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| **Lesson 3: Judges: God Sends Deborah to Help Barak** | |
| **Leader Guide for One Room** | **Classroom: 10:45 Sunday School Large Group** |

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|  | **Judges 4** | 05/06/2018 |

**Teachers Dig In**

**Dig In to the Bible**

* Read: Judges 4
* In This Passage: God chooses Deborah to be a prophetess and judge. She’s full of wisdom as she settles disputes, and she gives Barak God’s message about going into battle. Barak and Deborah go together, and God helps them win. God gives us wisdom, just as he gave Deborah wisdom.
* Bible Point: God gives us wisdom.
* Summary Verse: “This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go” (Joshua 1:9).

**Dig Deeper**

* You’ll Be Teaching: God gives us wisdom. Kids have a lot of questions. They need to know that God is there when they’re not sure what to do. Use this lesson to inspire kids to turn to God whenever they need wisdom.
* Think About: What’s an area of your life where you need wisdom? Ask God for his wisdom!

**Dig In to Prayer**

* Pray that God will give kids wisdom for whatever situations they’re facing.

**Quick Tip**

* Being a Sunday school teacher takes wisdom! But you’re not on your own—God gives you wisdom. As you teach kids, rely on the Holy Spirit for wisdom. Turn to him when you don’t know what to say, and ask for wisdom to say the right thing.

### This Lesson at a Glance

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| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | [**Opening**](#opening) |   **Kids share about a topic related to the lesson.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Supplies**   * Bible |  | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | [**Music Video**](#music-video) |   **Kids sing songs of praise to God.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Supplies**   * “God Has Given to Me” (watch or download [here](https://vimeo.com/album/4688353/video/226223295)) * “Do Lord” (watch or download [here](https://vimeo.com/album/4688353/video/226223695)) * “Be Strong in the Lord” (Ephesians 6:10) (watch or download [here](https://vimeo.com/album/4688353/video/226223871)) |  | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | [**Core Bible Discovery**](#core-bible-discovery) |   **Kids solve disputes like Deborah did and re-enact Barak’s battle.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Supplies**   * Bible * coin * “Tasks” handout (1 for every 10 kids) (download [here](http://digin-resources.group.com/media/9412/q2_lesson-03_tasks_handout.pdf)) | **Easy Prep**   * Cut apart the tasks from the “Tasks” handout. | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | [**Life Application Wrap-Up**](#life-application-wrap-up) |   **Kids write letters to God as if he’s an advice columnist.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Supplies**   * paper * pens * basket |  | |

\*Marked supplies are also used in Core Bible Discovery

Let's keep kids safe! You can help by using supplies as instructed for only ages 3+, purchasing child-safe items, and being aware of allergy concerns.

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|  | **Opening** | **[5 min]** |
|  | **Welcome** | |

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| Supplies  * Bible   **Welcome**              Thank kids for coming.              Just for fun, have kids link arms with a partner and swing each other in a circle.              Make announcements.              Introduce new kids.              Celebrate birthdays by having kids shout “Happy birthday!” as loud as they can.              Collect the offering.    **Introduce the Lesson**              Say: **Today we’re going to learn that God gives us wisdom. We’ll learn about a woman who used God’s wisdom to give advice to people.**    **Share**              Say: **Since today’s Bible story is about a woman who gave advice, maybe you could give me some advice. Imagine I just walked into my kitchen, and I see a giraffe standing there! What should I do?**              Have kids discuss in groups of four. Then ask a child from each group to share with everyone what they talked about in their groups.    **Summarize**              Open a Bible to Judges 4, and say: **Thanks for your advice! I’ll have to remember that next time there’s a giraffe in my kitchen. That’s just a silly situation, but a woman in the Bible helped people with real problems—even one about going into battle! God’s special book, the Bible, is one way God talks to us. And right now, God is here—ready to talk to you! Let’s pray to him.**              Pray, thanking God for giving us wisdom. |

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|  | **Music Video** | **[10 min]** |
|  | **God Has Given to Me** | |

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| Supplies  * “God Has Given to Me” (watch or download [here](https://vimeo.com/album/4688353/video/226223295)) * “Do Lord” (watch or download [here](https://vimeo.com/album/4688353/video/226223695)) * “Be Strong in the Lord” (Ephesians 6:10) (watch or download [here](https://vimeo.com/album/4688353/video/226223871))   **Sing Songs to God**              Sing the three songs in any order. |

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|  | **Core Bible Discovery** | **[20 min]** |
|  | **Judges: God Sends Deborah to Help Barak (Judges 4)** | |

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| Supplies  * Bible * coin * “Tasks” handout (1 for every 10 kids) (download [here](http://digin-resources.group.com/media/9412/q2_lesson-03_tasks_handout.pdf))  Easy Prep  * Cut apart the tasks from the “Tasks” handout.   **Guess Heads or Tails**              Have kids stand up. Say: **Let’s play a game. I’m going to flip a coin. Before I flip it, you’ll vote whether you think it’s going to land heads up or tails up. If you think it’ll be heads, face me. If you think it will be tails, face away from me.**              Have kids vote, and then flip the coin. Anyone who got it right will remain standing; anyone who got it wrong will sit. Continue to play until you have only one person left standing or until everyone is out.              Ask: **• How did you decide whether to choose heads or tails?**              Say: **There’s no way to know whether a coin is going to land on heads or tails. Even if you made it really far in our game, that was just lucky guessing. Today we’re going to learn about a woman in the Bible named Deborah. Deborah was a judge and a prophetess. A prophetess is someone who delivered God’s messages to his people.**  **She was a judge, too. At that time, God’s people didn’t have a king. They’d recently settled into their new land, and God was ruling them. He sent judges to help them settle conflicts. God gave Deborah wisdom to resolve people’s conflicts, and God gives us wisdom, too. Let’s look at the true Bible story and see why God’s people needed wise leaders like Deborah.**    **Solve Disputes**              Read Judges 4:3.              Say: **So this mean King Sisera treated the Israelites badly for 20 years. Twenty! And then they asked God for help.**              Ask: **• Why do you think they waited so long?**  **• Tell about a time you tried to solve a problem instead of asking someone for help.** Share your own example first.              Say: **Sometimes we try to solve problems without God’s help, even though he’s right there, ready to give us wisdom. God gives us wisdom. Let’s see where Deborah comes in.**              Read Judges 4:4-5.              Have kids form mixed-age trios. Say: **In your groups, think of an argument that might come up between you and your friends today.** Allow time for kids to think of arguments.              Have each trio share its argument. After each trio shares, the other trios can share any wise advice they have.              Say: **Those are the kinds of problems Deborah may have helped solve. Some of our arguments were hard to resolve! But God gives us wisdom, and he gave Deborah wisdom when she helped people.**    **Ask Questions**              Say: **God also gave Deborah wisdom when he gave her a message for a man named Barak. Here’s the message.**              Read Judges 4:6-7.              Say: **That sounds like a hard task! Let’s think about what kinds of tasks God might ask us to do.**              Give each child a task from the “Tasks” handout. Have older kids help the younger kids read their tasks. Say: **Imagine if God asked you to do what it says on your slip of paper. Think about what questions or concerns you might have. What would you ask God? Talk to your trio about that.** Allow time. After trios have shared, ask a few kids to report back to the whole group.              Say: **Barak had some concerns about his task, too. He didn’t want to go into battle alone. Here’s what he said.**              Read Judges 4:8.              Ask: **• What do you think would be a wise response to Barak?**              Say: **God gives us wisdom, and he gave Deborah wisdom to know how to handle Barak’s concerns. Here’s what she said.**              Read Judges 4:9.    **Go to Battle**              Say: **So Deborah and Barak went to battle. Let’s act that out. Everyone jump up.** Pause.  **Okay, you’re in the army now, so march in place!** Pause.  **Now march in a line around the room.** Pause.  **Drop and give me 10 push-ups!** Pause.  **Raise your swords and rush across the room.** Pause.  **Well, you’re not the best army I’ve ever seen. I don’t know how you’ll do in battle. Let’s find out how Deborah and Barak’s army did. As Deborah and Barak’s army went into battle, God did something to help them win. Check this out.**              Read Judges 4:15.              Say: **Let’s act like Sisera’s army. Do whatever you think the panic looked like. You might run in a silly way, yell, or spin in circles.** Allow time. This part should be very chaotic, so let kids act however they want to demonstrate the panic.              Say: **With Sisera’s army in a panic, God’s people easily won the battle. Hooray! Let’s cheer!** Pause, and have kids sit in their trios.    **Talk About It**              Say: **God gives us wisdom. He gave Deborah wisdom to know it was time to go to battle and that the Israelites would win. She was able to share her wisdom with Barak. God puts people in our lives who can share wisdom with us, too.**              Ask: **• Tell about a wise person you know.** Share your own example first.              Say: **God also gives us wisdom from the Bible. And he can give us wisdom in our hearts when we pray. Listen to this promise from God.**              Read James 1:5.              Ask: **• What’s something in your life that you’d like God’s wisdom for right now?** Have kids share in their trios.              Say: **Let’s pray about those things.**              Pray: **Dear God, thank you that you give us wisdom. Thank you for giving Deborah wisdom to solve problems and help Barak fight a battle. Please give us wisdom to solve problems and make good choices. In Jesus’ name, amen.** |

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|  | **Life Application Wrap-Up** | **[5 min]** |
|  | **Dear God** | |

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| Supplies  * paper * pens * basket   **Write a Letter to God**              Say: **When people need wisdom, they might turn to all kinds of different sources. Sometimes when people don’t know what to do, they write to an advice columnist in a newspaper or online. They ask what to do, and the advice columnist responds with what he or she thinks is wise.**  **But true wisdom comes from God. He’s the ultimate advice columnist! So let’s write letters to him as if he’s an advice columnist. Think of a situation you’re going through where you don’t know what to do. Write to God about it, ending with the question “What should I do?” If you don’t know how to write, draw the situation instead.**              Allow time for kids to write.    **Pray**              Have kids pray silently by reading their letters to God or telling God about what they drew.              After a minute, collect the letters in a basket. Hold up the basket and pray: **God, thank you that you give us wisdom. Help us have wisdom with all of these situations we wrote about. Please give us the answers so we know what to do. In Jesus’ name, amen.**              Thank kids for coming, and encourage them to come back next week. |

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| **Lesson 3: Judges: God Sends Deborah to Help Barak** | |
| **Leader Guide for Grades 5 & 6** | **Classroom: 9:15 Children's Church - Grades 3rd- 6th** |

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|  | **Judges 4** | 05/06/2018 |

**Teachers Dig In**

**Dig In to the Bible**

* Read: Judges 4
* In This Passage: God chooses Deborah to be a prophetess and judge. She’s full of wisdom as she settles disputes, and she gives Barak God’s message about going into battle. Barak and Deborah go together, and God helps them win. God gives us wisdom, just as he gave Deborah wisdom.
* Bible Point: God gives us wisdom.
* Summary Verse: “This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go” (Joshua 1:9).

**Dig Deeper**

* You’ll Be Teaching: God gives us wisdom. Kids have a lot of questions. They need to know that God is there when they’re not sure what to do. Use this lesson to inspire kids to turn to God whenever they need wisdom.
* Think About: What’s an area of your life where you need wisdom? Ask God for his wisdom!

**Dig In to Prayer**

* Pray that God will give kids wisdom for whatever situations they’re facing.

**Quick Tip**

* Being a Sunday school teacher takes wisdom! But you’re not on your own—God gives you wisdom. As you teach kids, rely on the Holy Spirit for wisdom. Turn to him when you don’t know what to say, and ask for wisdom to say the right thing.

### This Lesson at a Glance

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| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | [**Opening**](#opening) |   **Kids share about a topic related to the lesson.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Supplies**   * Bible |  | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | [**Object Lesson**](#object-lesson) |   **Kids create static electricity and cause lightbulbs to spark.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Supplies**   * inflated balloons (2 for every 3 kids) * energy-efficient spiral fluorescent lightbulbs (1 for every 3 kids) * yarn or wool material * stopwatch (or cellphone app) |  | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | [**Low-Energy Game**](#low-energy-game) |   **Kids follow a leader’s instructions to make Lego creations based on a model.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Supplies**   * Legos or other interlocking blocks (enough to create a sample Lego creation, plus 1 identical creation for every 4 kids) * small box that will hold a small Lego creation * upbeat music (optional) * music player (optional) | **Easy Prep**   * Make a silly Lego creation that’s small enough to fit in the box. It should be unique enough that it will be a challenge for kids to duplicate based on spoken instructions alone. Put your creation in the box. | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | [**Life Application Wrap-Up**](#life-application-wrap-up) |   **Kids write letters to God as if he’s an advice columnist.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Supplies**   * paper * pens * basket |  | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | [**Take-Home**](#take-home) |   **Kids receive a take-home page about the lesson.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Supplies**   * this week’s “Dig In @ Home” handout (1 per child) (download [here](http://digin-resources.group.com/media/9457/q2_lesson-3_take-home_bible-in-one-year.docx)) | **Easy Prep**   * Add your church announcements to the “Dig In @ Home” handout. | |

\*Marked supplies are also used in Core Bible Discovery

Let's keep kids safe! You can help by using supplies as instructed for only ages 3+, purchasing child-safe items, and being aware of allergy concerns.

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|  | **Opening** | **[5 min]** |
|  | **Welcome** | |

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| Supplies  * Bible   **Welcome**              Thank kids for coming.              Just for fun, have kids link arms with a partner and swing each other in a circle.              Make announcements.              Introduce new kids.              Celebrate birthdays by having kids shout “Happy birthday!” as loud as they can.              Collect the offering.    **Introduce the Lesson**              Say: **Today we’re going to learn that God gives us wisdom. We’ll learn about a woman who used God’s wisdom to give advice to people.**    **Share**              Say: **Since today’s Bible story is about a woman who gave advice, maybe you could give me some advice. Imagine I just walked into my kitchen, and I see a giraffe standing there! What should I do?**              Have kids discuss in groups of four. Then ask a child from each group to share with everyone what they talked about in their groups.    **Summarize**              Open a Bible to Judges 4, and say: **Thanks for your advice! I’ll have to remember that next time there’s a giraffe in my kitchen. That’s just a silly situation, but a woman in the Bible helped people with real problems—even one about going into battle! God’s special book, the Bible, is one way God talks to us. And right now, God is here—ready to talk to you! Let’s pray to him.**              Pray, thanking God for giving us wisdom. |

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|  | **Object Lesson** | **[10 min]** |
|  | **A Bright Idea** | |

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| Supplies  * inflated balloons (2 for every 3 kids) * energy-efficient spiral fluorescent lightbulbs (1 for every 3 kids) * yarn or wool material * stopwatch (or cellphone app)   **Tips**   * When we tested this experiment, we were nervous that the spark would shock us, but we found that you can’t feel a thing. * We recommend reminding kids to handle the lightbulbs with care, as they can break. * If you can’t make your room dark enough, try creating tents with chairs and a blanket for each group.     **Charge the Balloon**              Form trios, and give each trio two balloons, some yarn or wool material, and one lightbulb.              Say: **When we have a good or wise idea, sometimes we say that a lightbulb came on in our heads. Let’s see if we can cause these lightbulbs to spark without using electricity.**              Turn off room lights, and darken any windows in your space so sparks in the lightbulbs can be clearly seen. Explain that the static electricity will not cause the lightbulb to stay lit, but kids will try to create flashes or sparks of light. Have two kids in each trio charge the balloons by rubbing them on their hair or the material provided.    **Balloons Touch a Lightbulb**              While the third child in each trio holds the lightbulb straight up, the kids with balloons will gently touch the balloons to the top of the lightbulb. They can also try waving the balloons beside the bulb. The static from the balloons will cause the lightbulb to spark.              Once kids practice several times and see sparks, have trios race to see how many sparks they can generate in 30 seconds. Then have kids race again to see if trios can beat their record.    **Talk About It**              Ask: **• What do you think made the lightbulbs spark?**              Say: **On their own, the balloons didn’t spark. They needed a source to be charged in order to transfer the static electricity to the lightbulb. God is the source of our wisdom. We’re charged with wisdom from God when we’re close to him—like the balloons and lightbulb needed to be close.**              Ask: **• How can we stay close to God?** Give an example from your own life to start the conversation.              Say: **God gives us wisdom. We receive that wisdom when we stay close to him.** |

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|  | **Low-Energy Game** | **[10 min]** |
|  | **Words of Wisdom** | |

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| Supplies  * Legos or other interlocking blocks (enough to create a sample Lego creation, plus 1 identical creation for every 4 kids) * small box that will hold a small Lego creation * upbeat music (optional) * music player (optional)  Easy Prep  * Make a silly Lego creation that’s small enough to fit in the box. It should be unique enough that it will be a challenge for kids to duplicate based on spoken instructions alone. Put your creation in the box.   **Tips**   * If you used the Music Video block, consider repeating the songs from today’s lesson during the activity. You can find the album [here](https://vimeo.com/album/4688353). * If you don’t have enough Legos to make the colors match exactly for each creation, that’s okay. Just focus on the actual creation instead of the color of the blocks.     **Listen to the Leader**              Form groups of four. Set all the loose Lego blocks in the middle of the room where everyone can access them.              Say: **Today we’re learning that God gives us wisdom. In the Bible, God gave Deborah wisdom so she could lead God’s people well. Let’s play a game where you’ll have to listen to a wise leader.**              Have each group choose a Leader. Hold up your box, and tell kids there’s a Lego creation inside.              Say: **Your job is to use the Legos in the middle of the room to re-create an exact copy of my creation. But only your Leader can come look at the model in the box. The Leader can come and look at it as many times as needed. Then your Leader will go back to your group and guide you in making the copy. But the Leader can’t touch the blocks. And you’ll need to use wisdom to ask your Leader questions because he or she can give you instructions only by answering “yes” or “no.” Got it?**              If you’d like, turn on upbeat music while kids play. When every group has completed a creation, show kids the model to see if they got it correct.    **Talk About It**              Ask: **• If you were a Leader, tell us what that was like.**  **• If you were a builder, how did you need wisdom?**  **• How do you decide whether to follow someone’s advice in real life?**  **• How do you decide what to ask advice about?**              Say: **God gives us wisdom, and sometimes God puts people in our lives we can trust to give us good, wise help. Maybe people are looking to you for wise directions or help, too. That’s why I’m glad God gives us wisdom, so we can help others make good choices.** |

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|  | **Life Application Wrap-Up** | **[5 min]** |
|  | **Dear God** | |

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| Supplies  * paper * pens * basket   **Write a Letter to God**              Say: **When people need wisdom, they might turn to all kinds of different sources. Sometimes when people don’t know what to do, they write to an advice columnist in a newspaper or online. They ask what to do, and the advice columnist responds with what he or she thinks is wise.**  **But true wisdom comes from God. He’s the ultimate advice columnist! So let’s write letters to him as if he’s an advice columnist. Think of a situation you’re going through where you don’t know what to do. Write to God about it, ending with the question “What should I do?”**              Allow time for kids to write.    **Pray**              Have kids pray silently by reading their letters to God.              After a minute, collect the letters in a basket. Hold up the basket and pray: **God, thank you that you give us wisdom. Help us have wisdom with all of these situations we wrote about. Please give us the answers so we know what to do. In Jesus’ name, amen.**              Thank kids for coming, and encourage them to come back next week. |

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|  | **Take-Home** | **[0 min]** |
|  | **Dig In @ Home** | |

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| Supplies  * this week’s “Dig In @ Home” handout (1 per child) (download [here](http://digin-resources.group.com/media/9457/q2_lesson-3_take-home_bible-in-one-year.docx))  Easy Prep  * Add your church announcements to the “Dig In @ Home” handout.               Distribute a copy of the “Dig In @ Home” handout to kids as they leave, or email it to parents during the week. |

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| **Lesson 3: Judges: God Sends Deborah to Help Barak** | |
| **Leader Guide for Ages 3-6** | **Classroom: 9:15 Children's Church - Preschool, K, 1, & 2** |

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|  | **Judges 4** | 05/06/2018 |

**Teachers Dig In**

**Dig In to the Bible**

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* Bible Point: God gives us wisdom.
* Summary Verse: “This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go” (Joshua 1:9).

**Dig Deeper**

* You’ll Be Teaching: God gives us wisdom. Kids have a lot of questions. They need to know that God is there when they’re not sure what to do. Use this lesson to inspire kids to turn to God whenever they need wisdom.
* Think About: What’s an area of your life where you need wisdom? Ask God for his wisdom!

**Dig In to Prayer**

* Pray that God will give kids wisdom for whatever situations they’re facing.

**Quick Tip**

* Being a Sunday school teacher takes wisdom! But you’re not on your own—God gives you wisdom. As you teach kids, rely on the Holy Spirit for wisdom. Turn to him when you don’t know what to say, and ask for wisdom to say the right thing.

### This Lesson at a Glance

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| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | [**Opening**](#opening) |   **Preschoolers share about a topic related to the lesson.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Supplies**   * Bible |  | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | [**Core Bible Discovery**](#core-bible-discovery) |   **Preschoolers play a game of choices, act out the Bible story, and sing a song.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Supplies**   * Bible * “What Do We Do?” handout (1 copy) (download [here](http://digin-resources.group.com/media/9418/q2_lesson-03_what-do-we-do_handout.pdf)) | **Easy Prep**   * Ask an adult or teen helper to pretend to be the swaying tree at the appropriate time in the activity. | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | [**Low-Energy Game**](#low-energy-game) |   **Preschoolers search for a hidden Bible.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Supplies**   * Bible (we recommend the Friends With God Story Bible) (purchase [here](https://www.group.com/product/9781470748616-friends-with-god-bible.do)) |  | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | [**Life Application Wrap-Up**](#life-application-wrap-up) |   **Preschoolers sing a song to God.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Supplies**   * Friends With God Story Bible (optional) (order [here](https://www.group.com/product/9781470748616-friends-with-god-bible.do)) |  | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | [**Take-Home**](#take-home) |   **Preschoolers receive a take-home page about the lesson.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Supplies**   * this week’s “Dig In @ Home” handout (1 per child) (download [here](http://digin-resources.group.com/media/9457/q2_lesson-3_take-home_bible-in-one-year.docx)) | **Easy Prep**   * Add your church announcements to the “Dig In @ Home” handout. | |

\*Marked supplies are also used in Core Bible Discovery

Let's keep kids safe! You can help by using supplies as instructed for only ages 3+, purchasing child-safe items, and being aware of allergy concerns.

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|  | **Opening** | **[5 min]** |
|  | **Welcome** | |

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| Supplies  * Bible   **Welcome**              Thank kids for coming.              Just for fun, have kids link arms with a partner and swing each other in a circle.              Make announcements.              Introduce new kids.              Celebrate birthdays by having preschoolers shout “Happy birthday!”              Collect the offering.    **Introduce the Lesson**              Say: **Today we’ll learn that God gives us wisdom. That means God helps us know what to do and helps us make great choices. To start, let’s think of a silly situation where I wouldn’t know what to do.**    **Share**              Say: **Imagine this: I walk into my kitchen and see a giraffe! What should I do?**              Invite preschoolers to take turns sharing ideas about what you should do in that situation.    **Summarize**              Open a Bible, and say: **It would be so silly if a giraffe were standing in my kitchen, but you all sure did have some fun ideas about what to do. The Bible tells us that when we don’t know what to do, God gives us wisdom. That means he’ll help us know what to do. Today we’ll read in the Bible about how God gave wisdom to a woman. The Bible has all kinds of true stories about God giving people wisdom. God talks to us through the Bible. Let’s listen to God as we hear from the Bible today.**              Pray, thanking God for giving us wisdom. |

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|  | **Core Bible Discovery** | **[20 min]** |
|  | **Judges: God Sends Deborah to Help Barak (Judges 4)** | |

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| Supplies  * Bible * “What Do We Do?” handout (1 copy) (download [here](http://digin-resources.group.com/media/9418/q2_lesson-03_what-do-we-do_handout.pdf))  Easy Prep  * Ask an adult or teen helper to pretend to be the swaying tree at the appropriate time in the activity.   **Help Our Friends**              Say: **Today we’ll learn that God gives us wisdom. That means God helps us learn and helps us know how to make the best choices. We can ask him for wisdom anytime. Let’s play a game of choices right now. I’ll share a problem, and we’ll get to tell our friend what to do.**              Show the picture of the boy next to the broken lamp. Say: **This is Andrew. He was playing and accidentally knocked over this lamp and broke it. He has a problem. What can he do?** Invite children to share their thoughts. Then say: **Thanks for sharing!** Show the Bible. **The Bible helps us know what to do. God gives us wisdom through the Bible. It says to tell the truth, so Andrew could tell his parents exactly what happened.**              Show the picture of the two kids fighting over the bear. Say: **These friends both want to play with the teddy bear. But right now they’re both tugging on it, and no one is having fun. They have a problem. What can they do?** Invite children to share their thoughts. Then say: **Thanks for sharing!** Show the Bible. **The Bible helps us know what to do. The Bible tells us that God gives us wisdom when we ask. God can help us be good sharers.**              Show the picture of the child next to the plate of cookies. Say: **This is Rebekah. She really wants a cookie, but her mommy and daddy aren’t there to ask. She has a problem. What can she do?** Invite children to share their thoughts. Then say: **Thanks for sharing!** Show the Bible. **The Bible helps us know what to do. It says that God gives us wisdom when we ask. Rebekah could stop and talk to God when she needs wisdom. And she could be reminded that God says not to steal. Instead of just taking the cookie, Rebekah can go find her mommy or daddy so she can ask for one.**              Show the picture of the child sitting in the center of the messy room. Say: **This is Mara. Her mom asked her to put her toys away after she finished playing—but there are a lot of toys! She has a problem. What can she do?** Invite children to share their thoughts. Then say: **Thanks for sharing!** Show the Bible. **The Bible helps us know what to do. It says that God gives us wisdom when we ask. God wants you to obey your parents. Mara can put her toys away. And if it feels like she can’t do it all on her own, she can ask her mom for help.**    **Act It Out**              Say: **Our friends had some decisions to make. Their problems weren’t always easy to solve.** Show the Bible. **I know about some people in the Bible who had a tough problem. They were called the Israelites, and they had some neighbors who were very mean to them. The neighbors had been mean to them for 20 long years.** Lead children in counting to 20.              Say: **The Israelites didn’t know what to do, so they called out for God’s help.** Lead children in cupping a hand around their mouth and shouting “Help us, God!” a few times.              Say: **It’s good they called out to God for help because he’s the only one who could show them what to do. They needed God’s wisdom. They needed God to help them know what to do about their mean neighbors. Thankfully, God gives us wisdom when we ask for it. And the Bible says that God did just that. God told a woman named Deborah what to do. Let’s hear about Deborah now.**              Open the Bible to Judges 4, and then say: **Deborah used to sit up on a hill, under a tall palm tree.** Have an adult or teen helper stand in a different area of the room, raise his or her arms like branches, and sway like a tree in the wind. Point out that the helper is the tree in the Bible story. Go and sit under the tree, but don’t invite kids to join you yet.              Say: **Deborah was a special leader of the Israelites. She was very close friends with God. And God gave her wisdom all the time—he helped her know what to do. People often came to Deborah for wisdom when they needed help. One day Deborah asked her friend Barak to come visit her under the tree.** Invite the kids to join you under the tree.              Say: **So Barak climbed up the hill to meet Deborah.** Lead the children in pretending to climb a hill.              Say: **Deborah had wisdom from God. God helped her know what to do about the mean neighbors. She told Barak, “Get 10,000 warriors ready for battle.” Ten thousand is a huge army!** Lead children in pretending to put on various pieces of armor, such as a helmet, a shield, and a sword.              Say: **Barak asked Deborah to go into battle with him, and she agreed. Then Deborah told Barak: “Get ready! This is the day God will help you win. God is marching ahead of you.” Then they marched down the hill with the 10,000 warriors.** Lead children in marching around the room one time.              Say: **And they won! God made them win, just as Deborah had said!** Lead the children in a big cheer. **They never had problems with those mean neighbors again.**    **Sing a Song**              Say: **God helped Deborah know just what to do. God gave her wisdom, and God gives us wisdom, too. Whenever we don’t know what to do, we can ask our parents to read the Bible to us.** Lead children in making an “open book” with their hands by holding their palms up side by side. **We can pray for wisdom, too.** Lead children in putting their palms together like they’re praying. **And we can talk to other people who are good friends with God.** Point to one another.              Say: **God gives us wisdom when we do all these things. God gives us wisdom when we’re friends with him. Let’s sing a song to help us remember that.** Lead the children in singing this song to the tune of “Old MacDonald Had a Farm.”    **When I don’t know what to do,** (make “I don’t know” pose)  **I can ask you, God.** (point up)  **And I can use my voice to pray.** (put palms together as if praying)  **I’ll learn what to do.** (point to head)  **I can pray, pray here.** (make prayer hands close to body)  **I can pray, pray there.** (move prayer hands away from body)  **Pray right here, pray right there.** (move prayer hands close and then away)  **I can pray anywhere.** (turn around)  **When I don’t know what to do,** (make “I don’t know” pose)  **I can ask you, God.** (point up)                Sing the song several times so the children learn it.              Say: **Whenever we don’t know what to do, we can ask someone to help us read the Bible, we can pray, or we can ask our friends at church. We can also stop where we are, close our eyes, and talk to God. Let’s do that right now.** Lead the children in a moment of silence. **Whenever we ask God for wisdom, he’ll help us know what to do—whether our problems are big or small. God gives us wisdom.** |

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|  | **Low-Energy Game** | **[10 min]** |
|  | **Find Wisdom** | |

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| Supplies  * Bible (we recommend the Friends With God Story Bible) (purchase [here](https://www.group.com/product/9781470748616-friends-with-god-bible.do))   **Search for a Bible**              Say: **One way God gives us wisdom is by giving us the Bible. God talks to us through the Bible. When we don’t know what to do, we can ask someone to help us look in the Bible to find help. And through the Bible, God will help us know what to do. The Bible has all kinds of stories that help us know what to do when we’re happy, sad, scared, and so on. That’s why it’s so great to listen to Bible stories—because that’s one way God gives us wisdom. Let’s play a game where we’ll look for a Bible in our classroom.**              Show kids the Bible that they will search for, and then have them close their eyes while you hide it. As kids search, give them clues, saying they’re getting “hotter” when they are close and “colder” when they are far away. When the Bible is found, have the child who found it help you hide it again and give the other kids clues as they search.    **Talk About It**              Say: **In our game, we looked for the Bible. Stories in the Bible tell us how people like Deborah found wisdom from God. They tell us how God showed people what to do. God gives us wisdom and shows us what to do, too. Whenever we need wisdom, we can look in the Bible.**              Share about a time you read the Bible and learned something.              Ask: **• Tell about a time you learned something from the Bible.** Preschoolers who are new to the group can share something they learned today.              Say: **We looked for a Bible in our game because that’s one way God gives us wisdom. But there are other ways God gives us wisdom, too. Another way preschoolers get wisdom from God is by listening. I’m so glad we can learn from God.** |

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|  | **Life Application Wrap-Up** | **[5 min]** |
|  | **I Can Pray Anywhere** | |

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| Supplies  * Friends With God Story Bible (optional) (order [here](https://www.group.com/product/9781470748616-friends-with-god-bible.do))   **Sing a Song to God**              Say: **Today we learned that God gives us wisdom when we listen to him. We heard how God showed Deborah and Barak what to do. And we found out that God will always show us what to do when we ask. One way God gives us wisdom is when we ask him. Let’s sing a song to God right now.**  Lead the children in singing this song to the tune of “Old MacDonald Had a Farm.”    **When I don’t know what to do,** (make “I don’t know” pose)  **I can ask you, God.** (point up)  **And I can use my voice to pray.** (put palms together as if praying)  **I’ll learn what to do.** (point to head)  **I can pray, pray here.** (make prayer hands close to body)  **I can pray, pray there.** (move prayer hands away from body)  **Pray right here, pray right there.** (move prayer hands close and then away)  **I can pray anywhere.** (turn around)  **When I don’t know what to do,** (make “I don’t know” pose)  **I can ask you, God.** (point up)              Repeat several times.    **Pray**              Say: **We can talk to God anytime, anywhere! Whenever we listen to God, he’ll help us know what to do. This week, whenever you aren’t sure what to do, try telling God and then listening.** Lead the children in a brief moment of “listening to God,” and then close your time in prayer.              Say: **Remember, God gives us wisdom!** Let the children know how glad you were to see them today, and ask them to join you and all their friends back at church next week.              If you have extra time, spend some time reading today’s Bible story, “Girl Power—by Deborah,” from the Friends With God Story Bible. |

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|  | **Take-Home** | **[0 min]** |
|  | **Dig In @ Home** | |

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| Supplies  * this week’s “Dig In @ Home” handout (1 per child) (download [here](http://digin-resources.group.com/media/9457/q2_lesson-3_take-home_bible-in-one-year.docx))  Easy Prep  * Add your church announcements to the “Dig In @ Home” handout.               Distribute a copy of the “Dig In @ Home” handout to kids as they leave, or email it to parents during the week. |

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| **Lesson 3: Judges: God Sends Deborah to Help Barak** | |
| **Leader Guide for One Room** | **Classroom: 9:15 Children's Church Large Group Lesson Intro** |

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|  | **Judges 4** | 05/06/2018 |

**Teachers Dig In**

**Dig In to the Bible**

* Read: Judges 4
* In This Passage: God chooses Deborah to be a prophetess and judge. She’s full of wisdom as she settles disputes, and she gives Barak God’s message about going into battle. Barak and Deborah go together, and God helps them win. God gives us wisdom, just as he gave Deborah wisdom.
* Bible Point: God gives us wisdom.
* Summary Verse: “This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go” (Joshua 1:9).

**Dig Deeper**

* You’ll Be Teaching: God gives us wisdom. Kids have a lot of questions. They need to know that God is there when they’re not sure what to do. Use this lesson to inspire kids to turn to God whenever they need wisdom.
* Think About: What’s an area of your life where you need wisdom? Ask God for his wisdom!

**Dig In to Prayer**

* Pray that God will give kids wisdom for whatever situations they’re facing.

**Quick Tip**

* Being a Sunday school teacher takes wisdom! But you’re not on your own—God gives you wisdom. As you teach kids, rely on the Holy Spirit for wisdom. Turn to him when you don’t know what to say, and ask for wisdom to say the right thing.

### This Lesson at a Glance

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| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | [**Opening**](#opening) |   **Kids share about a topic related to the lesson.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Supplies**   * Bible |  | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | [**Talk-About Video**](#talk-about-video) |   **Kids watch a video and discuss the Bible Point.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Supplies**   * “Go Ask Deb” teaching video (watch or download [here](https://vimeo.com/album/4688353/video/226224192)) |  | |

\*Marked supplies are also used in Core Bible Discovery

Let's keep kids safe! You can help by using supplies as instructed for only ages 3+, purchasing child-safe items, and being aware of allergy concerns.

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|  | **Opening** | **[5 min]** |
|  | **Welcome** | |

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| Supplies  * Bible   **Welcome**              Thank kids for coming.              Just for fun, have kids link arms with a partner and swing each other in a circle.              Make announcements.              Introduce new kids.              Celebrate birthdays by having kids shout “Happy birthday!” as loud as they can.              Collect the offering.    **Introduce the Lesson**              Say: **Today we’re going to learn that God gives us wisdom. We’ll learn about a woman who used God’s wisdom to give advice to people.**    **Share**              Say: **Since today’s Bible story is about a woman who gave advice, maybe you could give me some advice. Imagine I just walked into my kitchen, and I see a giraffe standing there! What should I do?**              Have kids discuss in groups of four. Then ask a child from each group to share with everyone what they talked about in their groups.    **Summarize**              Open a Bible to Judges 4, and say: **Thanks for your advice! I’ll have to remember that next time there’s a giraffe in my kitchen. That’s just a silly situation, but a woman in the Bible helped people with real problems—even one about going into battle! God’s special book, the Bible, is one way God talks to us. And right now, God is here—ready to talk to you! Let’s pray to him.**              Pray, thanking God for giving us wisdom. |

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|  | **Talk-About Video** | **[10 min]** |
|  | **Go Ask Deb** | |

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| Supplies  * “Go Ask Deb” teaching video (watch or download [here](https://vimeo.com/album/4688353/video/226224192))   **Discuss and Watch “Go Ask Deb”**            Say: **In our Bible story, God gave Deborah wisdom. She was able to judge people’s arguments fairly because of her wisdom.**            Ask: **• Tell about a time someone gave you good advice.**            Say: **Let’s see how a girl on a school playground gives wise advice.**            Watch “Go Ask Deb.”            Ask: **• What do you think was Deb’s best advice?**  **• Why do you think people came to Deb with their problems?**  **• If you went to school with Deb, what would you ask her?**            Say: **God gives us wisdom. Even without a Deb in our lives, we can solve problems. That’s because we can always turn to God!** |

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