of that story to our timeline, so we can see where we’ve been in the Bible as we journey along. (GESTURE TO TIMELINE.)

“Let me bring you up to speed on where we’ve been in God’s Big Story so far!

“So you might remember that in the very beginning, God made everything! He made the world, the animals, people ... everything! God made the first people for the same reason He made all people—to be His close, close friends. But sadly, the first people God made chose to turn away from Him and sin. God wanted people to be close to Him, but they couldn’t anymore! It was so sad.

“And awful things happened to the world too. Pain, sickness, and death entered into it.

“But God didn’t want to leave things that way! So He put His rescue plan in motion right from the start!

“God was going to rescue everything through a family! God chose a man named Abraham and promised that his family would bless the whole world. Many years later, Abraham’s great-grandson Joseph ended up in Egypt. After some hard times, God helped Joseph become a super-important leader there! Joseph saved his whole family by bringing them to Egypt. But hundreds of years passed. God grew and grew His people. A new Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, came along. He didn’t know about Joseph. He saw how many of God’s people there were, he got scared, and he started being mean to them.

“God’s people cried out to God for help. He answered! He brought His people out of slavery into a beautiful home He had for them—the Promised Land! After some time living in the Promised Land, God’s people wanted a king like the other nations around them.

5 MINUTES

## Opener

10 MINUTES

## Worship

20 MINUTES

## Story

“The first king, Saul, made lots of unwise choices. But the next king was named David. David wasn’t perfect, but he loved God with his whole heart and tried to follow God. King David had a son named Solomon, and Solomon became king after David. And that’s where we are in God’s Big Story.”

### SETTING UP THE STORY

“We’re moving right along through the Bible. This week, we’re looking at the third king of God’s people and a really wise thing he asked God.

STORYTELLER: “So to start our story, let’s catch up with that third king of God’s people—King Solomon. Come on out, King Solomon!”

→ Volunteer dressed as “King Solomon” enters the stage and waves.

“This is King Solomon! Well, he’s not really King Solomon, but we can pretend, and he will help us as we tell our story today!”

“Solomon, the new king, slept after a big day of worship.

→ Encourage “King Solomon” to lie down and pretend to sleep—maybe even making snoring sounds.

“As Solomon dreamed, he heard a voice. It was God’s voice, speaking to him in the night.

“This is what God said:

→ Open the Bible to 1 Kings 3:5 (NIRV) and read.

“Ask for anything you want me to give you.”

“Whoa! Can you imagine God saying that to you? What would YOU ask for? (PAUSE FOR KIDS TO ANSWER—LAUGH ALONG IF THEY MENTION CANDY, GAMES, OR SILLY THINGS.)

“But Solomon thought about his job as king. He wanted to help people and do the right thing.

### SOLOMON ASKS FOR WISDOM

KING SOLOMON VOLUNTEER: (READING FROM INDEX CARD #1.) “God, I don’t know how to be a good king by myself. Please give me wisdom, so I can know what’s right and what’s wrong.”

STORYTELLER: “Wow. What a wise thing to say! Let’s hear what Solomon really said in the Bible.

→ Open the Bible to 1 Kings 3:9 (NIRV) and read.

“So give me a heart that understands. Then I can rule over your people. I can tell the difference between what is right and what is wrong.”

5 MINUTES

## Opener

10 MINUTES

## Worship

20 MINUTES

## Story

STORYTELLER: “God was so, so happy that Solomon asked for a wise heart and not for something else like a long life or lots of money. God said this:

→ Open the Bible to 1 Kings 3:11-12 (NirV) and read.

“Because that is what you have asked for, I will give it to you. I will give you a wise and understanding heart. So here is what will be true of you. There has never been anyone like you. And there never will be.”

“King Solomon wanted to know God’s wise ways so he could lead wisely and well. And God was so happy to share His wisdom with him. God loves helping people to go through life wisely! So whenever you don’t know what to do—when you feel lost, confused, or need help—just remember: You can ask God for wisdom! He loves to help you, just like He helped Solomon.

### SOLOMON BECOMES A WISE KING

STORYTELLER: ““God kept His word, like He always does. Over and over Solomon kept making wise decisions, and he became known as the wisest king who ever lived! People from all over the world heard about him and wanted to learn from him.

“Let’s pretend you’re a visitor to King Solomon’s castle. Everybody, sit up tall like you are royal guests! (PAUSE FOR KIDS TO GET READY.) Someone else who is royal is about to arrive!

“One day, a very special visitor came from far away—the Queen of Sheba! She had heard that Solomon was full of wisdom, so she brought lots of gifts and asked lots of hard questions.

→ Acknowledge the Queen of Sheba’s entrance onto the stage, carrying her wrapped gift. The Queen of Sheba is to approach King Solomon, give him the wrapped gift, and say her line.

QUEEN OF SHEBA VOLUNTEER: (READING FROM INDEX CARD #1.) “King Solomon, is it really true you know so much? Can you answer all my questions?”

KING SOLOMON VOLUNTEER: (READING FROM INDEX CARD #2.) “I don’t know everything, but I do know that God gives wisdom when we ask! Go ahead—ask your questions!”

→ Encourage the two volunteers to act like they’re talking.

STORYTELLER: “The Queen asked Solomon lots of questions about lots of topics. Solomon answered every question with the wisdom God had given him.

“The Queen of Sheba was amazed! She said:

QUEEN OF SHEBA VOLUNTEER: (READING FROM INDEX CARD #2.) “God must delight in you very much, because He made you so wise!”

5 MINUTES

## Opener

10 MINUTES

## Worship

20 MINUTES

## Story

“Kids, let’s all say, ‘God gives wisdom!’ together. I’ll say it first, and then you say it with me.

STORYTELLER: “God gives wisdom!”

STORYTELLER and KIDS: “God gives wisdom!”

### THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

STORYTELLER: “God gave Solomon so much wisdom that many of his wise sayings were written down and they are part of the Bible! Some of the wise sayings God gave Solomon are in the book of the Bible called Proverbs.

“This proverb might have been said by Solomon:

→ Open the Bible to Proverbs 3:5-6 (NirV) and read.

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart.*

*Do not depend on your own understanding.*

*In all your ways obey him.*

*Then he will make your paths smooth and straight.*

KING SOLOMON VOLUNTEER: (READING FROM INDEX CARD #3.) “That means that life is better when we obey God!”

STORYTELLER: “That’s right, King Solomon! What great wisdom!”

“Kids, there will be lots of times in life when we don’t know what to do. Maybe you feel left out on the playground, or you’re not sure what to do when you’re mad. Maybe you want to help a friend, but you don’t know how.

“When that happens, when you don’t know what to do, you can always do what Solomon did—you can ask God for wisdom! Let’s practice together. I’ll say it first and you can repeat after me.

STORYTELLER: “When I need help, I can ask God!”

STORYTELLER and KIDS: “When I need help, I can ask God!”

STORYTELLER: “Great! Let’s do it again! ‘When I need help, I can ask God!’”

STORYTELLER and KIDS: “When I need help, I can ask God!”

“When we come to God and ask for wisdom, God promises to give it to us! In a letter in the Bible, a letter called James, it says:

→ Open the Bible to James 1:5 (NirV) and read.

*If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone.*

KING SOLOMON VOLUNTEER: (READING FROM INDEX CARD #4.) “God wants to help you make wise choices every day—at home, at school, at

5 MINUTES

## Opener

10 MINUTES

## Worship

20 MINUTES

## Story

the park, every step of your life!”

### WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “When you’re going through a theme park, it’s good to have a good map so you know where to go. There are a lot of times in life when you’ll think: ‘Should I go this way? Or that way?’ But you have something even better than a map to guide you through life—you have God! He sees the best way through life and will show you the best way!”

“You can always ask God for wisdom! He can answer you through the Bible, through grown-ups who follow Him, and through the Holy Spirit—God’s helper in your heart.

“Whenever you’re lost, confused, or just want to make the best choice, remember Solomon—and remember that God loves it when you ask Him for help.”

KING SOLOMON VOLUNTEER: (READING FROM INDEX CARD #5.) “God made me wise, and He’ll help you too!”

STORYTELLER: “He sure did, King Solomon! Thank you so much for your help today! Can we thank him for helping us today, kids?”

→ The King Solomon volunteer bows as the kids applaud.

“So what did we learn from Solomon? You don’t have to be the smartest, or the oldest, or even a king or queen to get God’s wisdom! God’s wisdom is a gift for anyone who asks.

SLIDE → Bottom Line

[BOTTOM LINE] “You can ask God for wisdom. Say that with me.”

→ Host enters and joins in.

STORYTELLER, HOST, and KIDS: [BOTTOM LINE] “You can ask God for wisdom.”

“And that’s the story of King Solomon—the young king who asked for the greatest gift, and the God who gives wisdom to everyone who asks.

### GOD’S BIG STORY CLOSER (OPTIONAL)

HOST: “Let’s take a look at the progress we made in God’s Big Story this week!”

SLIDE → God’s Big Story

“This week, we’re a little bit past this picture where David was being anointed king. Solomon was David’s son! (GESTURE TO SLIDE.) That’s where we are in God’s Big Story!”

“This week, we looked at King Solomon and how he wanted God’s wisdom more than he wanted anything, and God was so happy about that! Sadly, toward the end of his life, Solomon strayed from God and

5 MINUTES

## Opener

10 MINUTES

## Worship

20 MINUTES

## Story

His wisdom. But, even though Solomon strayed, God stayed faithful to His plan! God had made a promise that He was going to rescue the world, and He did not go back on that promise! Because years later, from Solomon's family, which was also David's family, would come Jesus! The very Jesus who would give His life to pay for our sins so we could be close friends with God again! Years later, God did just what He said He would do. He sent Jesus. And Jesus would rescue us all!

"God had been working on His rescue plan to save us through every image of this timeline! (GESTURE FROM THE BEGINNING OF YOUR TIMELINE ALL THE WAY TO THE LAST IMAGE YOU'VE PUT UP.)"

"Let's put our image on the timeline."

SLIDE → Week 3 Timeline Image

→ If you're making a timeline of printed images on your wall, take this moment to place today's timeline image on the clothesline.

"This week we talked about Solomon and his desire for wisdom!"

### WHAT'S OUR PART IN THE STORY?

HOST: "When we think about Solomon, we can remember that God loves it when we ask for His wisdom."

"And you don't have to be a king or queen to need wisdom! Every day, you have choices to make. Maybe you need wisdom about sharing your toys, or being kind to a friend, or listening to your parents. Maybe there's something that feels hard or confusing, like learning something new at school, or making a good choice when you're upset."

"Guess what? You can do just what Solomon did! You can stop, take a breath, and ask God for wisdom. You can say, 'God, I don't know what to do. Will You help me make a wise choice?' And God promises to listen and help, because He loves you so much."

"God was so happy that Solomon asked for wisdom! The Bible says that wisdom is one of the richest treasures of all! Our Memory Verse for this month tells us:

SLIDE → Memory Verse

*It is much better to get wisdom than gold.*

*It is much better to choose understanding than silver. —Proverbs 16:16 NIV*

"So this week, every time you have a choice to make—whether it's big or small—remember that you can ask God for wisdom. Don't forget: 'You can ask God for wisdom!' Let's say that together! 'You can ask God for wisdom!'"

5 MINUTES

## Opener

10 MINUTES

## Worship

20 MINUTES

## Story

“Let’s talk to God right now and ask Him to help us go through life with Him so He can help us get wisdom.”

### ③ Prayer

HOST or STORYTELLER: “God, thank You for loving us and for giving us the Bible so we can learn Your wisdom. Thank You for helping Solomon, and thank You that You promise to help us too. When we don’t know what to do, help us stop and ask You for help. Fill us with wisdom, kindness, and love—so we can make wise choices every day. We trust You, God! We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen”

Transition → Dismiss kids to their small groups.

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

SLIDE → Theme

Optional Video (MEDIA PACKAGE) → Theme Loop