

# City SG—August 7th-9th, 2021

**Today's Bible Story:** Wildest Dreams (Solomon Asks God for Wisdom) • 1 Kings 3:4-28

**Today's Bottom Line:** Trust God to give you 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 (NIV)

## 1. Catching Wisdom

**What You Need:** Scenario Cards (set of 8), two plastic containers (one labeled "WISE" and the other "UNWISE") (per group), and floor tape, ping pong balls (6 per group)

### What You Do:

- Pick two kids to hold the "Wise" and "Unwise" containers in front of their chest.
- Direct the rest of the kids to line up in a line at least six feet away from the kids holding the containers. Position the kids with the containers to face the line of kids.
- Read each kid in line a "Catching Wisdom" Scenario.
- Taking turns, direct each kid to try to throw a ping pong ball into whichever container they think their scenario belongs.
- If the kid makes the shot, direct them to switch places with the kid holding the container.
- Give the kid who had the container a scenario and have them get in line so they can participate as well.
- If the kid misses when it is their turn, direct them to pick up their ping pong ball and go to the back of the line to try again later.
- Instruct the kids to move around to try to catch the ping pong balls in their containers.
- Once everyone got their ping pong balls into the containers, or at least had sufficient time to try, instruct everyone to sit in a circle.

*Note: This will be controlled chaos. Do crowd control as needed, but for the most part just let them have fun with this silly game.*

- Take the "Wise" and "Unwise" containers and read the scenarios out loud.
- As a group, discuss if the scenario is unwise or wise.
  - If it is an unwise decision, how could you make it a wise one?
  - If it is a wise scenario, how do you know it's wise?
  - You may have repeat scenarios due to the number of kids in your group. Once you have discussed one, simply skip the repeat and move on to the next one.

### What You Say:

"You guys did great with that! These scenarios might not have been real to you or maybe you have faced something similar. The decisions we make when we face certain things in life will let us and the world know we are wise.

"Wisdom isn't just knowledge or knowing what to do—it's finding out what you should do and doing it. Sometimes it can be really hard to make a wise decision, but you can **[Bottom Line]** **trust God to give you wisdom.** God wants us to be wise. So when we ask Him, He will help us know the wise thing to do. AND He'll help us grow in wisdom, too!"

***[Make it Personal] (Share a kid-appropriate story about a time you had a difficult decision to make and you weren't sure what to do, but you asked God for guidance. Try to make this as relatable as you can to their age so the kids will think, "Wow, I am facing that right now or I may face that later, and I want to be able to ask God for help, too.")***

## **2. What Question Would You Ask God?**

**What You Need:** Paper (1 per kid), markers, pens

### **What You Do:**

- Give each kid a piece of paper and something to draw or color with.
- Ask, "If you could ask God for anything, what would it be? Why?"
- Encourage the kids to draw or write their answer on their paper.
- As the kids draw, ask them about their answer. Invite them to explain why they answered the way they did.

## **3. Sticky Situations**

**What You Need:** White Floor Tape

### **What You Do:**

- Tear off pieces of floor tape and make tape rolls with the sticky side out.
- Place the tape rolls all over the floor in the room.
- Direct the kids to line up on one wall and close their eyes.
- Explain that you will give each kid simple instructions like "Take one step forward. Take one step to the left."
- Direct each kid so they don't step on a duct tape "trap."
- If a kid steps on a duct tape trap, they are out until the next round.
- The goal is to get as many kids as possible across the room without stepping on traps.
- Keep kids safe by reminding them to move slowly.

### **What You Say:**

"That was so much fun, but also really hard! You had to make sure you listened to just my voice and trusted me to make sure you made the right decision."

## **4. Solomon, May I?**

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

### **What You Do:**

- Pair kids up.
- Direct half of the kids to line up on one side of your area.
- Instruct the other kids to line up across the room from their partner.
- Explain to the kids that you, as Solomon, will read a statement from the Bible story. Both partners are to raise their hands if they know the answer.
- You (Solomon) will choose a pair of kids who have their hands raised to answer the True/False statement.
- If the set of kids answers the question correctly, they get to say, "Solomon, may we take [number] steps forward?" They get to choose how many steps they ask for.

- If it's a ridiculous number, say "No, you may not. But you can take [number] steps forward."
- If they ask for an appropriate amount of steps, respond with "You may."
- Continue until a pair of kids reaches their partner.
- If you don't get to all of the statements, continue until you run out of statements and have reviewed the entire story. (Or let kids share what they remember from the story in order to finish reviewing it.)
- Use the statements below to review the story.
  - God told Solomon he could ask for anything, and he asked for cheese. (*false*)
  - God told Solomon he could ask for anything, and he asked for wisdom. (*true*)
  - Solomon threw a feast to honor himself as king. (*false*)
  - Solomon threw a feast to honor God and His promise to give Solomon wisdom. (*true*)
  - Two women were arguing over who was the mother of a baby boy. (*true*)
  - Solomon dismissed the ladies and told them to go away. (*false*)
  - Solomon didn't give either of the ladies the baby. (*false*)
  - Solomon said he would cut the baby in half, and they could each have half of the baby. (*true*)
  - Solomon would have never actually hurt the baby. He was testing the women to see who the true mother was. (*true*)
  - One of the ladies said that the other woman could have him if he wouldn't harm her son. (*true*)
  - Solomon knew who the true mother was because of how the women reacted to what he said. (*true*)
  - Solomon gave the baby to the woman who didn't care what happened to the baby. (*false*)
  - Solomon gave the baby to the woman who truly cared for the child, knowing she was his true mother. (*true*)

### What You Say:

"Solomon had to make a lot of really difficult decisions. One of the first decisions we saw him make in our Bible story is what to ask God for. Out of ANYTHING in the world, he asked for wisdom. Wow! He could have asked to be rich or famous or have all the chocolate in the world . . . but he chose wisdom. That must mean it is super important!"

"Not only did Solomon face issues like the moms and the baby, but as king, he would go on to make many more decisions like that one. He looked to God for wisdom and trusted Him. You can also **[Bottom Line] trust God to give you wisdom**. It doesn't matter how small or big your problem seems, God will help you through it."

## 5. Pray and Dismiss

**What You Need:** No Supplies Needed

### What You Do:

- Instruct the kids to think of two areas of their life where they can ask God for wisdom.
  - Ask leading questions if they have a hard time thinking of where they need to grow in wisdom. Ask if there's anyone they struggle to get along with lately or if there's anything they seem to get in trouble for on a regular basis.

- If needed, give some examples: getting along with a sibling; figuring out how to deal with a friend who makes bad choices at school; or obeying a parent when it's time to get ready for bed.
- Close in prayer.

**What You Say:**

“Sometimes, there are things that seem really small to most people but may be a really big deal to you. No matter how big or small it feels, God is always willing to give us wisdom if we just ask Him for it. Sometimes it takes time for God to give us wisdom. So we continue to pray and ask Him for it, because you can **[Bottom Line] trust God to give you wisdom.**

“Let’s ask God to give us wisdom when it comes to the things we wrote down and maybe some of the things still in our heart that we know we need wisdom for. Would anyone like to pray out loud before I pray? *(Allow time for kids to respond and pray if they would like.)*

“God, thank You that You didn’t just promise wisdom to Solomon, but You promise it to us if we ask for it. Please be with each kid here and give them the gift of wisdom in the areas they wrote down. Help them know there are so many ways they can seek wisdom from You and help them know that they don’t have to do it alone. We love You, and we are so grateful for the gift of Your Son, Jesus Christ. We ask all of these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”