

5 min

K1 Opening Activity

What You Need

 Offering Container	1
 "Follow the Plan" Activity Page	Several

What You Do:

- Welcome the kids with a high-five or fist bump.
- Invite kids who have brought an offering to put it in the offering container.
- Place the four pictures from the "Follow the Plan" Activity Page in a row on the table to make a pattern (e.g. fists, hand roll, fists, hand roll)
- Point to each picture and demonstrate the motion (fists = pound the table with 2 fists, hand roll = roll hands one above the other)
- Show the kids the pictures of a hand pattern (e.g., fists, hand roll, fists, hand roll).
- Say, "Follow the plan!" and lead the kids in doing the actions in the order on the table. Continue with each child.
- Change the pattern and repeat.

EveryChild Tips:

- *Allow kids to create the plan by arranging the pictures instead of doing the motions.*

What You Say:

"You are great at following the plan! It's important to pay attention to the directions to get it right. **[Transition] In our true story from the Bible today, Jesus tells us about a plan that is the most important one to follow. Let's go find out what it is!"**

5 min

K1 - Wise House | Made to Create

What You Need

 Bible, marked at Matthew 7:24-27	1
 "Wise House" Activity Page	1
 Coloring Supplies	Several
 Scissors	Several
 Inclusive Optional Supplies: Pre-cut "Wise House" Activity Page	1
 Inclusive Optional Supplies: Adaptive crayons or grips	1

What You Do:

- Open the Bible to Matthew 7:24-27 and read the story to the kids.
- Give each kid a "Wise House" Activity Page and make coloring supplies available.
- As they color the house and the foundation on the rock, review the Bible Story. Ask questions like:
 - "Who remembers what the wise builder built his house on?" (*the rock*)
 - "And what did the foolish builder build his house on?" (*the sand*)
 - "What happened when the big storm came?" (*The house that was built on the sand fell, but the house built on the rock stood strong!*)
- Make the scissors available.
- Once the kids are done coloring, guide them through the steps of cutting and folding to create their own pop-up house.

EveryChild Tips:

- Pre-cut a few "Wise House" Activity Pages for kids who may struggle with scissors.
- Offer adaptive crayons or grips for coloring.

What You Say:

"These look amazing! You all built a strong house on a rock, just like the wise builder.

"Jesus told this story to teach us that listening to His words and doing them is like building on a rock. When we read the Bible and do what it says, we are building a strong faith. And the first step to doing what God says is hearing what God says. So we can **[Bottom Line] practice hearing from God.**"

5 min

K1 - Cup Tower | Made to Explore

What You Need

Plastic Cups	Several
Paper Plates	Several

What You Do:

- Divide the kids into two teams.
- Give each team a stack of plastic cups.
- Challenge them to work together to build the tallest tower they can.
- After they have built their towers, give one person from each team a paper plate.
- Explain that a big "storm" is coming.
- Have the kid who has the paper plate use the paper plate to fan their tower and see how strong it is.
- Talk about what made their towers strong or what made them fall over.
- Let them try to build again, using what they learned to make their tower even stronger.

EveryChild Tips:

- *Provide noise-canceling headphones for kids who may be sensitive to the noise of falling cups.*

What You Say:

"Great job, builders! It took teamwork to build those towers. We learned that a strong base is really important!"

"In our story, Jesus said that hearing His words and doing them is like building your life on a rock—a strong foundation."

"And the first part of doing what God says is hearing what God says! We learned today that there are three main ways God speaks to us: God speaks to us and tells us who He is through the Bible. He speaks to us through other people who love Him. And He speaks to us through His Holy Spirit, who **lives inside of us** and tells us ways to make our world look more like God's Kingdom. Like when He says, 'That girl looks lonely. Why don't you invite her to play with you?'

"God wants us to **[Bottom Line]** practice **hearing from God**. And we can hear from Him in so many ways!"

5 min

K1 - Arrows to the Verse | Made to Move

What You Need

 Bibles, marked at 1 Timothy 4:8	1
 Pieces of construction paper with pre-written words/phrases of the Memory Verse and an arrow on each one	Several
 Floor Tape	1

What You Do:

- Divide the kids into groups of two.
- Give each pair of kids a Bible marked at 1 Timothy 4:8.
- Demonstrate how to look up the verse using the Bible Navigation Tips.

Finding verses with kindergartners: *Guide children to open their Bibles to the marked page. Point to the book name at the top of the page as you say it aloud. Then, guide children to find the big number on the page—this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big number for the little number; this is the verse number. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read it aloud. Then, lead everyone to say the verse together.*

Finding verses with 1st graders: *Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list. You can help by pointing out the first few letters of the book's name. When the kids find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page. When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the right chapter. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.*

- Repeat the verse together several times.

What You Say:

"You followed the arrows all the way to the end of our verse! The Bible is like a path that shows us how to live. When we read it, we're following God's directions. Reading the Bible is one way we can **[Bottom Line]** practice hearing from God."

- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
 - Share that “being godly” means getting to know God and following His good ways!
- Invite the kids to set their Bibles aside.
- Tape the arrows on the floor, creating a path around the room that leads to the last piece of paper with “1 Timothy 4:8 NIV.”
- Gather the kids at the beginning of the arrow path.
- Lead them along the path, stopping at each arrow to read the next part of the verse.
- When you get to the end, celebrate and say the whole verse together.
- Feel free to walk the journey around your space several times.

5 min

K1 – Stack It | Made to Connect

What You Need

 Bible	1
 Index Card	1
 Pens or Markers	1

What You Do:

- Lay your Bible in the center of your group circle.
- Give each kid an index card and a marker.
- Ask them to think of one way they can listen to God this week. (e.g., "Listen to my mom and dad when they share about God," "Read my Bible," "Listen during Large Group," "Listen when the Holy Spirit tells me that God is the strongest when I am feeling scared.")
- Help them write or draw their ideas on their card.
- When they're done, invite them one by one to share what they wrote or drew.
- After they share, have them fold their card in half and carefully stack it on top of the Bible. Continue until you have a stack of prayer cards on the Bible

What You Say:

"Look at this great stack of ideas for how we can hear from God! We're building our lives on what He says and doing what He says. Let's pray and ask God to help us listen to Him this week."

"Dear God, thank You that You speak to us in lots of ways. Teach us to listen to You and to do what You say. We love You so much, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."