



The Wise Builder

Lesson Aim: To make wise choices based on God's Word.

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

Whisper Verse: "Be wise."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.
For God is the King of all the earth." Psalm 47:6-7a

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 will search for the lost and find them.
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 make wise choices based on God's Word.
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."



Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a house, hammer, or rock
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Be wise."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Sing Praises" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "He Is Mighty to Save" "How Wide" "I Am with You" "It's Praise Time" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "We Love" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "Amazing Grace" "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Cedarment Toddler Bible Songs The Ultimate Bible Song Collection for Kids Vol. 1
		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: "House on the Rock" craft sample
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: House on the Rock	Standard-size sturdy white paper; sturdy gray paper; toothpicks, pretzels, craft sticks, or straws; glue or glue stick; crayons or markers
		Game: Act It Out	None
		Game: Make Wise Choices	Bible
		Snack: Sandy Snacks	Pudding and wafer cookies
		Circle of Prayer	None
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 5, Lesson 25 Color This Story: "The Wise Builder"
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," CD player
	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.



Be wise

THE 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 stamp or sticker of a house, hammer, or rock. **Let this remind you that God wants you to make wise choices like the wise builder did in the story we'll hear today. Our Whisper Verse is "Be wise."** Teach Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.**

SIGN LANGUAGE: "Be wise."

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

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with one hand motion:

"(Be) wise." Using the right hand, create the letter "X" hand shape by bending the pointer finger at both knuckles while the rest of the hand remains in a fist. Wave the letter "X" hand shape up and down in front of the forehead.

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "Be wise," Proverbs 8:33. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



Jesus as the King who teaches

THE WORSHIP

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 "It's Praise Time!" as children move to that designated area.

All of our friends have gathered here with us to sing praise to King Jesus. He is the King who teaches us. King Jesus tells us special stories to help us understand the kingdom of God. Today, we will hear the story Jesus told about the wise builder and the foolish builder. Jesus wants us to be wise. That's our Whisper Verse for today. Let's whisper "Be wise." Quietly review Whisper Verse together: "Be wise." Include sign language.



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 see how our wise new friend, Ranger Ryan the Lion, is doing today! 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."

Who knows the most important things Jesus tells us to do? (Children respond.) Jesus says to love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind, and to love your neighbor as yourself. Let's show our love for Him now by singing praises to Him. Sing: "Sing Praises" and "Let Everything That Has Breath."



The wise builder **THE WORD**

Additional supplies: Classroom Kingdom Stories Treasure Box, Lesson 24 “Growing Seed Packet” craft sample

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.

Open the Classroom Kingdom Stories Treasure Box to display the Lesson 24 “Growing Seed Packet” craft sample. **Last time, we learned God makes the plants grow and He makes you grow, too! Who would like to tell the story of the growing seed we learned last week?** Let one or two children take a turn telling the story while they hold the craft sample.

Today, we will hear how Jesus told the story of the wise builder and the foolish builder. Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Matthew 7:25.

WATCH THE WORD: MATTHEW 7:24-27

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, hold a House on the Rock craft sample. Other visual options include Color This Story or any related picture.

- **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!”**

Who wants you to make wise choices? (God, parent, teacher, etc.) **That’s like our Whisper Verse!**
Let’s say it together: “Be wise.” Include sign language or hand motion.



One builder made a wise choice. What did he build his house on? (A rock.) Let’s find our answer in the Bible. Read Matthew 7:25 from teacher’s Bible. **He made a wise choice to build his house on a rock!**



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.

Teacher Tip: Encourage families to use the instructions on the Ponder, Pray & Play card to make a Kingdom Stories Treasure Box. Children can use it to store their Kingdom Stories Treasures for the lessons from Unit 5 and 6 (Lessons 23-32). The Kingdom Stories Treasure Box Sticker goes on the outside of the Treasure Box. During each lesson, children create the craft to be placed in the Treasure Box. When Units 5 and 6 are completed, there will be a total of ten crafts inside the Treasure Box and ten stickers decorating the outside of the box.

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; toothpicks, pretzels, craft sticks, or straws; glue or glue stick; crayons or markers

Prepare: Draw the outline of a house in the middle of the white paper. From sturdy gray paper, cut a large rock. On the rock, print: **"Be wise." Matthew 7:24-27**

Directions:

1. Glue the rock under the house.
2. Color the house.
3. Allow children to "build" the house by gluing on rounded toothpicks, pretzels, craft sticks, or straws.

Craft Discussion:

- **What kind of choices does God want you to make?** (Wise choices.) **That's like our Whisper Verse! Let's say it with our motions right now!** Say Whisper Verse together with hand motion.
- **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: ACT IT OUT

Purpose: Children will review the story by acting it out.

Supplies: None

Directions:

1. Have the children stand in a circle. Stand in the middle of the circle.
2. Choose one child to be the "house on the rock" and one child to be the "house on the sand."
3. Divide the remaining children into three groups: wind, rain, and waves.
4. 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
5. Have the children act out their motions as you read the "Watch the Word" poem from THE WORD portion of this lesson.
6. Assign new roles to the children and play again.

GAME: MAKE WISE CHOICES

Purpose: Children will learn to make wise choices.

Supplies: Bible

In the Bible, God teaches us how to make wise choices. Let's listen to the Bible and learn how to make wise choices.

Directions:

1. Have the children stand in a circle. Stand in the middle of the circle holding a Bible.
2. **I am going to read what the Bible says. Then, 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.**
3. Read the following Bible Verses and examples allowing the children to respond after each example.
 - The Bible says, "We will share."** (Numbers 10:32)
 - Maria shared her crayons with her friend. Did Maria make a wise choice?
 - Sarah took her brother's crayons without asking. Did Sarah make a wise choice?
 - The Bible says, "Show love."** (Hosea 1:7)
 - John hit his sister. Did John make a wise choice?
 - Sammy hugged his mother. Did Sammy make a wise choice?
 - The Bible says, "Do not steal."** (Leviticus 19:11a)
 - 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?

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: SANDY SNACKS

Purpose: Children enjoy a snack that reminds them of the sand in the story of the wise builder.

Snack Suggestion: Pudding served in a bowl with wafer cookies

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.
 - **Who wants you to be wise?** (God, parent, teacher, etc.) **That's our Whisper Verse!** Choose a child to demonstrate motion to Whisper Verse: "Be wise."
 - **One man built his house on sand. Let's see why it was not wise to build on sand.** Children crush cookies over their pudding to look like sand.
 - **Could a house stand up tall on your wobbly sand?** (No.)
 - **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.**
 - **You can make wise choices, too. 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.) **Practice making wise choices today!**



CIRCLE OF PRAYER

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (say each name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your "House on the Rock" craft. Tell someone God wants you to make wise choices. Put your "House on the Rock" in your Kingdom Stories Treasure Box when you get home. You can make your Treasure Box from any box you find at home. Remember to put your sticker on the outside of your Treasure Box.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY: Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards, if available. **Show this card to your family. Tell them the story of the wise builder.**

COLOR THIS STORY: "The Wise Builder." Discuss Bible Story and play Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song "Sing Praises" as children color.



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; sing praises to our King, sing praises.
For God is the King of all the earth." Psalm 47:6-7a

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," CD player

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. Sing or play recording of "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 things we love. He gives us so many good things. Think of one thing you love that God has given to you. 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. Child in the center chooses another child to stand and takes that child's place in the circle.
7. Play until each child has had a turn giving praise.

Option: Each time children say the word "sings" or "praises," use the following hand motions:

"Sings" Hands move back and forth in rhythm as if conducting music for a choir.

"Praises" Index finger points from mouth outward (sign language for "truth"), then clap hands twice.



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! Read Matthew 7:24-27 with your family. Show them the "House on the Rock" you made. Talk about how Jesus told the story of the two builders. One builder made a wise choice. 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, in the Bible, how to make wise choices. Help us to make wise choices every day. Amen."

PLAY! Open your Kingdom Stories Treasure Box (any box from home decorated to be a Treasure Box). Put today's craft inside your Treasure Box. Put your Kingdom Stories Treasure Box Sticker on the outside of your Treasure Box. This week, show someone each treasure you have made. During the week, take out your craft treasures to remind your family of Jesus' stories.

Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse: Psalm 47:6-7a

"Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises. For God is the King of all the earth."