



God is Our Teacher

Proverbs 31

God Statement: God is Wisdom

KEY VERSE: “The Lord gives wisdom. Knowledge and understanding come from his mouth.”

(Proverbs 2:6, NIRV)

CHECK-IN

Classroom Teacher

(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)

As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.

EXPLORE ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(15 minutes)

The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.

DISCUSS: God is Our Teacher

In today’s lesson, we are going to learn about how God is our teacher!

SAY:

Who remembers our God Statement right now? **Let kids respond – God is Wisdom!**

What does wisdom mean? **Let kids respond.** Wisdom means knowing what is right AND doing it.

Raise your hand if you know someone who is a teacher. Turn to the person next to you and tell them who you thought of and what they teach. What do teachers do? **Let kids**

respond. Teachers are people who show or explain how to do something. Today, we're going to learn more about how important wisdom is as we talk about how God is our teacher. God is wisdom, and He helps us gain wisdom by teaching us! God is the greatest teacher of all, and He uses a very special tool to teach us things all the time. What do you think that tool is? The Bible! We're going to look at a book in the Bible today, Proverbs, to see one way God teaches us to live, but first, let's do our activity!

MAKE:

To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they can do this activity!

God's Word Helps Me Grow Flower!

Supplies: One paper flower cut out per child, One pipe cleaner, tape, God helps me grow sticker

Say: *God gives us wisdom! He helps us to know what to do. We can always learn what to do when we seek God in His word, the Bible! When we read God's word, we grow in our knowledge and we become wise. His word helps us to grow! Let's make a special flower to remind us of this great truth, before we learn about our story today!*

Directions: Pass out one paper flower per child. Have them color their paper flowers. Pass out one pipe cleaner per child. Help the children make a stem for their flowers using the pipe cleaner. Attach the pipe cleaner to the back of the paper flower using tape. Add the "God's word helps me grow" sticker to the center of the flower. Children can decorate their flowers using markers and crayons.

LARGE GROUP

(25 minutes)

Each week, Large Group will consist of an introduction, worship, the Bible lesson, worship response, and the blessing.

WORSHIP & LARGE GROUP RULES

Worship Leader & Host

WORSHIP

While the video is playing the opening worship songs, encourage the kids to sing and dance along. Don't forget to set the example by participating alongside them!

Feel free to modify your worship time for what works best for your age group. You can find different ways to encourage the kids to participate by giving them instruments or showing them simple hand motions. You can also limit how many songs you choose to play, if it seems like the kids are not able to stay focused the entire time.

TODAY'S WORSHIP SONGS:

- King of Me
- House of the Lord

LARGE GROUP RULES

Once everyone has found their seat, play Large Group Rules video in the PowerPoint provided. If needed, reinforce the rules after the video plays.

**** After Worship & Large Group Rules, transition the PowerPoint to the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder slides.****

MAIL TIME & WARDROBE OF WONDER

Host

MAIL TIME!

Find the Mail Time envelope in your curriculum supplies.

Pick one child to hide the envelope and another child to find it. Give the first child about 30 seconds to hide the envelope while the other child closes his/her eyes. After the envelope is hidden, the second child can search for the envelope while the class says "hot" or "cold" to give them clues if they're getting closer or further away.

Have the two kids stand in front of the class and hold the verse page (inside the envelope) so everyone can see it.

Use the Key Verse Motions Video on Plex (or sent in weekly email) to learn the motions prior to Large Group.

**"The Lord gives wisdom. Knowledge and understanding come from his mouth."
(Proverbs 2:6, NIRV)**

WARDROBE OF WONDER

The Wardrobe of Wonder is an opportunity to get the younger kids engaged in the lesson by playing a guessing game to determine what the "What's It" is inside the wardrobe each week.

Choose one child to "spy" on the What's It by peeking inside the wardrobe. Remind the other children to look away and to not peek. Have the peeker whisper the identity of the What's It in the host's ear to ensure he/she saw it correctly.

What's It: BIBLE

Now, invite the class to raise their hand and guess the identity of the What's It by asking yes-or-no questions about it. Allow the child who peeked to help answer the questions. Once the children have guessed correctly, retrieve the What's It from the wardrobe and allow the class to look at it/pass it around. Thank the volunteer and allow them to sit back down.

ASK:

Hmm... Do you know what this is? That's right – a **Bible!** What do we use the Bible for? How does this relate to our lesson? Let's find out! Do you know what time it is? It's time for us to dive into God's Word together!

**** After the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder, Younger Kids classes transition to the Bible Story video where the kids will hear about the lesson for the day. ****

BIBLE STORY

Lesson Video

Remind the group before starting the video to follow the expectations for Large Group.

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: God is Our Teacher – Proverbs 31

Encourage kids to listen and engage with the lesson as they watch the teaching video.

****After the video finishes, turn on soft worship music (with or without lyrics) to transition into Worship Response. This should be background music to help set the tone for a quiet reflection time with God.****

WORSHIP RESPONSE

Host

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through this time.

Supplies: chalkboard response stations, chalk

Prepare Ahead: write "God is Our Teacher" at the top of the chalkboards

God is our teacher! What is the greatest tool God has given to us to teach us things? **Let kids respond – the Bible!** The Bible is God's Word and it is true. God has given it to us as an instruction manual to teach us how to live.

Turn on soft worship music before starting activity.

CHALKBOARD ACTIVITY:

Let's take some time to think about our own lives. Is there something you need to ask God to teach you? Is there something you need to ask God to show you what to do? Remember, God is our teacher and God is wisdom! He wants to help us, but we have to go to Him and ask.

Allow kids to take a moment to think of what they might need help in. Then, invite kids to go up to the chalkboards and write/draw what they need to ask God for help in. Remind kids as they participate that this is a quiet time.

Once everyone has participated, invite everyone to sit back down to conclude time.

God hears us when we go to Him, and He wants to help us because He is our teacher! Remember, God gave us a very special gift to teach us how to live a life that glorifies Him. What is it again? ***Let kids respond – the Bible!*** We can read the Bible anytime, or anywhere! We can also talk to God anytime or anywhere!

I'm going to pray to close our time and thank God that He is our teacher and has given us so many ways to learn from Him and gain wisdom!

Close time in prayer.

******After Worship Response, transition the power point to the Compassion & Offering slides.******

COMPASSION & OFFERING

Host

Before closing large group, take a moment to highlight and discuss each campus' Compassion sponsor child. Explain a little about the Compassion child's life and the impact their offering has for this child (info should be provided on cards in classroom). Then remind kids that if anyone brought offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

Ask a child to come up and pray for the offering and their Compassion child.

******After Compassion & Offering, transition the power point to the "Announcement" slide. The host will discuss any current announcements.******

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SPECIAL MISSIONS FOCUS – ACTs Senior Center Ministry

Host

Take this opportunity to cover any announcements and special missions focus for the kids, such as upcoming events or reminders, like bringing food donations for Feeding Families. Use the slides provided in the Power Point to display important announcements.

Who was here last week when we made those special wreaths? Who were they for? ***Let kids respond.*** Our new mission focus for the month of February is ACTS Senior Center Ministry.

What holiday is in February? Valentine's Day! We often give each other special gifts, card, treats on Valentine's Day. How does it make you feel to get a Valentine? ***Let kids respond – warm, excited, happy, loved, etc.*** Well, that feeling is exactly what we want to share with the seniors who will receive these wreaths. We want them to know that even if they sometimes feel alone or sad, that there is someone who loves them more than anyone else. Who's that? Jesus!

As we talk about the Senior Centers this month, we want to challenge you to think of little ways you can love the seniors/elderly in your life! Maybe you could make a special card at home for a grandparent, neighbor, friend. Maybe you just intentionally say hi and ask about their day. Let's love well!

Invite a couple kids to come up and pray for the seniors who will receive the wreaths, that they would feel known, loved, and seen by Jesus.

******After Announcements, transition the power point to the "Blessing" slide. The host will lead the class in receiving the blessing for the day.******

BLESSING

Host

Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.

May you always listen to God because He is your teacher. May you remember that He has shown you how to live because He loves you!

SMALL GROUP

Classroom Teachers

(10 minutes)

Younger Kids:

This time is optional for younger kids, depending on if you feel like the kids are still listening and participating well.

- 1. What did you learn about God from our story today?**
- 2. Read/ Recap today's story: Proverbs 31-God is our teacher**
- 3. What did God give to us to find advice and to help us?: (The Bible)**
- 4. What is one thing you could look up in the bible to help you? Have you ever looked at God's word to help you through something difficult before?**

Close small group in prayer.

RESPOND ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(10 minutes)

DISCUSS:

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity.

PLAY: Wise or Unwise Game

Supplies: 2 face cutouts (one smile, one frown)

Directions: Place the smile face on one side of the room and the frown face on the other side of the room. Have children stand in the middle of the room to start. When you read off one of the examples say “wise or unwise”. If it’s a wise choice, have the children run to the smile face. If it’s an unwise choice, have them run to the frown. Use these examples:

- When you were at a friend’s house, the friend started playing a video game that your mom would not have approved. Since you knew it was wrong, you left the room right away and did not participate in the video game.
Wise or not wise? (Wise)
- You were not prepared for a test, so you asked a friend if you could cheat off their test.
Wise or not wise? (Not wise)
- You had a lot of friends. Some of them didn’t always do what was right. So you decided to hang out more with the friends that helped you follow God.
Wise or not wise? (Wise)
- You knew you were wrong when you took your friend’s toy, so you returned it and asked for forgiveness. You never stole anything again after that!
Wise or not wise? (Wise)
- You were angry that your friend was bragging about beating you again in soccer. You talked to your friend and told them that it hurt your feelings. Your friend didn’t realize this and said she was sorry.
Wise or not wise? (Wise)
- Your brother won’t let you play with him so you yell at him and run off.
Wise or not wise? (Not wise)

- Your grandma told you to clean up your room, so you played video games instead. Wise or not wise? (Not wise)
- You saw a new student at school and they didn't have anyone to play with. You invited them to play with you. Wise or not wise? (wise)

Say: *Today we are going to play a game to see how wise we are! If I say something that is a wise choice, run to the smile face! If I say something that is unwise, run to the frown.*

CHECK-OUT

Classroom Teacher

(end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in the Respond Activities or the classroom games and toys.