



The Wise Builder

Lesson Aim: To know God wants us to make wise choices.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: The King Who Teaches

THE WORD

Bible Story: Matthew 7:24-27

What He Has Done: Jesus taught that the wise man builds his house on a rock.

THE WAY

Bible Memory Verse: "Sing praises to God, sing praises." Psalm 47:6

Unit 5: The King Who Teaches—Parables 1			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
23	The Lost Sheep, Luke 15:4-7	Jesus taught that God finds those who are lost.	To know Jesus watches over us.
24	The Growing Seed, Mark 4:26-29	Jesus taught that God made the plants grow.	To know God makes us grow.
25	The Wise Builder, Matthew 7:24-27	Jesus taught that the wise man builds his house on a rock.	To know God wants us to make wise choices.
26	The Good Shepherd, John 10:14-16	Jesus taught that He is the Good Shepherd.	To know we belong to Jesus.
27	The Lost Coin, Luke 15:8-10	Jesus taught that the woman rejoiced when she found her lost coin.	To know heaven rejoices over each of us.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Proverbs 3:13-23. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for the wisdom that is found in Your Word. Make us wise by Your Spirit, and help us to faithfully communicate this wisdom to the little ones You bring to us. Amen."

TEACHER'S TIP

Encourage! Reinforce children's good behaviors with statements like "I appreciate how you helped clean up." or "You're a good listener." This is especially important for children who struggle to behave in class. Let them know you've seen the good things they do.



THE WORSHIP THE WORD & THE WAY

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Welcome	Treasure chest, sticker of a house, hammer, or rock
		Coloring Center: The Wise Builder	Coloring pages of the story of the wise builder, crayons or markers
		Play-Dough Center: Build Your House	Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools
		Activity Center: Good Choice, Bad Choice	Any classroom toys, blocks, or games
		Act It Out Center: The Two Builders	None
	Up to 5	Prepare for Worship	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org. Additional Song Suggestions: "The Wise Man and the Foolish Man"	Praise music, optional: musical instruments Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Sing Praises" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Be Still and Know" "He Is Mighty to Save" "How Wide?" "I Am with You" "I Will Listen" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 5, Lesson 25
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Matthew 7:24-27	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Matthew 7:25 Visual: Picture of the Bible story, toy tool kit
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: House on the Rock	Standard-size sturdy white paper, sturdy gray paper, rounded toothpicks (or pretzels, craft sticks or straws), glue or glue stick, crayons or markers
		Game: Sing It	Song: "The Wise Man and the Foolish Man"
		Game: Make Wise Choices	None
		Snack: Build-A-Snack	Vanilla wafers or another stackable snack
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's: Unit 5, Lesson 25
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Matthew 7:24-27	None
	Up to 10	Game: Praise Dance	Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song "Sing Praises"
	Up to 10	Game: Circle Praise	None
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about making wise choices

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Jesus as the King who teaches

THE WELCOME

WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a sticker* of a house, hammer, or rock. **Let this sticker remind you that God wants you to make wise choices like the wise builder we will hear about today.**

*Families will be encouraged to keep each child's crafts and stickers for the next ten weeks (Lessons 23-32) in a "Kingdom Stories Treasure Box." See the Craft page and Ponder, Pray & Play card for details.

Teacher's Note: These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

COLORING CENTER: THE WISE BUILDER

SUPPLIES

Coloring pages of the story of the wise builder, crayons or markers

DO

Children color their picture as they talk about today's story.

TALK ABOUT

Tell me what you see on your coloring page. (A man in a house, rain.) **Today's story is about two men who built houses. Can you tell me about your house?** (Children respond.)

PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: BUILD YOUR HOUSE

SUPPLIES

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools

DO

Children play with the play-dough while talking about today's Bible story. Encourage children to make houses with the play-dough.

TALK ABOUT

In our story today, we will hear about two men and the houses they built. If you could build your own house, what would it look like? (Children respond.) **Where would you build it?** (Children respond.) **In our story, one man built his house on a rock and the other built his house on sand. We will find out who made a good choice and who made a bad choice.**

THE WELCOME *continued...*

ACTIVITY CENTER: GOOD CHOICE, BAD CHOICE

SUPPLIES

Any classroom toys, blocks, or games

DO

While children are playing, talk to them about making good and bad choices.

TALK ABOUT

Jesus was a great storyteller. Some of the stories He told were called parables because they taught the people about God and His kingdom. One day, Jesus told a story about a wise builder and a foolish builder. He wanted the people to learn to make wise or good choices. As children are playing, encourage them to make good choices such as sharing toys, helping others, being polite, and following directions. When children make a bad choice, use the opportunity to talk with them about the choice they made. Talk with them about what would have been a better choice.

ACT IT OUT CENTER: THE TWO BUILDERS

SUPPLIES

None

DO

Have the children stand in a circle. Stand in the middle of the circle. Choose one child to be the “house on the rock” and one child to be the “house on the sand.” Divide the remaining children into three groups: wind, rain, and waves. Teach and practice the following motions:

Wind: Blow air or whistle and make swirling motions with arms

Rain: Flutter fingers as hands move up and down

Waves: Move both arms in wave motion

House on the Rock: Stand stiff and tall

House on the Sand: Tumble down to the floor

Have the children act out their motions as you read the “SAY & DO” poem from GOT TIME? in this lesson.

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

It's time for Praise Time. Let's sing a “Clean Up Song” as we put things away. Praise children as they help clean.

**Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com)

“Lord,	Make “L” shape with right index finger and thumb. Move “L” from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.
You know	(know) Open hand with palm facing down, fingertips tap the forehead two times.
that I	(I) Point to self.
love You.”	(love) Fists closed, both arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
John 21:17	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

Adding sign language or motions to the Bible Memory Verse helps children recall what they are learning.



Jesus as the King who teaches

THE WORSHIP

Supplies: Praise music, optional: musical instruments

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



Today, we will learn God wants us to make wise or good choices. Your family made a good choice today by coming to church. Let's make another good choice and take time to talk to Jesus. Have children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear Jesus, thank You for teaching us about Your kingdom. Help us to make wise choices in everything we say and do. Amen.**



When we choose to be wise, Jesus is pleased. Another way to please Jesus is to build His kingdom. That's what we are doing when we give Him our money offering. Let's do that now. Sing: "How Wide?" while collecting the offering.

Let's sing praises to King Jesus who teaches us about His kingdom. Sing Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Sing Praises."



"Sing praises to God, sing praises." That's our Bible Memory Verse. Let's say it with the motions. Practice several times.

**"Sing
praises
to God,**

One open flat hand moves back and forth along the other forearm.
The index finger comes off the mouth, followed by clapping hands together.
(God) The open right hand, with fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.

**sing
praises."**

One open flat hand moves back and forth along the forearm.
The index finger comes off the mouth, followed by clapping hands together.

Psalm 47:6

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



Our wise new friend, Ranger Ryan the Lion, is going to tell us about making good choices Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 5, Lesson 25.



We make wise choices when we listen to what God says to us. Jesus wants us to listen to His words and do what He says to do. Jesus' words are like the strong rock in His story. His words will always be true. Sing: "I Will Listen."



The wise builder

THE WORD

Supplies: Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Matthew 7:25, picture of the Bible story, toy tool kit

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;	Point to eyes.
My mouth quiet as can be,	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
I will listen to hear,	Cup hand around ear.
How God loves you and me.	Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears. Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

Today, I brought a tool kit with me. Who can tell me what we use tools for? (Children respond.) Ask the children the names of a few of the tools you have and what they are used for (ie. hammer is used to pound nails, saw is used to cut wood). **Today's story is about two builders. Let's listen.** Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Matthew 7:25.



WATCH THE WORD: MATTHEW 7:24-27

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

- **Jesus said, "All who hear what I say,**
- **And try to do everything God's way,**
- **Are like the wise builder who built his house,**
- **On top of a rock—on solid ground.**

- **"The wind blows hard; the rain comes down.**
- **But the house on the rock does not fall down!**
- **There are some who will choose to disobey,**
- **And only do things their own way.**

- **"They are just like the foolish man;**
- **He built his house upon the sand.**
- **The wind blows hard; the rain comes down.**
- **That house falls down with a crashing sound!"**

One builder made a good choice. What did he build his house on? (A rock.) **Who wants you to make good or wise choices?** (God.)



Making wise choices

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

Kingdom Stories Treasure Box: Encourage families to use the instructions on the Ponder, Pray & Play card to make a Kingdom Stories Treasure Box to store children's Kingdom Stories Treasures for the next ten weeks (Lessons 23-32). Children should place their Treasure Chest Sticker on the outside of the box and their parable story crafts inside. Create a Kingdom Stories Treasure Box for the classroom to review the stories each week.

CRAFT: HOUSE ON THE ROCK

Purpose: Children build a house on a rock to remind them of the story of the wise builder.

Supplies: Standard-size sturdy white paper, sturdy gray paper, craft foam or sturdy paper*, glue or glue stick, crayons or markers

Prepare: Draw the outline of a house in the middle of the sturdy white paper. Cut small squares from craft foam or sturdy paper for children to use to "build" the house. From sturdy gray paper, cut a large rock. On the rock, print:

**Be wise.
Matthew 7:24-27**

Adaptation for Ages 2-3: This craft has been adapted from the curriculum for ages 4-5.

Directions:

1. Color the house.
2. Glue the rock under the house.
3. Allow children to "build" the house by gluing on squares of craft foam or sturdy paper.

Craft Discussion:

- **What kind of choices does God want you to make?** (Wise choices.)
- **One man made a wise choice. Where did he build his house?** (On a rock.)
- **What happened when the wind blew and the rain poured on his house?** (It stayed strong.) **He was a wise builder.**
- **One man made a foolish choice. Where did he build his house?** (On the sand.)
- **What happened when the wind blew and the rain poured on his house?** (It fell.)
- **Does God want you to make wise choices like the wise builder or foolish choices like the foolish builder?** (Wise choices.)

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: SING IT

Purpose: To remember our story.

Supplies: Song: "The Wise Man and the Foolish Man"

Let's sing a song to remind us of our story today.

Motions:

"built his house upon the rock"	Pound one fist on top of the other.
"rains came tumbling down "	Wriggle fingers while moving hands down.
"floods came up"	In slight rippling motion, raise hands up in time with music.
"house"	Hold hands above head with fingers touching to represent roof.
"built his house upon the sand"	Place your hands in front , palms down, one on top of the other. Move your hands, palm down, each to their side to show flat "sand."
"SPLAT!"	Clap hands on the word SPLAT!

Lyrics:

**The wise man built his house upon the rock. (3x.) and the rains came tumbling down.
The rains came down and the floods came up. (3x.) and the house on the rock stood firm.**

(Repeat from the beginning.)

**The foolish man built his house upon the sand. (3x.) and the rains came tumbling down.
The rains came down and the floods came up. (3x.) and the house on the sand went SPLAT!**

The rains came down and the floods came up. (3x.) and the house on the rock stood firm.

GAME: MAKE WISE CHOICES

Purpose: Children will learn to choose wise choices.

Supplies: None

God teaches us how to make wise choices. I will ask you about different choices some children made. If it was a wise choice, clap and stand tall like the house on the rock. If it was not a wise choice, sit down and say "Crash!" like the house on the sand.

Directions:

1. Have the children stand in a circle. Stand in the middle of the circle holding a Bible.
2. Read the following examples, allowing the children to respond after each example.
 - Sarah took her brother's crayons without asking. Did Sarah make a wise choice?
 - Maria shared her crayons with her friend. Did Maria make a wise choice?
 - John hit his sister. Did John make a wise choice?
 - Sammy hugged his mother. Did Sammy make a wise choice?
 - Alex took Joshua's toy car without asking. Did Alex make a wise choice?
 - Molly asked to hold Rachel's doll. She waited patiently for Rachel to share her doll with her. Did Molly make a wise choice?

Let's remember to be like the wise builder and make good choices.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: BUILD-A-SNACK

Purpose: Children will enjoy a snack as they review the story of the Wise Builder.

Snack Suggestion: Vanilla wafers or another stackable snack

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Today's story was about two builders. Can you build a house by stacking your cookies?** Show children how to stack their cookies. **One man built his house on sand and his house fell down. Can you knock over your house?** Encourage children to carefully knock down their towers of cookies. **Let's build our houses again.** Encourage children to restack their crackers.
 - **Where did the wise man build his house?** (On a rock.) **His house stood tall and straight on the hard rock. He made a wise choice.**
 - **Who wants you to be wise?** (God, parent, teacher, etc.)
 - **When your parent tells you to go to bed, what would be the wise choice?** (Go to bed.) **When your parent tells you to pick up your toys, what would be the wise choice?** (Pick up my toys.) **You can practice making wise choices every day!**



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

"Sing	One open flat hand moves back and forth along the other forearm.
praises	The index finger comes off the mouth, followed by clapping hands together.
to God,	(God) The open right hand, with fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.
sing	One open flat hand moves back and forth along the forearm.
praises."	The index finger comes off the mouth, followed by clapping hands together.
Psalm 47:6	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

PRAY

Let's pray together. Say a closing prayer with the children.

PLAY

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

DISMISSAL

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: MATTHEW 7:24-27

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the Bible Story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **Jesus said, "All who hear what I say,** (Point to ear.)
- **And try to do everything God's way,** (Point to heaven.)
- **Are like the wise builder who built his house,** (Pretend to use a hammer.)
- **On top of a rock—on solid ground."** (Make a fist like a rock.)

- **"The wind blows hard; the rain comes down.** (Wave arms and hands, like wind and rain.)
- **But the house on the rock does not fall down!** (Shake head no.)
- **There are some who will choose to disobey,** (Wag index finger back and forth.)
- **And only do things their own way."** (Point to self.)

- **"They are just like the foolish man;** (Make a silly face.)
- **He built his house upon the sand.** (Pretend to use a hammer.)
- **The wind blows hard; the rain comes down.** (Wave arms and hands, like wind and rain.)
- **That house falls down with a crashing sound!"** (Plug ears with fingers.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"Sing praises to God, sing praises." Psalm 47:6

GAME: PRAISE DANCE

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song "Sing Praises"

Jesus loves to hear you sing praises to Him. Praises are words that say how great Jesus is. Let's praise Him together as we dance and sing our Bible Memory Verse Song!

Directions:

1. Play and sing: "Sing Praises."
2. Encourage children to sing, dance, and create motions to help remember the words to the song.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: CIRCLE PRAISE

Purpose: Children stand to praise God for something in their life. Some praise examples include: family, friends, pets, toys, teachers, favorite activities, etc.

Supplies: None

We can praise God by thanking Him for the good things He gives us. Let's praise and thank God for all of those good things!

Directions:

1. Children sit in a circle.
2. Choose one child to stand in the center.
3. Seated children chant: "Name of standing child sings praises to our King!"
"Name of standing child, what is the praise you bring?"
4. Standing child says, "**I praise God for child's individual praise.**"
5. All the children clap and shout "**We praise God!**"
6. The child in the center chooses another child to stand and sits back down in the circle.
7. Play until each child has had a turn giving praise.



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about making wise choices.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 5, Lesson 25: The Wise Builder

PONDER! Jesus told the story of two builders (Matthew 7:24-27). Which builder made a wise choice? Show your family the "House on the Rock" you made. Talk about wise choices each of you can make every day.

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for telling us through Bible stories how to make wise choices. Help us to make wise choices every day. Amen."

PLAY! Open your Kingdom Stories Treasure Box (any decorated box). Put today's craft inside. Put your Treasure Box Sticker on the outside. During the week, take out your craft treasures to remind your family of Jesus' stories.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Sing praises to God,	One open flat hand moves back and forth along the other forearm.
sing praises."	The index finger comes off the mouth, followed by clapping hands together.
Psalm 47:6	(God) The open right hand, with fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.
	One open flat hand moves back and forth along the forearm.
	The index finger comes off the mouth, followed by clapping hands together.
	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.