



Kindergarten-2nd

February 14-15, 2015

DATE

Wise and Foolish Builder

LESSON TITLE

Matthew 7:24-27

Adventure Bible for Early Readers (p. 1130)

WHERE TO FIND IT

Jesus Calls us to obey him.

MAIN POINT

schedule

Connect Time (15 minutes): Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

Large Group (40 minutes): Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

Small Group (20 minutes): Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you *all* have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

tips

It's possible Connect Time could take a little longer than usual with big groups. Either start it early or start Large Group 5 minutes late. Decide what works best for your room, but be sure to do the Connect Time activity!

check-in/out

As kids leave, remind them to use the popsicle-stick house they built to retell the story.

large group heads up

Today, we're learning the parable of the wise and foolish builder. It can be tough for kids to understand the meaning of parables so make sure you drive home the main point: Jesus said it's smart to obey him!



connect time

GOAL: *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

LET'S BUILD A HOUSE!

*Break kids into small groups. If one adult has to lead kids, that's OK.

- Give each small group a **bag with marshmallows and toothpicks**. (There is a new bag for each small group).
- Tell them to work together to build a house.
- Give them a few minutes to build.
- Then debrief:
 - How strong is this house? Is there a chance it could fall over? Why?
 - What would happen if YOUR house or apartment or place that you live was made of marshmallows and toothpicks? Why?
- Ask kids to share the best and worst parts of their week.

Before you head into Large Group, remind them of your expectations for behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) retell the story of the wise and foolish builders, (2) recognize that Jesus was actually explaining that it's wise to follow him and (3) identify one way they want to obey Jesus this week

Why? This is a tough concept for kids, but help narrow it to the main point: Jesus wants us to obey him!

Tip: You may have shorter small group time than normal. That's OK.

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. Why did Jesus tell this story?
2. What did the wise builder in the story do? What did the foolish builder do?
3. Which builder would you rather be like? Why?
4. What did Jesus say we can do to be like the wise builder?
5. Did anybody hear from God this morning? If so, can you share it?
6. Does anybody have any other questions about the story?

RETELL THE STORY

- Give each kid **10 popsicle sticks** and a **piece of construction paper**
- **Glue** the popsicle sticks to the construction paper in the shape of a house. Then decorate it with **markers**.
- Encourage kids to draw rocks underneath.
- As kids create, ask: What are some ways we can follow what Jesus says?
 - Brainstorm together.
 - Then have kids write/draw one way they want to follow Jesus this week somewhere on their paper.

***Pray together, specifically asking God to help us follow him in the ways kids brainstormed.**

*Then give each kid a **coloring page** to work on. If you still have extra time, practice obeying by playing an "obedience game" like Simon Says or Red Light Green Light.*

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special notes

If building the marshmallow houses takes longer than expected, that's OK. You can start presenting 5 minutes later. Let group leaders know it's more important that they make time for the Connect Time activity.

presenter tips

You can preview today's video here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CXWHLB1f6_U.

script

**Click to play intro music.*

Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. It's great to see you here. Who can tell me about what you were building during Connect Time? (Let kids respond.) Awesome, marshmallow houses. Now what would happen if your house or apartment or wherever you live was *actually* made of marshmallows? (Let a few kids answer.) Yep, you could eat part of your house and it'd have some soft and cozy parts. Living in a world of marshmallows could be really fun!

But what happens if it rains? (Let kids answer.) Yes, the marshmallows probably will get really gooey. Or what if there's lightning? (Let the kids respond.) Yep, the marshmallow might get roasted! And what if it's a hot sunny day? (Let kids respond.) You got it—they'll melt!

THE PARABLE OF THE BUILDERS

Sometimes we have to use strong materials to build a strong house, don't we? And we have to think about where we build a house, because it could be more dangerous in some places than others, can't it? In fact, Jesus actually told a story about what it means to be wise or foolish by describing how a wise person would build a house and how a foolish person would build a house.

What does it mean to be wise? (Let kids respond.) Yep, smart! And what does it mean to be foolish? (Let kids respond.) That's right...*not* so smart. We're going to watch a video about the story Jesus told. As you watch, see if you can figure out which builder was smart...and which was *not* so smart. Ready?

Video: Parable of the Wise and Foolish Builders

Oh no! So which guy was smart? (Let kids respond.) Yep, the one who built his house on the rock. And which one was not so smart or foolish? (Let kids respond.) You're right, the one who



script continued

built his house down in the sand. When a big storm came, the rock stood firm but the sand just soaked up the water!

THE MEANING OF THE PARABLE

Now, Jesus had a special reason for telling us this story. It's actually a type of story called a parable. Does anybody know what a parable is? (Let kids respond.) Yes, it's a story that teaches a lesson.

So does anybody know what lesson Jesus was teaching us? (Let kids respond.) Those are some great guesses. But would it surprise you to find out that Jesus was actually *not* teaching us about houses? That sounds kind of confusing, right?? But Jesus was teaching us one of the differences between being *wise* and being *foolish*. Here's what he said:

SLIDE: Matthew 7:24: So then, everyone who hears my words and puts them into practice is like a wise man.

Matthew: 7:26: But everyone who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man.

What do you guys think it means to put Jesus' words into practice? (Let kids respond.) Yes, it means that when we hear what Jesus wants us to do, we do it. When we obey, we're being wise! If we ignore what Jesus wants us to do, we're being foolish.

PRACTICING BEING WISE

Let's play a game to think about that for a second. Everybody stand up! (Let kids stand.) OK, I'm going to tell you some things we could do. If you think they're wise because they're following Jesus, give somebody rock (demonstrate a fist bump). If you think they're foolish, say, "whoosh" and slash the air with your hand, like this (demonstrate by making a motion where your hand, palm down, slashes the air horizontally—or make up whatever you want). Ready?

(Read the following actions. After all the ones that would be wise, remind the kids that's what Jesus commanded.)

- Hitting our little brother (whoosh)
- Obeying our parents (rock)
- Praying for a friend (rock)
- Cheating on a test (whoosh)
- Sharing with those in need (rock)
- Being afraid (whoosh)

Awesome! Give each other rock and have a seat. (Let kids sit.) Sometimes it's hard to follow Jesus. But when we choose to do what Jesus says and obey his words, we are being wise. We're living in a way that honors God.

RESPOND AND PRAY

We know that Jesus wants what's best for us because of how much he loves us. He gave up his life for us, which means he loves us more than anything!



script continued

Remember, John 3:16 tells us this:

SLIDE: John 3:16 God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.

Wow, Jesus died because he wants to live with us forever. He took our punishment so we can be close to God. He rescued us!

Let's take a minute and talk to God quietly. In your head, ask him if he wants to say anything to you or show you a picture. If you have questions about today's story. Ask him that too. If you want to follow him like the guy who builds his house on the rock, make a little rock shape with your fist. *(Demonstrate; then sit quietly for a moment. Give kids a chance to talk to God. Then wrap-up and thank Jesus that he told us how to follow him and be wise!)*

WORSHIP

Now, let's stand up and worship God. Jesus loves it when we do that! (Let kids stand.) We'll sing a song about how Jesus wants us to follow him. Then we'll sing a song to remind us to STOP and listen to what Jesus wants us to do throughout our day.

Song: Come With Me

Song: Before I Go



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name



PREP needs



connect time supplies

Per small group

A Ziploc bag with 10 marshmallows and 10 toothpicks

small group supplies

Per kid

10 popsicle sticks
Coloring page: House on the rock
1 piece of construction paper

Per group

Markers
1 Bible (p. 1130)
Gluesticks

large group supplies

Adventure Bible for Early Readers (p. 1130)

a/v needs

1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. Video: Parable: Wise and Foolish Builders (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CXWHLB1f6_U)
3. SLIDE (with both verses):
Matthew 7:24: So then, everyone who hears my words and puts them into practice is like a wise man.
4. SLIDE: John 3:16 God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.
5. Music Video: Come With Me (with hand motions); <https://vimeo.com/49923933>
6. Song: Before I Go (K-5 song slides)

Matthew: 7:26: But everyone who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man.

connect questions

Kids are doing an activity that involves marshmallows. It's very possible a few will get eaten. Please let a volunteer know if your kid has an allergy.

parent page

Daily Talk Starts – separate doc.