

# BASKETBALL LEAGUE DEVOTIONS

Parent Companion Guide

UPWARD  
SPORTS

## PRACTICE 3

### KNOWLEDGE

is discovering something new so you can be better at whatever you do.

### KEY VERSE

**JESUS GREW IN WISDOM AND IN STATURE AND IN FAVOR WITH GOD  
AND ALL THE PEOPLE.**

**LUKE 2:52 (NLT)**

**Bottom Line:** When I discover what God says, I can make good choices.

This week, we're talking about choices. Some decisions don't matter all that much, but others have a good choice—a "wise" choice—and a bad one.

In the Bible, we read about a time when Jesus had to make some choices. In Luke 4:1-13, Jesus had been in the desert for 40 days. He was very hungry and very tired. The devil gave Him three chances to take the easy way out, and every time, Jesus chose to please God.

Each time it went something like this. The devil would tempt Jesus by saying something like he'd give Jesus authority over all the kingdoms of the world—if Jesus would worship him.

But Jesus knew what God said in His Word. So Jesus would reply something like, "'The Scriptures say, 'You must worship the Lord your God and serve only him.'" (Luke 4:8, NLT)

Jesus made the right choice because He knew what God said. He was able to remember the truth and not give in to temptation.

The best way to gain knowledge is to learn more about the one who knows everything—God! One BIG way to discover what God says is by reading God's Word, the Bible. God wants you to make the wise choice because it's the choice that will be best for you in the long run. So what if you don't always know what the wise choice is? Try discovering what God has to say in the Bible. Because the more you learn about what God has to say, the better you'll be at discovering what the right choice really is. And the more you'll be able to remember what choice to make in tough situations.

## CONVERSATION STARTERS

(K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade)

- What is an example of an easy choice? What about a hard one?
- What should you do when you don't know what choice to make?

(3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade)

- What was a time when it was hard to make the right choice? What did you do?
- What should you do when you don't know what choice to make?

(7<sup>th</sup> Grade and up)

- How do you usually make decisions? What goes through your mind?
- Are there any circumstances when you feel like it's harder to make the right choice? What might help you when that happens?

## GOING DEEPER

This week, read Luke 4:1-13 with your child. This is the story of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness. How do you think Jesus felt after 40 days of fasting? What are the three trials that the devil tries to use to bait Jesus into sin? How did Jesus respond each time? How was Jesus able to make the right choices?