



Seek Godly Advice Before Making Choices



THE MISSION AIM

We should seek advice from others who know God when making important decisions.



KEY VERSE

Proverbs 12:15: "The way of the fool seems right to him, but a wise man listens to advice."



Pre-Mission Activity



Supplies Needed

- Items that can be used to prepare two identical obstacle courses (use hula hoops, chairs, ropes or tape to set up obstacle courses for the recruits to run through)
- A list of different pieces of advice for the telephone operator to repeat to the recruits at the end of the obstacle course and a pencil for him/her to check off as these pieces of advice are correctly repeated. Suggested pieces of advice could be: don't wear white after Labor Day, don't spit in the wind, walk with scissors, etc. The advice could be funny or serious.

Directions

SAY: Our Key verse this week is Proverbs 12:15: "The way of the fool seems right to him, but a wise man listens to advice."

DO: Play a game of Obstacle Course Telephone. The object of the game: each member of the team should complete the obstacle course. The winning team will not only be the first team to complete the course but also the one that is able to repeat the most pieces of advice.

SAY: We are going to play a little relay race today. The beginning of the race will have each recruit travelling through an obstacle course. At the end of the course, one teammate, the telephone operator, will be waiting to whisper a piece of advice in the ear of the recruit. That recruit will run back to the line and whisper this advice in the next recruit's ear. The second recruit will now travel through the obstacle course and repeat the advice to the telephone operator. If the advice is repeated correctly, a new piece of advice will be given to this recruit who will now run back to her line to tell the next recruit in line. If the advice was not correct, the telephone operator will repeat the first piece of advice once again.

DO: Split the recruits into two teams. Choose one member of each team to be the telephone operator and provide them with some examples of advice. After explaining the game, begin to play.

SAY: This was a fun game. It seemed like we were running around a little foolishly as we tried to complete the obstacle course. At the end of the course, each recruit was given some advice. You had to remember that advice and repeat it to the next person in line. Sometimes, that recruit was able to remember the advice given to them, even after running through the obstacle course. Sometimes, we were not able to remember the advice.

SAY: Today, we will learn how very important it is to talk to and seek advice from other Christians. Let's check in with the RTS Team and see how they are doing this week.



Mission Uplink 1



Have ready YouTube playlist: "Season 2 – Making The Best Choices Episode 4: Seek Godly Advice Before Making Choices"

Play "Making The Best Choices (S2) Episode 4 (1/4)". Episode begins with the *Ready to Serve* theme song, followed automatically by the MISSION # 1 VIDEO. Pause the video when the MISSION # 1 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 1.

If using PPT for video, have MBC-Episode_4-Seek_Godly_Advice_Before_Making_Choices.pptx ready and play slide one. Pause on the MISSION # 1 CARD so you and your recruits can complete Mission # 1.



Mission #1



Supplies Needed

- Four rows of six envelopes for a total of 24 envelopes (these envelopes are numbered one through 24)
- Odd numbered envelopes have a slip of paper in them marked, "choose a gift"
- Even numbered envelopes have a slip of paper in them marked, "You forgot to ask for advice. Ask someone what they think you should do."
- Bag of small treats and gifts (pencils, erasers, candy etc.)
- Task cards, one for each recruit or pair of recruits (10 tasks are included on attachment page 7)



Mission Assignment

SAY: Let's all read our first mission together. (Reading mission card from satellite uplink), "We all have to make decisions at some time. When decisions need to be made, what should we do first?" God's people can help us to make good choices. Sometimes we feel that decisions need to be made quickly. When this happens, we often forget to ask for advice. Today we are going to play a game that will help us to remember to seek advice before we make decisions.

SAY: On this board I have 24 envelopes. Each is labelled with a number. I also have a pile of task cards. On your turn, you can pick up a task card, read it (or have it read out loud) and then answer the question. You may ask for advice from another recruit or from your squad leader.



DO: Allow the recruits to choose a task card. If the recruit seeks advice, then instruct them to choose a paper from an odd numbered envelope. Allow the recruits to choose a treat from the bag of gifts.

If the recruit answers the task without seeking advice, instruct them to choose a paper from an even numbered envelope. This card will advise them to ask someone for advice. Give them a chance to do this. Once everyone has had a turn, discuss the following question.

SAY: Did anyone see a pattern of what was happening?

DO: Allow recruits an opportunity to answer.

SAY: Those who sought advice or help, were actually given a treat. You didn't just answer the question but you asked a friend or me for advice. Some of you even looked in your Bible to find the answer. Those of you that did not ask for advice opened an envelope that directed them to seek advice. It is important to always seek advice in situations. Jessie made a decision really quickly. Instead of asking advice, she left with her friend. She forgot to seek advice or even to stop and tell her mom where she was going. Jessie should have sought some godly advice. Seeking God's advice, by talking with someone who knows God, will help you to know if you are doing the right thing or not.

Say: Let's check back in with Kate at Command Central. I do hope that the situation there is improving.



Mission Uplink 2



YouTube: Play "Making The Best Choices (S2) Episode 4 (2/4)". Pause the video when the MISSION # 2 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 2.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when MISSION #2 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 2.



Mission #2



Supplies Needed

- Bible
- Prior to this lesson, read through the story of King Rehoboam in 1 Kings 12:1-24



Mission Assignment

SAY: Recruits, we've got our next mission (reading mission card from satellite uplink). "Recruits, it is important to seek advice. However, not all advice is good advice and should be followed. Look at 1 Kings 12. What advice does King Rehoboam get and which advice does he follow?"



SAY: In 1 Kings 12 we learn about a young King Rehoboam. Rehoboam's father, King Solomon, had not been kind to the Israelites. He made them work hard and burdened them with very high taxes. When Rehoboam became King the Israelites had Jeroboam approach the king and ask him to lighten their tax load. Jeroboam told the King that if he reduced taxes, then the Israelites would serve him as their king. If you were King Rehoboam, what would you do?

SAY: The King sent Jeroboam away for three days. He then consulted his advisers who had served his father King Solomon, to help him decide how he should respond to Jeroboam's request. The advisers told the King that he should in fact do as Jeroboam requested. The elders told the King that if he did do this, the Israelites would then always be his servants. What do you think of this advice?

SAY: Well, King Rehoboam did not take the advisors' advice. Instead he went to the young men who he grew up with and asked them what they thought he should do. They told King Rehoboam that he should not make their load lighter but instead should make things even harder for them. What do you think of this advice?

SAY: Three days later Jeroboam returned to the King. King Rehoboam spoke with Jeroboam but he did not take the advice of his court advisors. Instead, he took the advice of the young men and chose to make things even more difficult for the Israelites. What do you think will happen now?

SAY: The Israelites under the rule of Rehoboam knew that he was going to make life very difficult for them. When the King sent out Adoniram, his foreman in charge of making the Israelites work hard, the Israelites killed him. King Rehoboam escaped, however, and ran to Jerusalem but he ended up losing his entire kingdom.

SAY: What happened when King Rehoboam followed unwise advice? (*His foreman, Adoniram, was killed and he lost his kingdom.*) Whose advice should he have followed? (*The advice of the elders*)

SAY: In this situation the advice from the court advisors was wiser because they were older and very experienced in this important task. King Rehoboam should have chosen to follow the advice of those who had experience in this area instead of the advice from the inexperienced young men.

SAY: It is really important that we seek advice from others who know God. We need to know who we can trust and then follow the advice given to us.



Prayer Huddle



YouTube: Play "Making The Best Choices (S2) Episode 4 (3/4)". Pause the video when the PRAYER HUDDLE CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the prayer huddle.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when PRAYER HUDDLE CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the prayer huddle.





Supplies Needed

- Prepare a pointer for each recruit. Glue a foam triangle shape to the end of a wooden tongue depressor so that it looks like an arrow or a pointer. Write on the depressor, "Seek the advice of wise, godly people!"

Directions

SAY: Sometimes we are given poor advice. It is difficult to know what advice should be followed and what advice would be wrong. King Rehoboam was given both good advice and poor advice. Unfortunately, he chose the wrong advice and made a huge mistake. None of us wants to make serious mistakes. God can help us to listen carefully. We need to ask Him for help even before decisions need to be made. Today, I would like us to spend some time talking to God and asking Him to help us to listen only to good, wise advice. As a reminder of this, I will give each of you a pointer that will remind us to seek only the best advice.

DO: Spend some time in prayer with the recruits asking God to help each recruit to seek only wise godly advice and to listen to the advice that will help them make choices God would be pleased with.

SAY: Let's turn back to the RTS Command Centre. I wonder if Kate has been able to get Sarai and Simon back from Florida yet. Let's see.



Mission Uplink 3



YouTube: Play "Making The Best Choices (S2) Episode 4 (4/4)". Pause the video when the FIELD MISSION CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the Field Mission Project.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when FIELD MISSION CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the Field Mission Project.



Field Mission Project



Supplies Needed

- Task/Scenario Cards from Mission Assignment #1 (see attachment page 7)
- Chart paper or white board
- Markers

Mission Project

SAY: Each week we have many decisions. Some are easy to make while others are difficult. We saw during today's lesson, a time when Kate had to make a decision. She was unsure of what to do. Did you notice what she did? (She called the Commander to ask for advice.) Let's read together our final mission for today (reading mission card from satellite uplink). "Who would be good people to go to for advice? Are there people you know that would give you good advice?"



Seek Godly Advice Before Making Choices

SAY: We need to know that there are people we can speak with to seek the best possible advice. Let's make a list of all of the people we feel we can and should talk to when we need to make an important decision.

DO: List these on the board or chart paper. (Possible ideas: parents, pastors, Sunday School teachers, Squad leader, Christian friends, Church group leaders, Christian family members)

SAY: Let's look at the scenarios we had earlier today. As we read through them, let's decide who we could talk to help us decide what we should do.

DO: Go through the scenarios and decide who the recruits could speak to.

SAY: Are there any other decisions that you need to make this week?

DO: Give opportunity for the recruits to answer this question.

SAY: Who can you ask godly advice from in these decisions?

DO: Allow the recruits to answer.

SAY: We have learned during this module that we all have decisions to make. Before making decisions, there are three things that we should do. Does anyone remember all three things that we need to do before making decisions? (*Pray, know and read God's Word, seek wise godly advice from others who know God*)

SAY: As we close our time together, let's ask God to help us to make all of our decisions carefully. We need to remember to pray to God about our decisions. We need to know how the teachings of the Bible can help us and seek the advice of people who've made these kinds of decisions themselves.

DO: Close in prayer.

NOTES:



<p>Your friends want to stay at the school and play basketball after school but your parents are expecting you to go straight home and feed the cat. What should you do?</p>	<p>You have an assignment due at school on Wednesday of next week. Your mom asked you to begin it as soon as you get home. When you get home from school, no one else is there. Your favourite TV show is coming on. Should you take a break and watch TV before working on your school work?</p>
<p>A friend is having a sleepover. He has told you that you will be watching a movie that you have never heard of before. What do you do?</p>	<p>You are at the mall with a friend. Your friend wants each of you to buy an item that you know your parents would not want you to spend your money on. What should you do?</p>
<p>At lunchtime, you are invited to sit with the popular kids. While eating lunch with them, you see one of your friends eating all by themselves. What should you do?</p>	<p>As you are taking your cornet out of its case, you accidentally drop it. There is a little dent that you think no one will notice if you don't tell them. What should you do?</p>
<p>You and a friend are playing catch in the living room. Your friend throws the ball over your head and it breaks a picture frame. Should you tell your parents what happened or leave it for them to find later?</p>	<p>At the end of a busy weekend, you open your lunchbox to find a moldy sandwich left over from Friday. Your mom will be upset that you didn't empty your lunchbox earlier. What should you do?</p>
<p>You always go straight home from school but tonight your friend asks you to go to his house. What should you do?</p>	<p>You are a part of the YP band at your church. They practice every Thursday evening. A group of friends from school are joining a hockey team that play on Thursdays and they have asked you to join them. What should you do?</p>