



Cheat Codes / Week 1

BEFORE GROUP

BOTTOM LINE

God gives us wisdom for life.

SCRIPTURE

Proverbs 1:1-5a NLT

Proverbs 3:5 MSG

Proverbs 3:6 MSG

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To help students understand what wisdom looks like and to encourage them to apply wisdom to their lives.

THINK ABOUT THIS

The conversations over the next four weeks in this series will center around wisdom. Because that term may be unclear to your middle schoolers, be sure to define it in this conversation to kick off small group. Wisdom is doing what's best for you and the people around you. It's more than right and wrong, and that's

important to note here, as your students may equate being wise with doing the right thing and being unwise with doing the wrong thing. Be sure to remind them that wisdom isn't about good or bad or right or wrong. Rather, it's about trusting in and following what God says is best. And wisdom is something we can only find in God, who gives it generously when we ask. So, this week, encourage your group to ask God for wisdom. Be sure also to define what it means to listen for God's wisdom in response. While they won't literally hear God's voice (though that would be cool!), they can hear God through the pages of Scripture, the leading of the Holy Spirit, the words of other Christians in their lives, and more. Helping to make these abstract and potentially new concepts more concrete will help them take hold of the ideas you're talking about not just this week, but over the course of the whole series.

This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here.

DURING GROUP

ICE BREAKER

What's your favorite video game or online game?

DISCUSS THIS

1. Where did you see God this week?
2. Think of a wise person you know. What makes them wise?
3. In your own words, how would you define "wisdom"?
4. Describe a situation where choosing to be wise would be difficult.
5. How do you think choosing to be wise could make your life better?
6. How might listening for God help you choose what's wise?
7. There are a lot of ways we can listen for God's wisdom, like in the Bible, through worship music, in nature, through messages at church, or in the words of other Christians. What else would you add to this list?
8. Which of these ways do you want to try listening for God this week?