

## August: Wisdom – Finding out what you should do and doing it

**SAY IT:** This week, your child is learning a brand new Big Idea (value word) and definition. Maybe they remember this value thing from last year. Maybe they are brand new to the value thing. Either way, this is a brand new Big Idea with a really solid definition and we think YOU should all learn it as a family!

At the end of this week, gather 10 pieces of paper (printer paper, construction paper, scrap paper, notepad paper—any kind you have on hand!) and some sort of writing utensil. Write the following 10 words, one word per paper: “Wisdom, finding, out, what, you, should, do, and, doing, it”. Hide all the pieces of paper around the house (or a designated play area) and challenge the rest of the family to find the pieces of paper and put them in order. Once they are laid out in order, say the value and definition together as a family. Then choose another family member to hide the 10 words and play again. Play as many rounds as you want.

**KNOW IT:** Dig a little deeper this week with these discussion starters about wisdom:

- Who can you go to for wise advice?
- What makes a person wise? Why is “knowing” not enough?
- Share about a time that you were able to put some wise advice to work in your life.
- What is the hardest decision you’ve ever had to make?
- How did you decide what to do?
- Why do you think it’s so important to surround yourself with wise friends?

**SEE IT:** Now that you know what we say wisdom means, and you know what wisdom means to you, read this cool snippet as a family and SEE what wisdom means to animals:

Birds—just like humans—need food, water and shelter to survive. But unlike our houses and communities that provide protection and resources for survival year-round, the changing weather can make a bird’s environment unsafe during some times of the year. Thankfully, birds have the

wisdom to recognize that when the weather begins to cool, they need to fly to a warmer climate where they will be able to find food and shelter during the winter months. And every year, that’s just what birds do!

Flying thousands of miles probably isn’t #1 on a bird’s list of most enjoyable ways to spend its time. But can you imagine what might happen if a bird didn’t fly to warmer weather? It sure wouldn’t be wise!

**BE IT:** Some choices are tough. “Would you like chips or a cookie with your meal?”

Some choices are easy. “Would you like me to give you a hundred dollars or a thousand dollars?” (Okay, no one really asks that second one... but if they did, the choice would be easy!)

Having wisdom is all about making choices—good choices. So this week, sit down with your family and practice making good choices by asking these questions. Some might be tough. Some might be easy. Some might be serious. Some might be silly. Which do you think is the wisest choice?

### WOULD YOU RATHER...

...only be able to whisper or only be able to shout?

...be taller than this building/house or small enough to fit in my hand?

...wind surf in shark infested waters or hang glide over a forest fire?

...spend every minute of the rest of your life indoors or outdoors?

...eat ice-cream flavored vomit or vomit flavored ice-cream?

...be known as a great friend or great at sports?

...be friends with the unpopular kid who treats you the way they want to be treated or with the most popular kid in school who treats you like you are invisible?

...take out the trash when your mom isn’t expecting it or after she has asked 13 times and is really mad at you?

...have a thousand dollars in your piggy bank or raise a million dollars for those in need?