

In God's Big Story

A follower of Jesus named James writes a letter to other believers, teaching them about the power of our words and the importance of speaking with wisdom.

Elementary Wonder Truth:

God's Wisdom Helps Us Live at Peace with Others

Early Childhood Wonder Truth:

God Helps Us Get Along with Others

Scripture: James 3



WATCH GOD'S BIG STORY



SPEAKING WITH WISDOM

[ELEMENTARY VIDEO](#)

[EARLY CHILDHOOD VIDEO](#)

WORD OF WONDER



Work together this week on memorizing this verse!

ELEMENTARY:

Jesus replied, " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Love him with all your mind.' This is the first and most important commandment."

—Matthew 22:37–38 (NirV)

EARLY CHILDHOOD:

Love God with all your heart and soul and mind.

—from Matthew 22:37



WONDER ABOUT IT!

- What is one thing you are learning about God and the wonder of His big story?
- How do you see God's story as part of your own story?

WORSHIP@HOME



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WONDER@HOME
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FAMILY CONVERSATIONS

Families, use this to prompt conversations at the table, in the car, and anywhere else your family experiences life together.

- What does it mean to live at peace with others?
- Why do you think it's important to be wise with our words?
- Sometimes we get upset or angry. How can we share those emotions wisely?
- Can you think of a recent time when you were not wise with your words? If so, what can you do to apologize or make it right?



BIBLE MEMORY

God's Word Hide and Seek

One way we can encourage others with our words is by speaking Scripture over them! As a family, find several Bible verses you love. Start with the Rooted series Word of Wonder, Matthew 22:37–38, and then invite each family member to pick a favorite. Write each verse on a note card or print it on a printer and decorate it. Read the verses together; then fold the notes in half. On the outside of each note, write the name of a family member. Ask each person to hide one of the notes (not their own) somewhere that family member is likely to see it. For example, they might tape the note to the bathroom mirror, put it on that person's pillow, or set it near the steering wheel of the car that person drives.

Throughout the week, encourage family members to keep their eyes open for the note with their name on it. When they see it, they can open it and read the verse out loud or ask someone to help them read it and share it with the family.



HANDS ON

Taste Test

Grab a blindfold and gather a variety of foods, some that are sweet and some that are bitter or sour. Suggestions: lemon juice, vinegar, salt, sugar, pickles, fruit, and applesauce.

Invite your family to participate in a taste test. Take turns wearing the blindfold, tasting an item, and guessing what it is. If you have picky eaters or someone with allergies, assure them you won't give them anything that will upset them or make them sick.

Once everyone has had a turn as the blindfolded taste tester, ask: **Which foods were sweet? Which were sour or bitter? Which did you like most? Which did you like least?**

Just like the things that go into our mouths can be sweet or sour, delicious or bitter, so can the things that come out of our mouths—our words!

What kinds of words come out of your mouth? Sweet ones or sour ones? You may need to explain to a younger child what sour or bitter words are. **Let's try to make our words sweet today!**