



God is Our Teacher

Proverbs 31

God Statement: God is Wisdom

KEY VERSE:

“The Lord gives wisdom” Proverbs 2:6, NIRV

CHECK-IN

(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)

Purpose: To build relationships with families and help parents feel comfortable leaving their child.

As parents check-in their child at your classroom, try to welcome them by name to help them feel secure in leaving their child in your care. Once you’ve completed each of the check-in procedures, welcome the child into your classroom and encourage him/her to play with the classroom toys and activities. If you have LITs in your classroom, this is a great time for them to help engage with the kids while you continue checking in the kids.

If a child brings money for offering, allow them to put the money in the class offering bank. Thank them for sharing with others.

If a child is upset or reluctant to enter the room, encourage him or her by offering toys, books or other fun items. If a child is still upset, let the parents know that we will text them if their child continues to be upset. Then, offer to carry the child into the classroom and try to calm the child with toys or other activities.

Use the “Connect” reminder (listed below) to help kids feel comfortable and safe in your class!

CONNECT WITH KIDS

Purpose: Building relationships & prioritizing safety for our youngest children.

Our goal, first and foremost, when serving babies and young toddlers is to prioritize building trusting relationships and the feeling of safety. We build trust with our littlest kids by meeting needs and helping them learn that church is a secure place where they are loved, known and safe.

The 4 Ss are a simple way to keep our hearts and minds focused on this:

When a child feels...(most of the time)

SAFE: physically and emotionally

SEEN: known and understood

SOOTHED: calmed and supported

They can become **SECURE.**

EXPLORE ACTIVITY

(10 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 gives us wisdom when we ask for it..

Say: God gives us wisdom. He helps us make good choices. When we don't know what to do, we can pray to God and He will give us wisdom to make a good decision.

PLAY: Wisdom Game

Supplies: none

Directions: Invite kids to come sit in a circle. Explain the game of choices. Kids can either raise hands, thumb up/down, or stand/sit for their vote on the choices.

Say: *Today, we're going to play a game of wisdom choices. Before we do it though, let's pray and ask God to help us have wisdom to make the right choices. "God, please give us wisdom to make good decisions. Amen."*

Choices ideas:

- Time for lunch: should we eat candy or sandwich? (A sandwich would be a wise choice)
- It's raining outside: should we take our umbrella or wear sunglasses? (umbrella would be a wise choice.)
- There are cookies on the table. Should we take one or ask our grownup first? (asking grownup would be a wise choice.)
- It's snowing. Should you wear your snowsuit or bathing suit? (snowsuit would be a wise choice)

Say: *God helps us make wise decisions. Ask Him to help you be wise.*

CLEAN UP

(5 minutes)

Have the children begin cleaning up as you transition into Large Group time. All the toys should be put away by the end of clean up time.

Try singing: “Clean up, clean up, everybody do your share. Clean up, clean up, everybody everywhere.”

LARGE GROUP

(15 minutes)

After clean up, have your class gather around the story time rug/blanket/squares and Hamilton’s house for Large Group time. .

WELCOME & PRAYER

Tell the kids you are so excited to have them joining you this morning and give them a brief explanation of Large Group and the expectations of them during this time. After going over the expectations, pray to open large group time.

Offering – ask: Did anyone bring money for an offering today? This money is used to help other people. You may put your money in the class offering bank.

WORSHIP

Purpose: Engage our youngest children through the power of music!

Use the Little Kids music videos on Plex (Miss Mindy) to sing some simple songs with your class. To access these videos, **go to Plex > Videos > EC > 2s/3s folder.**

- *Wisdom Song*
- *Jesus Loves Me*

READ A BIBLE STORY

Purpose: Engage our youngest children in a meaningful way by teaching God’s word!

This week, read about a story about Wisdom from Proverbs taken from Trueway Kids.

BIG IDEA:

We can pray to God to ask Him for wisdom. He will help us make good decisions when we ask Him.

As you read, try to engage the child(ren) even more by pointing to the pictures as you read, allowing the kids to turn the page or repeating key words and phrases. It's ok if you don't read every word on the page! Kids have very short attention spans (1 minute for each year of age) so try to keep your interactions short and don't get discouraged if a child loses focus!

BIBLE STORY (5-7 minutes)**THIS WEEK'S LESSON: God is Our Teacher – Asking God for Wisdom**

(From Trueway Kids)

Using the props and Hamilton puppet, tell the story for the day. Make sure to keep it brief and engaging by asking the kids questions throughout and using Hamilton to keep their attention.

Invite Hamilton to come out and see the class. Hamilton is a small heart.

Say: Hamilton, I see you have a heart. That reminds me of love. Are you going to give that to someone special? **Hamilton nods.** Good idea. We are making hearts today to give to someone we love. God says to trust in Him with all of our heart. Let's listen to the story about heart and love and wisdom.

Read the God is Wisdom story summarized from Trueway Kids below while showing picture handout found in curriculum folder.

Share about the book of Proverbs:

- Remember last week we learned about a wise king?
- Hamilton do you remember the kings name?
 - **(Have Hamilton whisper in your ear) That's right King Solomon!**
- God gave King Solomon a special gift of wisdom.
- He wrote a book in the Bible called Proverbs.
- The Bible is like an instruction book that helps us understand how to live our lives.
 - **(Have Hamilton nod his head, and then show everyone his Bible very excitedly.)**
- A proverb is a short, wise, easy-to-learn saying.
- King Solomon said children are never too young to learn about God.
- When people asked King Solomon what to do, He replied.
- Trust God with all your heart, do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways remember Him, and He will help you.
- We can ask God for Wisdom just like Solomon asked.
 - **Hamilton can you point to your head? (Have Hamilton point to His head).**
- God is Wisdom!

Say: Hamilton, who are you going to give your heart to? *Hamilton whispers in your ear.* Oh, it's a secret? OK. Well, they will love it! And, they will love YOU! Bye, Hamilton, time for you to go back to your house. See you next time. Let's all wave goodbye to Hamilton. **Have kids wave bye.**

Say: God has a lot of wisdom for Solomon and for us. We can ask Him to help us make wise decisions.

SAY IT OUT LOUD! (30 seconds)

This is the opportunity to remind the children of the God Statement for the day. Even if they struggle to pay attention during the lesson, this part is important to do every week.

We are learning that God is wisdom! (Have the kids shout it out together multiple times).

WORSHIP RESPONSE (2 minutes)

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 the time.

Encourage class to sit quietly.

Say: Let's be like Solomon and ask God for wisdom.

Pray: Dear God, please give us wisdom to make good decisions, just like you gave to King Solomon.

BLESSING (1 minute)

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.

Say: *Friends, may you always remember to ask God for wisdom when you need to know what to do. He will help you when you ask.*

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

(Until parents pickup)

PLAY: Making a Valentine Heart

Supplies: heart doily, heart shaped cut out, crayons, glue stick, sticker



Directions: Put glue on each heart shaped cut out. Hand it to child. Help them stick the heart shape onto the doily. Help them stick the sticker onto the heart shape. Write the name of the child along with the date and the location (Woodmen Kids) on the child's craft so the parent(s) can keep it as a keepsake.

Say: You may give this valentine to someone special. The words say: I love that God gave you a heart of wisdom.

PLAY!

Purpose: Engage our youngest children by playing games and having fun!

While your class can participate in free play for most of the remaining classroom time, please try to lead at least one structured activity with your class. This is a great opportunity to introduce kids to classroom games and encourage interaction and participation with others.

Suggestions of activities:

- Hide an object and let kids find it
- Name and count parts of the body
- Discuss colors & numbers
- Turn on music and play freeze dance
- Have kids follow simple instructions (hop, sit down, clap, etc.)
- Read a board book
- Build a tower and let kids knock it down
- Play with a ball

CHECK-OUT

(end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in free play. Follow the check-out procedures for your classroom, making sure to send all of the child's belongings (diaper bag, bottle/sippy cup, pacifier, blanket, etc.) with the parent.

Give the parent encouragement about how the child did in your class and say "Bye (child's name)!"