

God's Way is Best!

Memory Verse: Proverbs 3:5 *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding."*

Main Teaching: God graciously wants to give you what is best for you.

Word Up: God's Way is Best!

Supplies:

- Word Up Visual – Word Up (Resource Pack)
- Recording for "No Turning Back" "Turn your Eyes to Jesus" and "Trust in the Lord" - Worship (Sing About the King 3 CD)
- Optional Song Visuals for "No Turning Back" and "Turn your Eyes to Jesus" (cefpress.com)
- Blindfold and Small Object – Small Group
- Papers that say My Way and God's way - Object Lesson
- Memory Verse Visual – Memory Verse (Resource Pack)
- Cards with sins and God's way actions written on them – Activity
- One "treat" for each child – Missionary Story
- Verse cards – Wonder Time
- Memory Verse Token for Proverbs 3:5 for each child – Dismissal (Resource Pack)

Schedule at a Glance (75 min club):

- 15 min – Small Group
- 10 min – Worship / Rules / Word Up
- 10 min – Object Lesson
- 15 min – Memory Verse
- 10 min – Activity
- 5 min – Missionary Story
- 10 min – Small Group Wonder Time



SMALL GROUP

Blindfolded Trust Game

Have your kids sit in a circle, and blindfold one kid. Then drop a small object somewhere in the circle. Have the other kids give directions to the blindfolded kid until the object is found. You can repeat this for several different kids. In that game you had to decide whether or not you would trust what the other kids were saying. They could have led you in the wrong direction. You may not always be able to trust other people, but you can always trust God. You can trust that his way is the best way. We'll get to learn more about that in Good News Club today.

WORSHIP

To learn songs and motions, go to YouTube and type in CEF and the name of the song in the search bar.

"No Turning Back"

"Turn Your Eyes to Jesus"

CLUB RULES

Think of your favorite game. What do you think the game would be like if it had no rules? If everyone playing could do anything they wanted? It probably wouldn't be fun to play anymore. The rules are there to help make the game fun for everyone. When we are at Good News Club, we have rules so everyone will stay safe and have fun. They are called the Ups rules. "Sit Up, Look Up, Hands Up, Listen Up and Zip Up". There is one more rule that isn't on our chart. It is "Have Fun!" In Good News Club we have lots of fun learning about Jesus!



WORD UP!

"God's way is best!"

Who knows what I ate for breakfast? (Allow Response) How about what I'm going to eat for breakfast tomorrow? (Allow Response) Or for breakfast 10 years from now? (Allow Response) That was a tricky question, because even I don't know what I'll be eating for breakfast 10 years from now. There is someone who does know that though. That is God. God knows everything that has already happened in your life, and he knows everything that will happen in the future. Because God knows everything, He knows the best way for you to live. God's purpose for your life is much better than any plan you could ever make up on your own. His way isn't always the easy way but it is always best. **WORD UP! "God's way is best!"** (Say with children.)

OBJECT LESSON

My Way vs. God's Way

Materials:

- One paper that says "my way"
- One paper that says "God's way"

What you will do:

Fold the paper that says God's Way 4 times with the words facing in. Your paper will be about 2in by 3in. Hold the folded up paper in the top corner of the "My Way" paper on the back side facing you. As you rip pieces off of the "My Way" page, stack them up at this corner. When the paper is all ripped up, flip the stack so that the folded paper is facing out, and begin to unfold the paper.

Videos demonstrations:

<https://youtu.be/wlV6Bq1oX4q?si=9n39GTsTvcyO7FG>

https://youtu.be/3OIY_-kyRpk?feature=shared

What you say:

This paper is going to show us what your way is like. Every single person is born wanting to go their way, born wanting to sin. Sin is anything we think, see, say, or do that breaks God's law, or makes him sad. When you go your way, you're only thinking about yourself. You lie to your Mom, so YOU can get out of trouble (Rip the paper) You steal something that is not yours, because YOU really want it. (Rip the paper) You shove or hit someone, because YOU are mad. (Rip the paper) It's all about YOU (rip) YOU (rip) YOU (rip to the size of your folded piece

of paper) But living your way is not loving or kind. Your way is torn, messed up, and wrong. It can make you feel big for a while, but your way is like ripped up paper. It's garbage. Going your way has a punishment, to be separated from God forever.

But God sent his only perfect son, Jesus, to take our punishment for us. He died on the cross, and came alive again three days later, conquering our sin. God's true book the Bible promises that when you believe in Jesus then you will be saved from your sin - your selfish way. When you believe in Jesus God will take your torn, messed up, and wrong way and do something amazing. God will begin to change you. He will help you to always tell the truth (Unfold a piece of the paper as you flip the ripped pieces to the back) He will help you to share what you have, to give generously to everyone. (Unfold the paper more) He will help you to show kindness to those who don't deserve kindness. (Unfold the paper more) What you will discover is that as you put your trust in God he turned you in a completely new direction. Because you will see that you are no longer going your way, but instead you are going God's way. (Unfold paper the rest of the way) God's Way is full of joy and contentment. It isn't torn, it's full and perfect. **WORD UP! "God's Way is Best!"** (Say with children) You can choose to go God's Way. You can choose to believe in Jesus today.

INVITATION



Do you know that you have sinned? Do you know that Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for your sin? Have you made the decision to go his way? The Bible says in Acts 16:31 "Believe on the Lord Jesus and you will be saved." When you believe in Jesus, trusting that He died on the cross for your sins, you will be saved – rescued from sin's punishment. God will change you on the inside, helping you love Him and obey Him each day. Will you turn from your sin and believe in the lord Jesus today? Please bow your head and close your eyes. If you believed on Jesus for the very first time today, or you want to talk to someone more about doing that, please show me by raising your hand. If you raised your hand, please meet me (designate location) and I'll show you more from God's Word how you can be saved.

MEMORY VERSE

Proverbs 3:5 *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding."*

INTRODUCTION

Morris had a very special dog named Buddy. Buddy's job was to lead Morris everywhere he needed to go. Morris was blind but he bravely traveled all over the country with Buddy as his guide. Morris trusted Buddy to lead him safely across busy streets, through train stations, and even onto an airplane! He had to trust Buddy a lot. He had to trust that Buddy could see things Morris could not see and that Buddy knew the best way to go. The Bible tells us about someone we need to trust because He knows what's best. **WORD UP! "God's way is best!"** (Say with children.)

PRESENTATION

(Read Proverbs 3:5 from Bible) These are words from the Bible. The Bible is made up of smaller books. Does anyone know how many books? (Allow response.) There are 66 books. Our verse today comes from the book of Proverbs. It's in chapter 3 (the big number), verse 5 (the little number). A proverb is a short saying that makes an important point. This book in the Bible is called "Proverbs" because it is full of short sayings that make important points. The Bible isn't the only book that has proverbs, but the proverbs in the Bible are different and more

important than all the others. God chose to have these proverbs written down for us to help us make wise choices—choices that follow His way. Let's read the verse together. (Read verse from visual with children.)

EXPLANATION

Trust—To trust in someone means to depend on and have confidence in them. When you believe that someone will do what they say they will do, you are trusting in that person.

in the Lord—This is telling us who we should trust in. The Lord is a special name for God that reminds us that He is King of everything. The Lord never makes mistakes and never lies. He never fails because He is faithful and He has the power to do what He promises to do.

with all your heart—You can trust the Lord completely—with your whole life.

and do not lean on your own understanding—When you lean on something, you depend on it to hold you up. God warns you not to depend on what you think is right or what you think you can do because you do not always know what is best.

This proverb is saying to trust the Lord with your whole life because He knows better than you do. You can trust Him completely because of who He is.

APPLICATION

Saved: If you have already believed in Jesus as your Savior from sin, then this proverb is reminding you that you should trust Him in every part of your life. When you have a choice to make, you should think about what God wants because His way is best. **WORD UP!** “**God’s way is best!**” (Say with children.) The best way to learn God’s way is to spend time with Him and read His Word, the Bible. You can **trust that God knows what’s best for you!**

Unsaved: If you have never believed in Jesus as your Savior from sin, that is the first part of trusting God with all your heart. He knows sin will hurt you and separate you from Him and He died on the cross and came back to life to save you from it. You cannot save yourself from sin. You must trust in the Lord Jesus. Only He has the power to save you from sin.

REPETITION

One or Two

(Hold one or two fingers behind your back. When you say “Go” have all the children stand up and hold either one or two fingers in the air. Have everyone say the phrase “Proverbs 3:5—Trust in the Lord!” After saying the phrase, reveal to the children how many fingers you are holding up. The children who are holding up the same number as you, say the verse. The rest of the children sit down until the next round.)

Sing Memory Verse Song “Trust in the Lord”

ACTIVITY

Run from Sin

On separate pieces of paper write out some sins that kids might do (lying, stealing, shoving, etc.) and some actions that would be choosing God’s way. (Sharing, complimenting, obeying parents, etc.) Split these “sin”

and "God's Way" cards between two leaders, and have them stand at opposite ends of the room. Have the kids start facing one of the leaders. This leader will show one word at a time. If the word is God's Way the kids will stay, however, if the word is a sin then the kids should run to the other leader and away from the sin. The other leader will do the same with his cards. Continue until both leaders have gone through their stack of cards. (If you have extra time, you could shuffle the papers and play again.)

MISSIONS STORY

What is a Missionary?

Send one child out of the room with appropriate supervision. Give the other children a treat. As you give each child the treat, say: "**God loves you!**"

As children enjoy their snack, explain that there's also a treat for the child who went out of the room.

- How will the child know about the treat?
- How could we get the treat to the child?

Have the children try yelling, throwing the treat toward the door, and using any other means. Children will finally conclude that the only way to get the treat to the child is to take it to him or her.

Send one child as the "Missionary" to deliver the message and the treat. Then have both children return to the room.

Discuss how the child wouldn't have known about the treat if the Missionary had never gone to share.



SMALL GROUP / WONDER TIME

The Right Things

Let's see if you can figure out what I want you to do. Hold up the same number of fingers as me. If I hold up three fingers, you should hold up three fingers. Let's try it! (Do with children.) Now let's try again, but this time I'm going to have my hand behind my back. (Hold up fingers behind your back.) That was difficult the second time because you didn't know how many fingers I was holding up. Aren't you glad God doesn't do that to us? He doesn't hide the things we need to know from us. God knows what is best for you and He has given you His Word to show you the best way to live your life. (Read Psalm 119:105.) Here are some scenarios to show us how God's word shows us God's way:

1. Zachary's parents told him to clean his room, but Zachary just remembered that he hasn't read his Bible yet today. How does God's Word help Zachary see what to do first? (Have child read Ephesians 6:1.)
2. Gabriela's teacher wants to know who broke the window. Gabriela saw Andrew break it, but she knows it was an accident and she doesn't want Andrew to get in trouble. How does God's Word help Gabriela see what to do? (Have child read Ephesians 4:25.)

3. Someone brought chocolate cupcakes to school. Everyone is very happy except for Nathan. Nathan is feeling upset because he is allergic to chocolate. How does God's Word help Nathan see what to do? (Have child read Philippians 4:11-13.)

Sometimes you may feel like you have a good reason for doing things your own way. But you can trust that God knows what's best for you. **WORD UP! "God's way is best!"** (Say with children.) Let's ask God to show you and me how He wants us to live. (Pray with children.)

DISMISSAL

Hand out memory verse token to each child and encourage them to memorize the verse and bring the token back completed next week. Remind the kids to read God's Word this week so they can learn about God's way and trust that his way is best.