

City LG - August 11-12, 2018

Bible Story: Danger Zone (Wise people see danger) • *Proverbs 22:3*

Bottom Line: If you want to be wise, look before you leap.

Memory Verse: "If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you." *James 1:5a, Nlrv*

CG: 2-Minute Countdown

CG: Welcome Video

LARGE GROUP LEADER WELCOME/WORSHIP LEADER WELCOME

(with energy and enthusiasm, welcome children and invite them to stand for worship)

WORSHIP: "Every Beat" and "Rising Up"

Worship Leader prays...

"Hello, friends! If we're talking about wisdom, then we definitely need to talk about one of the wisest people who ever lived: King Solomon. Solomon was the son of the King David. He became king at a young age after his father died.

"How did Solomon get so wise? Any ideas? *(Pause for response.)* Solomon was wise because he asked God to give him wisdom.

"You see, God appeared to Solomon in a dream. God told Solomon to ask Him for anything he wanted. Solomon could have asked for ANYTHING, but he knew he had a big job ahead. He knew he would need God's wisdom to rule the Israelites. Here's what he said to God.

Open the Bible to 1 Kings 3:9 and read.

"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, (Nlrv).

"Sure enough, God gave Solomon the wisdom to lead His people. Solomon became so wise that people would come from all over to ask him questions and get his advice. Solomon wrote down a bunch of wise sayings, too, which we now have in the book of Proverbs. *(Hold up Bible.)* Today we're looking at one of those wise sayings. It's Proverbs, chapter 22, verse 3. Read it with me.

CG: Proverbs 22:3 Slide

Open the Bible to Proverbs 22:3 and read.

"Wise people see danger and go to a safe place. But childish people keep going and suffer for it," (Nlrv).

“Great. Wise people see danger before it comes. But childish people keep going without stopping to think, and that can get them into trouble. Have you ever started to do something that seemed like a good idea at the time, but then you thought about it a second time and realized it was a mistake? That’s what our story is all about today. Let’s take a look!”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 5:51)

“Sometimes we can find ourselves in tough situations, like the one we just saw, if we’re not careful. Let’s talk about what that might look like for you.”

CG: Scenario Image #1a (middle third only): Boy running out the door toward the street

“Let’s say you’re running out the door to see your best friend who lives in your neighborhood. Your friend loves God and makes wise choices, so your mom is totally cool with you hanging out with him. You’ve finished your chores and homework, so you decide to head to his house. That seems like a totally fine thing to do, right?”

“Well . . . hang on. What if there was something else to think about? What if, maybe, you hadn’t thought of everything? What if we could see a little more of the picture?”

CG: Scenario Image #1b (reveal the right third): Car on the street

“Uh-oh. I forgot to mention to you that your friend lives across the street. And as you can see, there’s apparently a car coming. Would it still be a good idea to go to your friend’s house right this second?”

“I mean, you could wait for the car, right? You know you should always look both ways before crossing the street and make sure it’s safe. But there’s one more part of the picture. Let’s see what that is.”

CG: Scenario Image #1c (reveal the left third): Mom looking puzzled

“Your mom loves your best friend, but she has no idea that you’re heading over to his house. You forgot to ask her if you could go. You know your mom doesn’t like you going outside and crossing the street without an adult. After all, your road can be a little busy. It could be dangerous for you to go alone.”

“Now that you can see the whole picture, would you still rush out the door to your friend’s house? No. You’d ask your mom first. But you can’t see the whole picture unless you stop and think. **[Bottom Line] If you want to be wise, look before you leap.**”

CG: Scenario Image #2a (middle third only): Boy playing a video game

“Let’s look at another scenario. Here’s you playing your favorite video game, and you’re about to finish it! If you were that close, wouldn’t you keep playing until you win? Why would you stop now? Well, there might be more to the story.”

CG: Scenario Image #2b (reveal the left third): Pile of unfinished homework

“Apparently you still have some homework to finish for tomorrow. You know your grandma’s rule is that you finish your homework before you play video games. But you’re so close to beating the game. You could probably finish your homework when you’re done, right? Well, there’s still some more to the picture.

CG: Scenario Image #2c (reveal the right third): Digital clock that says 8:15 p.m.

“Yikes! Looks like you completely lost track of time. It’s 8:15. You’re supposed to be in bed in 15 minutes! And you still have homework to finish for tomorrow. There’s no way you’d have time to finish your homework AND the game AND brush your teeth before bedtime.

“Finishing the game didn’t seem like an unwise choice before. But it does when you take the time to look at the full picture. That’s why you’ve got to stop and think it through. **[Bottom Line] If you want to be wise, look before you leap.**”

CG: Scenario Image #3a (left third only): Two girls on a sofa, looking happy, holding a bowl of popcorn

“All right. Let’s look at one more example. Your cousin is sleeping over at your apartment, which is so fun!

CG: Scenario Image #3b (reveal the right third): TV on a TV stand

“Looks like you two are watching a movie. It’s a movie your cousin has seen before, and she tells you how funny it is. Wouldn’t you want to watch this hilarious movie with her?”

“Well, let’s stop and think. Let’s look at the full picture.

CG: Scenario Image #3c (reveal the middle third): “PG-13” text bubble

“Hmmm. The movie is rated PG-13. You know your parents have a rule that you aren’t allowed to watch PG-13 movies. But your friend says the movie isn’t that bad—and HER parents are okay with her watching it.

“You know what the wise choice would be here—to obey what your parents told you and ask your cousin to pick a different movie. But you could only do that if you stopped to look at the rating on the DVD case. **[Bottom Line] If you want to be wise, look before you leap.**”

“In each of those situations, you need wisdom to be able to make the best decision. You need to see the whole picture. And you can only see the whole picture if you stop to think it through.

“That’s the thing with wisdom. Sometimes the wise choice might not be something you realize at the beginning. Sometimes you need to stop and think. Having wisdom means pausing and thinking about what to do BEFORE we act. Take a pause so that you can **[Basic Truth] make the wise choice.**

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “If you want to be wise, look before you leap.

“Maybe, for you, that means counting to 10 and taking that time to think about your decision.

You could look something up in the Bible to see what God says about it. You could ask a wise person God has put in your life—like a parent, your Small Group Leader, or another adult you trust. And you can ALWAYS ask God for wisdom, like Solomon did.

“That’s what our Memory Verse is about. It’s James 1:5. Read it with me.

CG: Memory Verse Slide

Open the Bible to James 1:5a and read.

KIDS: *“If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you,” (NIRV).*

“When you ask God for wisdom, you can be SURE that He’ll give it to you. That will help you look before you leap.

“Now the hunt for wisdom continues in Small Group, as you discuss more ways to look before you leap! Before we head there, let’s pray and take up our offering!”

Pray: “Dear God, thank You for giving Solomon so much wisdom. Thank You that we can read his wisdom for ourselves in the book of Proverbs. Thank You for reminding us today that we should always think it through and look before we leap. Help us to **[Basic Truth] make the wise choice** and stay away from trouble. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

Offering Time:

“Offering time is a chance for us to bring our money to God, so he can use it to make somebody else’s life better. For us, here in the City, we give our offering to an organization called ‘Missions of Hope’ to help kids in Kenya have food, clothes, and learn about God’s love for them. Here’s a picture of Kenyan homes!”

CG: Picture of Kenyan Homes

Here at (your Campus name), we bring our offering to help support:

Homer Glen: Victor

New Lenox: Daniel

Orland Park: Michael and Valerie

CG: Picture of Child

If you brought your offering today, you can bring it up now and place it here in our brand new offering container! *(show offering container).*”

“Thank you for your kindness and generosity City! Have fun in Small Groups!”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.