

Small Group Leader Guide



THIS MONTH



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 (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Opening Activity

Large Group (35 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- Opener
- Worship
- Bible Story (sections about God's Big Story are listed as optional)
- Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. If You Could Ask for Anything
2. Wisdomland Map
3. Pat and Clap Verse
4. Pray and Dismiss

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue Card (print or email)
- [Parent Cue App](#) and [ParentCue.org](#)

✦ Need activities for a K-5th group? Check out the 2nd-3rd grade guide.

Today's Bible Story

Solomon Chooses Wisdom

1 Kings 3:4-15

Supporting: Proverbs 15:1; 3:5-6; 17:17

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

This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional inclusive pro-tips. Check out the Special Needs Resource Kit for more ideas for adapting each segment.

SOCIAL

Opening Activity

What You Need

- Offering container
- Floor tape



① What You Do

Pray for your group before they arrive → Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time. Recall an age-appropriate story about a time when the Holy Spirit helped you make a wise choice. Thank God that you don't have to figure things out all by yourself. Pray that God's Spirit would help each kid in your group be bold and brave enough to ask for help. Ask God to show them that wisdom isn't just for grown-ups—it's how God shows how to follow His ways! Ask God to help you be ready to listen.

1. Greet each kid by name with a fist bump, high five, smile, or wave as they arrive!
2. Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.

Play Together:

1. Mark a tape line on one end of your group space and invite the kids to stand in a straight line (shoulder to shoulder), across it.
2. Stand across from them on the other end of your group space.
3. Demonstrate and explain how to play:
 - "Okay, friends, we're going to play a game called 'Leader, May I?' Here's how it works: I'll call on someone and give you a fun movement to do like tiptoeing, jumping, or taking baby steps. But before you move, you must remember to ask, 'Leader, may I take [number] [type of step]?' Then I'll say, 'Yes, you may,' or 'No, you may not.' If you forget to ask the right way, you'll go back to the starting line! We'll keep playing until someone makes it all the way to me!"
4. Continue playing until someone reaches you. Play again if time and interests allow.

Suggested Movements:

- Hops
- Tiptoeing
- Baby steps
- Big steps

Continued on the next page. →

Inclusive Pro Tips



Adapt the movement options to fit your group. Offer seated alternatives like wiggling your fingers, nodding your head three times, clapping your hands, etc.

K-1st Grade

Small Group

October — Week 3

SOCIAL

Opening Activity



What You Need

- Offering container
- Floor tape

② What You Say

"I loved playing that game with each of you! You really had to listen carefully and remember the right way to respond. And, you couldn't just do whatever you wanted. You had to ask!"

"That reminds me of our true story from the Bible today. We'll discover a king named Solomon who asked God for something before he started his journey of reigning as king. He didn't want to do just whatever he wanted—he wanted to be a wise king. God doesn't want to keep wisdom all to Himself, He wants to share it with us. Let's go hear more about how we can get wisdom too!"

Transition → Lead your group to the Large Group area.

Inclusive Pro Tips



Adapt the movement options to fit your group. Offer seated alternatives like wiggling your fingers, nodding your head three times, clapping your hands, etc.

GROUPS 1/4

If You Could Ask for Anything

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Index Cards
- Pencils
- Timer



Inclusive Pro Tips

Consider doing this activity in pairs if it works better for your group, so every kid feels supported!

Adapt to verbally sharing ideas instead of drawing them.

Offer adaptive writing tools.

① What You Do

1. Give every kid three index cards and a pencil.
2. Say, "Let's pretend you can have anything you want for your next birthday! What would you pick? Maybe a new puppy? Or the largest piece of your favorite candy?"
3. Set a timer for three minutes.
4. Invite the kids to think and draw one idea on each index card.
5. Once the timer is up, collect the cards and spread them face up for everyone to see.
6. As you read the review points, reference the kids' index cards.

Review Points

1. Solomon was a young man when he became king. That's a huge job with lots of responsibility!
2. He really wanted to be a good king, so he gave a special offering to God ... 1,000 burnt offerings!
3. That night, God appeared to Solomon in a dream and said something amazing: "Ask for anything you want me to give you" (1 Kings 3:5 NIV).
4. Solomon could have asked for anything, like money, toys, power, or being super-famous!
5. If Solomon lived today, he could've asked for some of your birthday wish ideas! (Point to kids' drawings and reference them.)
6. But Solomon didn't ask for stuff; he asked God for wisdom! That means he wanted God to help him know what was right and how to do it. He wanted to follow God and His ways!
7. God was so happy with Solomon's choice! God gave Solomon wisdom AND more.
8. Solomon became a wise king, not because he figured it out himself but because God gave him wisdom, every step of the way.
9. Solomon also shared lots of wise words we can read in the Bible today in the book of Proverbs!

② What You Say

"Out of all the things Solomon could've asked for, he chose wisdom! He wanted to follow God and His ways! Solomon knew that being wise (**KNOWING THE RIGHT THING TO DO AND DOING IT**) is more valuable than anything you can buy. That's what Proverbs 16:16 reminds us too:

It is much better to get wisdom than gold.

It is much better to choose understanding than silver (**PROVERBS 16:16 NIRV**).

"Solomon's true story shows us that God loves when we ask for help, and God gives wisdom to those who ask! God is the wisest and He loves to share His wisdom with us! Remember, you can ask God for wisdom!"

GROUPS 3/4

Pat and Clap Verse



Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Bibles



Inclusive Pro Tips

Adapt the movements in a way that fits your group. Consider doing the verse sitting down.

① What You Do

1. Gather the kids in a circle.
2. Say, "Today we're going to use movement to help us remember our Memory Verse, Proverbs 16:16!"
3. Read the verse using the Bible (or invite a strong reader to help!).
4. Repeat the verse together several times.
5. Discuss any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.

Move Together:

1. Teach the verse motions.
 - For NlrV, they are:
 - It is (CLAP, CLAP)
 - much better (PAT, PAT)
 - to get wisdom (CLAP, CLAP)
 - than gold (PAT, PAT)
 - it is (CLAP, CLAP)
 - much better (PAT, PAT)
 - to choose understanding (CLAP, CLAP)
 - than silver (PAT, PAT)
 - Proverbs 16:16 (NlrV)
 - For NIV, they are:
 - How much (CLAP, CLAP)
 - better to (PAT, PAT)
 - get wisdom (CLAP, CLAP)
 - than gold, (PAT, PAT)
 - to get (CLAP, CLAP)
 - insight (PAT, PAT)
 - rather than (CLAP, CLAP)
 - silver! (PAT, PAT)
 - Proverbs 16:16 (NIV)
2. Repeat the verse a few times. Add a fun twist using various movement patterns like "stomp, clap" or "spin, clap."

Continued on the next page. →

*Finding verses with Kindergarteners

- ① Guide children to open their Bibles to the marked page.
- ② Point to the book name at the top of the page as you say it aloud.
- ③ Guide them to find the big number on the page—this is the chapter number.
- ④ Guide them to look under the big number for the little number; this is the verse number. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read it aloud.
- ⑤ Lead everyone to say the verse together.

GROUPS 3/4

Pat and Clap Verse



Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

 Bibles


Inclusive Pro Tips

Adapt the movements in a way that fits your group. Consider doing the verse sitting down.

② What You Say

“Way to go, friends! Proverbs 16:16 tells us how wisdom is worth more than gold and silver. God and silver are shiny and expensive. But God’s Word says wisdom is even better! You don’t have to buy wisdom. You don’t have to find it buried in the ground. You can ASK God for wisdom, and He will give it to you because He loves you! He is the great King, and He wants to give you wisdom! Remember, you can ask God for wisdom anytime.”

*Finding verses with Kindergarteners

- ① Guide children to open their Bibles to the marked page.
- ② Point to the book name at the top of the page as you say it aloud.
- ③ Guide them to find the big number on the page—this is the chapter number.
- ④ Guide them to look under the big number for the little number; this is the verse number. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read it aloud.
- ⑤ Lead everyone to say the verse together.

K-1st Grade

Small Group

October — Week 3

GROUPS 4/4

Pray and Dismiss



Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

→ No Supplies Needed

① What You Do

1. Gather the kids together in a seated circle.
2. Explain to kids that prayer is a conversation they can have with God anytime, anywhere, about anything!
3. Encourage kids by telling them, "You can ask God for wisdom!"
4. Divide the kids into groups of two or three.
5. Invite the groups to pray for each other.
 - Thank God for His wisdom.
 - Ask God to give it to you and your friends!
6. Close in prayer.

② What You Say

"God, we love You so much. Thank You for Your wisdom. Whether we are learning new things or feeling big feelings, help us remember to pause and ask You for help. Thank You for loving us and sharing Your wisdom with us. We want to follow You and Your ways! We pray these things in Jesus' name, amen.

Transition → As adults arrive to pick up, invite the kids to show them their Wisdomland Maps. Encourage them to share something they will ask God for wisdom for this week.

Inclusive Pro Tips



If your group desires personal connection, allow them to pair up with another kid.