

WEEK 4 PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE



THE BIG IDEA

I can be wise by choosing God.

THE BIBLE

Wisdom and Faith:
Proverbs 3:1-8; James 5:13-16

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 | Cannonball Blaster

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a black balloon. Encourage the kids to try to keep their balloons in the air by lightly tapping them.
- Welcome to our last week of choosing our own adventure!
- One thing pirates are always worried about. . .cannonballs! If their cannonballs explode, their ship will sink!

ACTIVITY | Get the Gold!

- Hey, mateys! We've been talking a lot about pirates and choices, and one thing a pirate will always choose is gold!
- Let's play this game and race to see who can get the most gold!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a [pirate hook](#) for their hand. Divide the kids into two teams and have each team stand in a single-file line. Give each team a bag of [chocolate gold coins](#) (keep the coins in the mesh bag). Instruct the kids in each line to use their pirate hooks to pick up the bag and pass it as fast as they can to the back of the line. Have a small treasure chest or box that is spray painted gold for each team to race to fill up with the bags of gold coins.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Instead of passing the bag down the line, have each kid try and carry their bag around the room without dropping it.

TEACHING TIME

BIBLE STORY | Wisdom and Faith

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Create another large boat outline on the floor using tape where the kids can sit inside it. Set up the two planks from the previous weeks. Have Captain Solly come out and read Proverbs 3:1-8 dramatically from a printout you have rolled up inside a bottle.
- Captain Solly, that was a beautiful letter with incredibly wise advice! Did you write that?
 - **Captain Solly:** Me wishes. I found it floating by me ship as I dropped anchor this mornin’.
- Ah, I thought it sounded familiar! Captain Solly, that message is from the Bible, found in the third chapter of the book called, Proverbs.
 - **Captain Solly:** Blimey! No wonder it touched me soul. But I don’t know what it means. Ye will explain it, right? *[Sits down with the kids.]*
- Yes, of course! So, these verses you just read are all about whom you should trust when the choice to trust is between you or God.
- **Who’s choices are the best? Yours or God’s?**
- That was an easy question! Of course, we should trust God more! God knows what’s best for each of us, and sometimes, we may think we know what’s best for ourselves, but we really have no ideal
- That’s why Proverbs 3 keeps telling us to remember what God says to us in the Bible instead of just going by what we know on our own.
- Okay, it’s time to choose our wise adventure by walking one of these two planks.
- **Should we walk . . .**
 1. **The Wise Plank and ask God to guide us in everything we do? Or . . .**
 2. **The Unwise Plank and only listen to ourselves?**

BIG IDEA | I can be wise by choosing God.

- **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.
- Yo-ho-ho, mateys! How lucky me finds that bottle today? It’s going to help me as I ready meself and me crew to sail into the sunset on me sea rover! Me crew needs to swab the deck and set sail smartly with all the doubloons we’ve found on this adventure!
- Before I weigh anchor, though, **which deckhand will come to 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 God.**

VIDEO | Choose Your Own Adventure, Episode 4

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#).*

OBJECT LESSON | Sunken Treasure

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Fill one clear container halfway with water and another clear container halfway with vinegar. Prepare two small bags of baking soda. Dump one whole bag of baking soda into the water. It will do nothing but settle at the bottom. Dump a little bit of the other bag of baking soda in the vinegar, and there will be a bubbly reaction. Watch this [video](#) for reference.*
- This is what happens when we don't ask God for directions and just do what we want. *[Pour some baking soda into the container with water.]* See? Nothing happens. We didn't do what God wants us to.
- But when we obey God and listen to what God says to us in the Bible . . . *[Pour some baking soda into the container with vinegar.]* Whoa!
- God knows we are smart and can do a lot of things on our own very well. But the best things happen when we ask God to guide us first, instead of trying to solve everything on our own.
- You are a treasure, but the greatest treasure is found by putting our faith in God.
- **I can be wise by choosing God!**

PRAYER

- Dear God, we are so glad you want to be a part of our adventure, even when we forget to include you sometimes. Help us to choose you over everything else! Amen.

DISCUSSION TIME

SNACK | Polly Wanna Cracker

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Serve cheese or peanut butter crackers to the kids. If there is anyone with allergies to dairy or peanut butter, serve plain crackers. For the tongue twisters below, look up song versions so that they're easier to learn for this age group!*
- Let's practice our best parrot voices to say these tongue twisters!
 - Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.
 - How much wood would a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood?
 - Fuzzy Wuzzy was a bear. Fuzzy Wuzzy had no hair. Fuzzy Wuzzy wasn't very fuzzy, was he?
 - She sells seashells by the seashore.
- Parrots often don't get to choose what they say – they have to copy what a pirate says.
- We get to choose a ton of things every day, including what to say, what to wear, and what to do. Whenever we have to make a choice, let's remember to make the best choice: **I can be wise by choosing God!**

ACTIVITY | Swab the Deck

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Blow up black balloons or use the ones from the Cannonball Blaster activity. Using small brooms, encourage the kids to swab the deck to get all of the cannonballs into a designated area, like a laundry basket or a taped square on the floor.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Instead of brooms, have toddlers use their hands to “push” the balloons to the designated area.
- When we choose to spend time with God, it is not always easy. Sometimes, it requires hard work. Sometimes, it means we have to stop doing something else so we have more time to spend with God.
- But guess what? We may feel sad for a little bit when we have to stop doing something we really want to do, but hanging out with God is the best, most wisest choice we can make!
- **I can be wise by choosing God!**

ACTIVITY | Wise Pirates

- We’ve been talking all month long about what it means to be wise.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Teach the following motions to the kids for each of the Big Ideas. Practice these together.
- **Wise pirates don’t choose sides.** [Use pointer fingers to point side to side.]
- **Wise pirates choose their words carefully.** [Use pointer fingers to point to their mouth.]
- **Wise pirates choose to do good.** [Give two thumbs up.]
- **Wise pirates choose God.** [Point to the sky.]

MEMORY VERSE | Buried Treasure

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Divide the kids into two groups. Have a large box made to look like a treasure chest for each team. Fill the box with sand, small “treasure” toys, and the torn pieces from the printable. Instruct the kids to race to the box one at a time, dig through to find one (and only one) slip of paper, and bring it back. Then, the next kid will do the same, and so on. As each kid gets their paper back to their line, have the kids piece the verse together on a table. The first team to complete the verse wins.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** To avoid choking hazards with small items, place large “treasures” with pieces of the memory verse taped to the bottom. Once the kids retrieve all the items, have them repeat after you in order each piece of the memory verse.

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 | Choose Your Own Flag

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Using black construction paper and white crayons or chalk, encourage the kids to decorate their own pirate flag.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Help toddlers draw shapes or even scribbles with a white crayon on a white piece of art paper. Then, have the kids paint over the entire page with black watercolor paint with large paintbrushes.

ACTIVITY | Captain Says

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** This is a modified version of the game, "Simon Says." Give simple action commands, reminding the kids to only do the commands when you say, "Captain says. . ." You can use the commands from the "Captain's Orders" activity in week three.

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