

City LG—August 28th-30th, 2021

Today's Bible Story: Brand New (Renew Your Mind) • *Romans 12:2*

Today's Bottom Line: Never stop growing in wisdom.

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)

ICE-BREAKER ACTIVITY: Dig Deep Workout

"Hi everyone! I have a question for you. Why is wisdom so valuable? Well, it comes from God. With God's wisdom, we can live each day the way HE wants us to live. We can make wise choices and show love to others. Each day, we can grow wiser and wiser as we grow in our relationship with God.

"But remember, we've got to dig deep to find wisdom. We've got to LOOK for it, so we can find it. If we were archaeologists or paleontologists, we'd dig deep to find fossils of plants and animals, as well as artifacts from long ago. We'd need to be in good shape and be able to find our way around the jungle, the desert, or anywhere else. So today, I thought we'd get warmed up . . . with our own version of a Dig Deep Workout!

SLIDE: "Dig Deep Workout"

"Everybody stand up. I'll show you the moves, then we'll play the music and do them all together. Here, practice with me.

Demonstrate each move as you explain it.

"First, we're running through the jungle. (*Run in place.*)

SLIDE: "Dig Deep Workout" Move #1

"We're sweeping the leaves out of the way. (*Use big hand gestures like you're clearing away the vines from your path.*)

SLIDE: "Dig Deep Workout" Move #2

"Now, we're grabbing onto a vine and swinging across a cliff to the other side. (*Grab an imaginary vine and slide from side to side.*)

SLIDE: "Dig Deep Workout" Move #3

"Up next, we're high-fiving some monkeys! (*Do some air high-fives.*)

SLIDE: "Dig Deep Workout" Move #4

"Now we're jumping over sand dunes in the desert. (*Do a long slow-motion jump.*)

SLIDE: "Dig Deep Workout" Move #5

"We're hopping and dodging the boulders in the canyon. (*Hop back and forth.*)

SLIDE: "Dig Deep Workout" Move #6

"And finally, we're digging with our shovels to find the fossils. (*Do a digging motion, alternating arms.*)

SLIDE: “Dig Deep Workout” Move #7

“Great job! Okay, let’s start over from the top—this time, with the music!

AUDIO: “The Raiders March (a.k.a. Indiana Jones Theme)” by John Williams

SLIDE: “Dig Deep Workout” Moves #1-7, following the Large Group Leader’s lead

Lead the kids through the moves at a steady pace. Use shorthand to cue the moves: Run through the jungle, sweep the leaves, swing on a vine, monkey high-five, sand dune jump, boulder hop, fossil dig.

“All right, now just the Small Group Leaders!

SLIDE: “Dig Deep Workout” Moves #1-7

Lead the Small Group Leaders through another round.

“Now, one last time for everyone—at super speed!

SLIDE: “Dig Deep Workout” Moves #1-7, following the Host’s lead

Lead everyone through one last round, double-time.

SLIDE: Theme

“That was so fun! Now we’re all warmed up so we can sing and dance. Let’s keep the fun going as we take some time to worship God!”

WORSHIP: Chasing Me and Shine a Light

“Hi, everyone! We’ve had a great month here in The City finding out how we can live with wisdom. We’ve seen how important it is for us to find God’s wisdom so we can live His way each day. But let me ask you something. Do you think finding wisdom is just a one-time thing? Do we just find God’s wisdom, then we’re done? *(Pause for response.)*

“I think we might find some clues about that if we look at a letter written by a man named Paul. *(Hold up Bible.)* Paul was a religious leader. He knew the Jewish laws really well, but didn’t believe that Jesus was the Son of God. Paul was convinced that he knew the right way to live, and he did his best to follow all of the laws.

“But one day, Paul actually MET Jesus in a flash of light . . . and his way of thinking completely changed! He realized that Jesus IS God’s Son who had come to save the world. Paul began to travel around, starting churches as he told everyone about Jesus. He wrote letters to the churches he started and also to the churches he wanted to visit. Many of Paul’s letters are included in our Bible today!

“Listen to what Paul wrote in his letter to the Romans.

Open the Bible to Romans 12:2 (NIRV) and read.

“Don’t live the way this world lives. Let your way of thinking be completely changed. Then you will be able to test what God wants for you. And you will agree that what he wants is right. His plan is good and pleasing and perfect.”

“So Paul wrote that we shouldn’t let the things AROUND us control the way we think. Instead, we should let our way of thinking be completely changed by God’s wisdom—each and every day! That’s what this week’s video is all about. Take a look!”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 6:00)

“This is something we need to do every day. We need to keep adding the things that will change our minds and make us grow in wisdom . . . by praying, reading the Bible, and talking to other people about what we believe. Then we’ll be able to stop any selfish thoughts and worries that might come into our minds and replace them with the things we know are true.

“And remember—this isn’t just a one-time thing. It’s something that happens over and over again, all throughout your life. It’s part of your relationship with God. His wisdom will help you grow as you follow Him and learn how to live His way.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] “Never stop growing in wisdom.

“Let’s pray and thank God for helping us grow!”

SLIDE: Theme Background

PRAY: “Dear God, thank You so much for this reminder from Paul’s letter—that You’re always there to help us grow in wisdom. Please help us do the things that will make us grow in our relationship with You. Help us remember to pray to You, read the Bible, and spend time with wise people. When we start to have unwise thoughts, please replace them with Your truth so we can grow closer to You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

“I’m so glad to know that God is always working in my life! He’s always helping me grow in wisdom. And every day, I can choose to do the things that I know will help me grow stronger in my relationship with Him. I can talk to Him, talk to other people who believe in Him, and read the Bible.

“Each one of us can make those choices. We can make a habit of doing the things that will help us grow more and more wise . . . today and every day! When we put our faith in Jesus and believe that He died for us then came back to life, His Holy Spirit will CHANGE us. We’ll be able to live in a completely new way, because His love transforms us and makes us want to share His love with the people around us. In Small Group, you’ll get to talk some more about how you can grow in God’s wisdom. Before we head there, it’s offering time!”

Lead offering then dismiss kids to their small groups.

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