

WEEK 2 PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE



THE BIG IDEA

I can be wise by choosing my words carefully.

THE BIBLE

Wisdom and Speech:
Psalm 19; James 3:4-10

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Wor-Ship Shanties

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** You can lead kids in worship with any songs you like best, but here are a few songs that go along with this month's theme. Make sure you have purchased any licenses required to play or perform these songs. For more information, [read this!](#)
 - "True North" (Rend Co. Kids)
 - "Make Right Choices" (LifeKids)
 - "Wise Up" (Kidspring)
 - "My Lighthouse" (Rend Co. Kids)

ACTIVITY | Pirate Lingo

- Ahoy, mateys! Today, we're talking all about what we say and choosing our words wisely.
- Choosing our words wisely is so important. It means we think about the words we say before we say them, making sure they're kind and loving words.
- For fun, I am going to say some phrases in pirate talk and I want you to guess what you think it means.
 - "Ahoy!" [Hello.]
 - "Me hearties!" [Friends.]
 - "Clipper" [A fast moving ship.]
 - "Lad" or "Lassie" [A kid or young person.]
 - "Run a rig" [To play a trick on someone.]
 - "Spyglass" [Telescope.]
 - "Thar she blows!" [A whale has been spotted.]
- Some of those words were pretty silly sounding, right?

- Choosing the words we say or choosing the words not to say can be tough to do. Today's Bible story is going to show us why we need to be careful with our words.

ACTIVITY | Pirate Paste Race

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Divide the group into two teams. Give each team a large tube of toothpaste and a bowl. When you say, "Go!" have the kids take turns squeezing a little bit of the toothpaste out into the bowl, then pass it on until the tube is spent. Then, ask for one volunteer from each team who thinks they can put all the toothpaste back into the tube to try it.*
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** *Use blocks to work together to build a pirate ship in your space. Tell the kids to knock it down, then try to recreate the ship exactly as you had it before.*
- **Do you think anyone can put all the toothpaste back into the tube?**
- No! Once it's out, you can't put it back. The same thing happens with our words.
- When we say something that is rude or unkind, we can't take it back. The words are already out and they can make someone sad and angry when we say those mean words.
- A part of choosing our own adventure is choosing what words we use when we talk to God, friends, family, and even strangers.

TEACHING TIME

BIBLE STORY | Wisdom and Speech

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Create another large boat outline on the floor using tape and ask the kids to sit inside the outline. Set up the two planks like last week to share today's Bible story from Psalm 19, using an easy-to-understand translation such as NIV or CEV.*
- *[Read or paraphrase verses one through six.]*
 - **Can you name some things that are in nature?**
 - The Bible tells us that even though these things cannot really talk, they still are praising God!
 - **If you were the sun, moon, or something else in nature, what would you say about God?**
- *[Read or paraphrase verses seven through nine.]*
 - **What is God's law?**
 - God's law is instructions from God. The Bible tells us all the things God wants us to do and not do. These things keep us safe and happy. The person who wrote this psalm, King David, says he loves God's law so much!
 - **Are there any laws or rules you really like?**
- *[Read or paraphrase verses ten through thirteen.]*
 - David says he loves God's word so much, he says they are more precious than gold and sweeter than honey!
 - **What are some other sweet things you can think of? Let's try completing this sentence with your words: "God's word is sweeter than _____."**
- *[Read or paraphrase verse fourteen.]*

- David finishes this psalm by saying he wants everything he says to be something that makes God happy.
- **What kinds of words can we say that would make God happy?**
- Now, let's choose the right way to go based on what we talked about today.
- **Should we walk . . .**
 1. **The Wise Plank and use words that make God and others happy? Or . . .**
 2. **The Unwise Plank and say whatever we feel like saying?**

BIG IDEA | I can be wise by choosing my words carefully.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Use the pirate ship mast from last week and add today's Big Idea to the sail. Ask the same volunteer to play the part of Captain Solly to reveal the Big Idea.
- Ahoy, me hearties! Cap'n Solly here with ye again this week! Yesterday, me heard yellin' outside me quarters — me mateys arguin' and callin' each other "scallywags" and other insults! Methinks today's Bible story is one I need to tell me crew about. Avast ye, let's see our new Big Idea!
- **Which deckhand will come help me set sail today?** [Choose a volunteer to come help reveal the Big Idea on the sail.]
- Our Big Idea today is: **I can be wise by choosing my words carefully.**

VIDEO | Choose Your Own Adventure, Episode 2

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of Cali's World.

ACTIVITY | Exploding Cannonballs

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Prepare "cannonballs" (see the Shop & Prep List to learn how) in advance. Pass out a cannonball to each kid along with a bowl or tray to set it in. Pass out squeeze bottles and let the kids squirt vinegar onto their cannonball.
- I have the hardest time choosing my words wisely when I am angry or frustrated. **Does anyone else?**
- Our emotions, or the way we feel, can sometimes affect what we say or how we say it. We have to choose the right words so that we don't hurt others, like a cannonball exploding through the walls of a ship!
- As you explode your cannonballs, say today's Big Idea with me: **I can be wise by choosing my words carefully!**

PRAYER

- Dear God, help us to choose our words carefully and wisely. Help us to watch what we say and say things in ways that will let others know they are loved. Amen.

DISCUSSION TIME

SNACK | Gold Coins

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Using [gold spray food coloring](#), spray round sandwich cookies and turn them into pirate gold coins.
- Psalm 19:10 says God's word is more precious than gold.
- Do you know who else loves gold? Pirates!
- **What are some wise words to say?**
- **When might we say unwise words?**

ACTIVITY | Choose Ye Words

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Write kind words on gold coins and bury them in buckets of sand. Divide the kids into two teams and line them up at a starting point. Place a bucket on the opposite end of the room. Tell the kids to race to their team's bucket, pick a gold coin out of the sand, and return to their team. Encourage others to cheer on their teammates during the race.
- You mateys did a great job finding the buried treasure! Let's see what kinds of wise words you found. [Read through the words written on the gold coins.]
- There are many things we can say to each other, but not all of them are wise words.
- **I can be wise by choosing my words carefully.**

ACTIVITY | Wise Map

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print the [Wise Map printable](#) and pass them out to the kids. Line up the kids and have them take turns coming up to an adult leader. Encourage the kids to choose wise or kind words to say to the adult leader to receive a sticker to put on their map.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Brainstorm some ideas with the kids of wise words to say. Say the words aloud as a group, then let the kids put their stickers on.
- Pirates don't always find treasure on the first try, they usually use something to help them find it. What do they use? A map!
- We don't always choose the wisest words on the first try either. The best way to choose wise words is to practice.
- We are going to use this map to help us practice using wise words.

MEMORY VERSE | Raise the Flag

- Pirates often design their own flags as a way to show something important about them or their ship. We are going to practice our memory verse by waving a flag, like a pirate.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** On triangle pieces of construction paper, write one word of the memory verse on each piece. Using paint sticks or large craft sticks, create a flag with each piece of construction paper that the kids can hold up as you practice the memory verse together. Optional: Provide pirate-themed stickers for the kids to decorate their flags.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Write the entire memory verse on the construction paper for the toddlers to decorate. Have them wave their flags as you say the memory verse aloud.

PLAY TIME

While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . . .

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print and distribute the coloring page along with crayons or markers. As the kids color, you can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse!*

ACTIVITY | Collect the Treasure

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Collect empty baby wipe containers to spray paint gold to look like a treasure chest. Instruct the kids to collect large jewels or gems (that you've hidden beforehand) and put them inside the treasure chests. As the kids locate treasure, ask the kids to think of some wise words they might use. Encourage the kids to say the Big Idea as they put their treasure in the chest.*

ACTIVITY | Walk the Plank

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Using blue water beads in a shallow bin, fill the "water" up with toy sharks from last week's Adventure Ocean activity. Set up a station where the kids can have their pirates walk the plank to get across the water.*

Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.