

City LG—August 14th-16th, 2021

Today's Bible Story: Think (Wise People See Danger) • *Proverbs 22:3*

Today's Bottom Line: Think before you act.

Monthly Memory Verse: *If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone and doesn't find fault.* James 1:5 (NirV)

SUPPLIES: Stop, Think and Act Posters

WORSHIP: Chasing Me and Shine a Light

"Hi, everyone! I'm so happy to be here with you today. Last time, we looked at what happened when Solomon became the king over God's people. Solomon was a young man at the time, and he asked God for one thing. Do you remember what that one thing was? (*Pause for response.*) That's right! He asked God for wisdom!

"God made Solomon one of the wisest people the world has ever known. In fact, many of Solomon's wise sayings were collected and written down in the book of Proverbs. (*Hold up Bible.*) These proverbs are really helpful for us today. They can help us **make the wise choice** and get in the habit of living God's way.

"For example, listen to Solomon's words from Proverbs 22:3.

Open the Bible to Proverbs 22:3 (NirV) and read.

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

"Did you catch that? Let me read it again.

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

"I know I want to be wise. I know I want to be safe instead of putting myself in danger. But what does that really look like for us today?

"Let's think about some situations together. I want you to see if you can recognize the danger that could happen if we keep going the wrong way . . . and how we can choose to be safe instead. Can you help me with that? (*Pause for response.*) Great! Let's get started! Let's see . . . I need three sign-holders."

Choose three younger kids and give each of them one of the poster signs (STOP, THINK, ACT). Have them stand center stage. Quickly tell them to hold their sign so it faces away from the audience, but when you cue them, they hold up their sign so the audience can see it.

SCENARIO 1: VIDEO GAMES

"Okay. In this first scenario, imagine we've got two brothers who want to play video games after school. But just before mom starts her video call for work, she tells them that they're supposed to take 15 minutes to finish their homework before they play.

"When you think about this situation, what could the boys do that might be a not-so-wise idea?

Talk about the possible ways the scene could go poorly. (They could only do homework for five minutes or skip it completely.)

"What kind of danger do you think that might cause?"

Get some responses. (They wouldn't get their homework done. If their mom finds out, they could get in trouble and have a consequence. It would be hard for her to trust them next time.)

"You're right! That's definitely not the way we want things to go, is it? So how can we avoid making such an unwise choice? How can we remember to **make the wise choice** instead?"

"Well, we can do what Solomon said: *see danger and go to a safe place*. That doesn't necessarily mean that we get up and go somewhere. It just means that we see what COULD go wrong and we avoid that by doing what we know is right.

"Think of it this way. We STOP (*nod to the first sign-holder to hold up their sign*) . . . and THINK (*nod to the second sign-holder*). Then we ACT (*nod to the third sign-holder*).

(*reference the kid actors*) "What do you think these brothers could do differently if they decided to stop and think, THEN act?"

Get some responses from the audience. (Listen to their mom, do what she said, get their homework done before playing video games.)

"Right. And what would happen?"

Get some responses from the audience. (They'd get their homework done. Their mom would know she can trust them.)

SCENARIO 2: COOKIE THIEVES

"Now for this next scene—think about this..."

"In this scene, we've got Grandma cooking dinner. She's already made some cookies for dessert, and they smell SO GOOD!"

"The kids ask Grandma if they can have a cookie. Grandma says no because she's making dinner and it's almost done. The cookies are for AFTER dinner. But she's got her back to them while she's cooking, and she can't even see the plate of cookies.

"Hmmm. When you think about this situation, what could the kids do that might be an unwise choice?"

Get some responses from the audience. (Eat a cookie when she's not looking.)

"What kind of danger do you think that might cause?"

Get some responses from the audience. (They'd spoil their dinner and not be able to eat the healthy food Grandma cooked for them. She would be disappointed if she saw what they had done.)

"That's right. So even though those cookies look SO tempting, what do we need to do?"

"STOP (*nod to the first sign-holder*) . . . THINK (*nod to the second sign-holder*) . . . then ACT (*nod to the third sign-holder*).

(referencing the kid actors) “What could these two do instead? How would they act if they took the time to stop and think about it first?”

Get some responses from the audience. (Wait patiently, set the table, help Grandma cook.)

“Great idea! They could offer to help Grandma, which would be really fun. Then they could enjoy those cookies later, when they’re supposed to!”

“Thanks for your help! You three can have a seat. Let’s take a look at this week’s video to learn more about wisdom!”

Collect the signs as you dismiss everyone to their seats.

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 3:00)

“Remember what Solomon said.

Open the Bible to Proverbs 22:3 (NIRV) and read.

“Wise people see danger and go to a safe place. But childish people keep going and suffer for it.

“You see, God created each of us with the ability to **make the wise choice** with the wisdom we have from Him. We can stop and think first, BEFORE we act. That way, we can see danger coming . . . and we can do whatever it takes to avoid it!

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] “Think before you act. You’ll be so glad you did! Let’s pray.”

PRAY: “Dear God, we know that all wisdom comes from You! Thank You for reminding us today how we can put Your wisdom into action. Please help us remember to stop and think BEFORE we act. Help us see danger coming and **make the wise choice** so we can stay safe. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

“Now, before we head to Small Group and talk about how we can trust God to give us wisdom, it’s offering time!”

OFFERING:

Here in Parkview Kids, we bring our offering each week to help support (your Campus Child) learn more about Jesus just like we do here in Parkview Kids. Here’s a picture of (your Campus Child)! If you brought your offering, you can bring it up now!”

Orland Park: Michael and Valeri

New Lenox: Daniel

Homer Glen: Victor

Dismiss to Small Groups