DECISIONS ACTIVITY SUPPLEMENT
WISDOM // WEEK 2

Read the story with your group. **Pause** when it's time to make a decision and get their advice.

Regardless of what your kids say, **choose the underlined answers**. **Note:** Be silly when you're going against the kids' advice so they can laugh about it instead of getting frustrated with you.

It's a normal, everyday evening … except I have a BIG math test coming up tomorrow. And I'm kind of worried about it. My parents tell me getting a good night's sleep is important when you have a test coming up, so I go to bed early. But I'm too nervous to go to sleep. I can't stop thinking about the test. I see my journal sitting next to my Bible. I know writing in my journal would help me calm down. But I also see my tablet with my favorite game, BUG BLASTER, ready to play. My parents have told me I'm not allowed on my tablet after bedtime. But I really want to play.

DECISION TIME!

Should I journal about how I'm feeling, read the Bible verse I've been learning in Konnect, and go to sleep?	**OR**	*Should I play BUG BLASTER on my tablet to calm me down until I fall asleep?*

I decide to play BUG BLASTER. But the funny thing is, it doesn't make me feel any calmer. In fact, the longer I play, the more awake I feel. So, I keep playing. It takes me *hours* to fall asleep. When my mom wakes me up in the morning, my eyes don't want to open. She has to come back in my room four times just to get me out of bed. And once I'm up, I'm *so* cranky. I snap at my sister and complain about how tired I am. When it's time for breakfast, I don't even want the food my mom's set out for me. You know what I do want? COOKIES. Cookies sound great. And Mom's in her room getting ready for the day, so I could probably grab a few and she wouldn't even notice.

DECISION TIME!

Should I eat the healthy breakfast my mom made for me?	**OR**	*Should I grab some cookies and eat them?*

I grab three cookies and eat them before my mom comes back. And then, I *lie* to her and tell her I'm not very hungry and can't finish the breakfast she made for me. She tells me to bring a sweater with me to school because it's about to get really cold and my school's heater doesn't always work well. But I *hate* carrying a big, lumpy sweater in my backpack. When it's time to go, my mom asks me, "Do you have your sweater?"

DECISION TIME!

Should I come clean and tell my mom I still need to pack my sweater?	**OR**	*Should I just tell a tiny lie, say I have my sweater, and head off to school without it?*

I tell a tiny lie. I'm sure everything will be fine. Fast-forward to 11:00. I'm at school, and it's time for my BIG math test. By now, I feel awful. I'm super sleepy because I stayed up so late and my stomach is growling because I ate cookies for breakfast instead of something healthy. And guess what else? My classroom is freezing! I really regret not bringing an extra sweater. I stare at the test after my teacher passes it out, but I just can't focus. I'm so cold and tired, I actually fall asleep halfway through. I end up failing the test because I'm only able to finish a few questions.
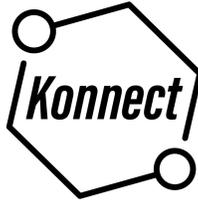
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I decide to come clean. I tell my teacher about my night—and about my choices this morning. The good news is, she tells me I can re-take the test tomorrow after school, and she will only mark me down by 10 points! Yes! It's time for a second chance. **This time, I'm going to make wiser choices and see what happens.**

Fast forward to 5:00. I tell my mom about *everything*: about sneaking time on my tablet *and* eating cookies for breakfast *and* lying about my sweater. I tell her I failed my test even though I know I would've done fine if I had made wiser choices. My mom is pretty disappointed in me. She grounds me from my tablet for a week and puts it on the top shelf in the living room.

DECISION TIME!

Should I accept my consequence with a good attitude?　**OR**　*Should I throw a fit and tell my mom it's ridiculous to ground me for a whole week?*

My mom is right. My choices were poor—and my lies weren't good for our relationship. I decide to accept my consequence without arguing or complaining. We hug, and I feel a lot better. When bedtime comes around, I start to feel nervous about re-taking my math test tomorrow. I see my journal and my Bible. But I also know I could sneak my tablet from the living room and get some time in on BUG BLASTER.

DECISION TIME!

Should I write in my journal about how I'm feeling, read my Bible verse, and go to sleep?　**OR**　*Should I sneak my tablet and play BUG BLASTER as long as my eyes will stay open?*

No more foolishness for me! I write in my journal about how nervous I'm feeling. I ask God to help me calm down. I also write about the unwise choices I've made and what I've learned. I read my Bible verse, too! Proverbs 3:6 *Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.* It dawns on me: that's what I've been missing! I've forgotten to ask God to help me make wise choices. His choices are always good and will make me feel good too. I finish journaling and reading in 15 minutes. When my mom tells me to turn out my light, I head for bed and fall asleep peacefully. When my mom wakes me up the next day, I feel great! … But then I see what we're having for breakfast, and it doesn't look very good. And I know my parents got some double chocolate chunk cookies last night, and those sound pretty tasty.

DECISION TIME!

Should I eat the healthy breakfast my mom made for me?　**OR**　*Should I grab some cookies and eat them?*

I decide to try the breakfast my mom set out for me, and guess what? It actually tastes pretty good! Now I feel strong and ready to face my day. When the time comes around for me to retake my math test, I feel so awake and prepared. And guess what else? I even brought a sweater with me, just in case. I pass my math test the second time around. When I go home, I tell my mom how much easier it was for me to take my test when I wasn't distracted by sleepiness, stomachaches, and cold! I'm so glad I learned that God can help me make wise choices!