

Alley SG—August 21st-23rd, 2021

1. Verses to Take with You (LG Activity)

What You Need: Sets of “Verse Cards” (each set contains four cards), large bucket (1 per Campus)

What You Do:

- ***Do this activity with all groups together. (If you have just one group, play the game as described below but only remove one card before each new round is played.)***
- Tell kids to spread out around the perimeter of the room.
- Stand in the center of the room.
- For each kid playing, place a “Verse Card” in the container and shake the container to shuffle the cards.
Note: If the total number of kids playing a round is evenly divisible by four, remove one Verse Card from the container and replace it another Verse Card with a different part of the Memory Verse written on it.
- When you say “GO,” dump out the cards and prompt kids to run to select a card.
- The goal is to find kids holding the other three cards needed to complete the verse.
- Once a group of kids has a completed set of Verse Cards, the group sits down in the correct order of the verse.
- Anyone left standing and unable to form a group with a completed verse, sits out the next round.
- Collect all the “Verse Cards” and return them to the container.
- Before playing, each kid who is sitting out that round removes one “Verse Card” from the container.
- The game continues until no one can make a verse.
- When the game has been played, gather kids back into their Small Groups for discussion.
- Ask:
 - Just like you had to search out people who had the verse phrases you needed, why is it important to search out people who are wise?
 - How do you identify someone who is wise? How do you know when someone is wise?
 - What does it feel like when we are surrounding ourselves with people who are wise?

2. What Doesn't Belong?

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Read a list of words.
- Challenge kids to select the word that doesn't belong in the list.
- Inform kids they will have to listen carefully because you'll only read the list once.
- After a few rounds, to increase the challenge, pick up the speed at which you read the words.
- Word Lists:
 - Banana, Apple, **Carrot**, Strawberry
 - Car, Bike, Boat, **Tree**
 - Ball, **Shoe**, Marble, Gumball
 - **Scissors**, Markers, Pencils, Pens
 - Orange, Yellow, **Pizza**, Green
 - Leaf, Branch, **Grass**, Trunk

What You Say:

“You had to listen very carefully to determine what word didn't belong in the list. **[Transition]** Let's head to Large Group to hear about a guy who had a lot to learn about listening.”

3. Take a Snapshot

What You Need: Floor tape

What You Do:

- Create a line with masking tape on the floor.
- Tell kids to stand on the line shoulder to shoulder and facing you.
- Read a description from the list below.
- Tell kids if the answer is “wise” to jump in front of the line (toward you) and if the answer is “foolish” to jump behind the line (away from you).
- Descriptions:
 - Cheating on a math test: wise or foolish?
 - Saying mean things to others: wise or foolish?
 - Breaking the rules: wise or foolish?
 - Encouraging others: wise or foolish?
 - Being kind: wise or foolish?
 - Being thankful: wise or foolish?
 - Borrowing something without asking: wise or foolish?
 - Helping people: wise or foolish?
- Encourage kids to give an example of a wise person they know. Ask:
 - Why would you describe them as wise?

4. Discussion Questions

Ask:

- Solomon’s advisors learned by spending time with Solomon. Why is it important to hang out with wise people?
- Who is someone you think is wise? Why do you think they are wise? *(This question could potentially lead to a discussion on the fruit of the Spirit, Galatians 5:22; A wise person demonstrates the fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, etc. Be prepared to look up Galatians 5:22 to dig deeper.)*
- What can be the consequences of hanging around people who make wise choices?
- What can be the consequences of hanging around people who make unwise choices?
- What about when our friends are making choices that we’re not sure about? Maybe they’re doing stuff that isn’t the “smartest,” but you’re not sure if it’s “all that bad?” How can you get some advice about their behavior and what you should do?

5. Make it Personal with Prayer

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Gather kids in a circle.
- Consider using the following to lead kids in prompted prayer:
 - God, You are . . . *(pause for kids to finish the sentence out loud or silently)*
 - Thank You for the wise people You have put in my life. Thank You especially for . . . *(encourage kids to thank God for a wise person in their life)*
 - Thank You for giving me Your wisdom when I ask. God, I need Your wisdom. *(Encourage kids to ask for wisdom for a specific situation or decision they need to make.)*
 - In Your name we pray! Amen!