**Week 1**

**Email 1: What We Learned This Week**

**God’s Wisdom (Proverbs 2–3)**

**Brite Idea: All wisdom comes from God.**

Solomon wrote the book of Proverbs after God answered his prayer and gave him great wisdom. Proverbs teaches us we should seek after wisdom like it is a hidden treasure. Wisdom is understanding a situation and knowing what to do. God is the source of all wisdom. We can learn from Him by seeking Him first and diligently studying His Word. We can trust His ways and apply what we learn from Him. God’s wisdom protects us and helps us live life His way. Wisdom brings His blessings into our lives.

Solomon was David’s son but one day, many generations later, another Son would come from David’s family. God had promised that the Messiah would come through David’s line. Jesus fulfilled this promise! God made Solomon extremely wise, but Jesus is even wiser. During His earthly ministry, Jesus amazed people with His wisdom (Matthew 13:54). Jesus became our wisdom and all true wisdom is hidden in Him. We can’t truly seek wisdom without first trusting in Jesus as our Savior.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding. (Proverbs 2:6)*

**Week 1**

**Email #2: Navigating a Broken World - Self-Help**

Our world is not lacking in resources that advertise they will help people become better versions of themselves. The flourishing self-help market includes books, videos, motivational speakers, social media, and so much more. In a world filled with advice, kids may be confused about where to seek the counsel they need. Their default will be YouTube and social media, which we know typically does not provide godly wisdom. Kids need help learning how to discern the advice given by the world and how to seek out God’s wisdom. Listen to kids’ conversations to gauge what sources they are learning from. In this week’s lesson, kids learn God is the true source of wisdom and He gives His wisdom to us when we ask.

***Here’s how we discussed this topic and how you can discuss it at home:***

**Discuss:** When your friends want advice or need help knowing what to do, where do they go to try to find answers?

**Discuss:** What might be some challenges with using YouTube, social media, or the advice of others friends to try to help themselves?

**Discuss:** What do you think God has to say about that?

**Say:** There are a lot of “self-help” resources in our world today. There are thousands of books, videos, speakers, and more that are designed to help people make themselves better or solve their problems. Not all of those resources are bad. The danger comes when we trust in the world’s wisdom instead of seeking God’s wisdom first. Any advice we get from the world should be compared to what the Bible says. James 3:17 says: *But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.* Remember, God is the source of all wisdom. If a video or a book says something different from what He says, it is not true wisdom.

**Week 2**

**Email 1: What We Learned This Week**

**God’s Wisdom with Friends (Proverbs 13:20, 17:17, 27:17)**

**Brite Idea: God gives us wisdom for friendships.**

The Bible has much to say about friendship. It is extremely important to be wise about who we spend our time with. It is wise to choose friends who are loyal, kind and have good character. True friends always stick by us. They help us rather than hurt us. True friends avoid gossip, anger and other harmful traits. God wants us to build wise friendships and to be a godly friend to others. Wise friends help each other become more like Jesus. Jesus is the best friend we will ever have and showed His true friendship by giving His life for us.

Jesus is the very best friend of all. Jesus is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. He loves at all times. He is the perfect friend and is an example to us of how to be a friend. But that’s not all. In John 15:13, Jesus said: *Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.* Jesus proved that He is the greatest friend we will ever have by dying on the cross for our sins and making a way for us to live forever with Him.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding. (Proverbs 2:6)*

**Week 2**

**Email #2: Navigating a Broken World - Popularity**

Your kids may be very popular at school or yours may feel left out. If popularity is important to kids, they might face temptations to make unwise choices, hoping other kids will think more highly of them. Help your family not focus on popularity, but rather, help your kids build authentic friendships. In this week’s lesson, kids learn how to make wise friendship choices. Pray for your kids to seek God’s wise path for friendships rather than focusing on a pursuit of popularity.

***Here’s how we discussed this topic and how you can discuss it at home:***

**Discuss:** How important is it for the kids you know to be popular?

**Discuss:** What are some things you have seen other kids do to try to be popular?

**Discuss:** What do you think God has to say about that?

**Say:** Most people struggle at some point with wanting to be popular. The problem comes when we sacrifice God’s wisdom and God’s ways to try to make other people like us. We let popularity become more important than God. If being a part of the popular crowd requires you to go against God’s word or to treat other people badly, it is not worth it. God calls us to follow Him. We trust Him with our friendships. We live our lives to please Him, not other kids. It can be lonely when we feel we are unpopular but Jesus understands that feeling. Jesus said in John 15;18: *If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you.* Popular or not, we are wise when we focus our attention on pleasing God first.

**Week 3**

**Email 1: What We Learned This Week**

**God’s Wisdom with Words (Proverbs 18:21, 10:19, 15:1, 12:18)**

**Brite Idea: God gives us wisdom in how we speak.**

Our words are powerful. They can hurt or harm, bringing life or death to others. God wants us to be wise in how we speak to others. We honor God with kind, gentle, honest and careful words that bring life to those around us. When we speak harshly, argue or gossip we hurt others and ourselves. Proverbs reminds us that often it is better for us to not speak. Our words show what is in our hearts. They should honor God.

Why do our words matter so much? Our words show what is in our hearts. In Luke 6:45, Jesus said that our mouth speaks from what is coming out of our heart. When we say things that are different from God wants, that is sin. That sin separates us from God. Only Jesus can forgive the sin in our hearts and the sin that comes out of our mouths. Romans 10:9 says that if we confess with our mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in our hearts that God raised Him from the dead, we will be saved.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding. (Proverbs 2:6)*

**Week 3**

**Email #2: Navigating a Broken World - Bad Language**

Our society has become more accepting of language that previously was viewed as inappropriate. Your kids have likely been exposed to inappropriate language and may even use it themselves. If a kid lets a word slip, use it as a teaching opportunity to remind kids to use words that honor God and honor each other. Avoid shaming a child, but don’t allow the language to continue. In this week’s lesson, kids learn that our words are powerful and God wants us to be wise in how we use them.

***Here’s how we discussed this topic and how you can discuss it at home:***

**Discuss:** Why do you think people use words that are considered “bad words”?

**Discuss:** Do kids your age think there is anything wrong with using bad language?

**Discuss:** What do you think God has to say about that?

**Say:** Bad language has definitely become more common in our culture. We can’t find verses in the Bible that give us a list of what words we should and shouldn’t say. The exact words aren’t the point. The point is our hearts. Ephesians 5:4 says: *Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving.* God wants us to use our words wisely and to honor Him. One way we can be set apart from the rest of the world and shine Jesus brightly is to refuse to speak in the same way that the world talks. God can use our words to bring life and encouragement to those around us.

**Week 4**

**Email 1: What We Learned This Week**

**God’s Wisdom with How We Use Money (Proverbs 3:9–10, 30:7–9)**

**Brite Idea: God gives us wisdom in how we use money.**

Solomon was the wisest man on earth, and also the richest. Many proverbs are about how we deal with money. God wants us to be generous toward Him and others. Whether we are rich or poor, God loves us. We should handle money responsibly since we are managing God’s resources, and we should never let money become too important in our lives. Money is temporary. When we die it will not matter how rich we were. The only thing that will matter is if we know Jesus as our Savior. God gives us wisdom in how we can use money to honor Him.

Life is about so much more than just gathering up money. One day we will all die and money won’t mean a thing. The only thing that will matter is if we know Jesus as our Savior and how we have honored Him with our lives. Jesus is the greatest treasure we can have. He promises eternal life with Him.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding. (Proverbs 2:6)*

**Week 4**

**Email #2: Navigating a Broken World - Prosperity Gospel**

The prosperity gospel teaches that if we have enough faith in God, He will give us more money. This teaching is prevalent. While God blesses us in many ways, that does not mean He will always give us abundant financial resources. Proverbs 22:2 says: *The rich and the poor meet together; the Lord is the Maker of them all.* The prosperity gospel ignores Jesus’ teachings about suffering and minimizes the faith of millions of believers all over the world who live in poverty. Kids in your group may be confused about God’s blessing. He does promise to bless generosity, but that doesn’t mean He will make us rich. Listen for kids’ misconceptions and point them to God’s truth

***Here’s how we discussed this topic and how you can discuss it at home:***

**Discuss:** Does God make us rich because we believe in Him? Why or why not?

**Discuss:** What would you say if someone told you that if you give to God, He will make you rich?

**Discuss:** What do you think God has to say about this?

**Say:** God loves us and blesses us in so many ways. He promises to bless us as we are generous and by using our money wisely, we will end up having more of it. However, God never promises that He will make us rich. In fact, there are faithful believers all over the world who live in terrible poverty. That doesn’t mean they don’t love God enough. God cares more about our hearts than our wallets. Sometimes He does bless us in financial ways, but it is never a guarantee. He is not a magic genie who grants our wishes. He is the God of the universe who owns everything. He entrusts us with money and belongings to manage it well for Him and to serve others. Hebrews 13:5 says: *Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for He has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”*