

Get Wisdom: Go beyond the Gold! Family Celebration

Dear Club Coordinator,

Hello! The ACTS (Area Counselor Training and Support) Program has created a theme-focused family celebration for your club to use to wrap up your GEMS season in a fun and meaningful way. It's designed to bring girls, their families, and counselors together to thank God for His blessings on your season and to celebrate the girls and what they've learned about this season's theme, *Get Wisdom: Go beyond the Gold!*

Everything that you need to host this celebration is contained in this packet. You'll quickly see that it's set-up in easily divisible sections, allowing you to pick and choose all or some of what you'd like to include in your celebration. In this packet you will find . . .

A Planning Guide for Club Coordinators

In table form, you'll see the portions of the celebration, what people and supplies they'd require, and an approximate timeframe. This will help you determine if you'll use the celebration in its entirety or choose the options you like best.

A Celebration Checklist

Organize a planning committee or your counselor team to help you work your way through the checklist. With prayer, planning, and people to help you, you'll be fully equipped to host this important family ministry event.

A Celebration Invitation

Send personal invitations to each of the GEMS and their families. Send it through the mail to ensure that everyone gets an invitation. Please do the extra legwork to ensure that every GEM has a family member, guardian, or family friend (can be an older couple from your Christian community) to sit by her and celebrate her.

Decorating Ideas

Decorate as you choose or incorporate some of these theme-related ideas.

The *Get Wisdom: Go beyond the Gold!* Family Celebration

The text for the entire celebration is included for you. Encourage your girls to practice, practice, practice! As Club Coordinator, know your part so well that you need to only glance at your notes occasionally.

The *Get Wisdom: Go beyond the Gold!* Family Celebration PowerPoint

Download a free PowerPoint that corresponds to the celebration:
www.gemsgc.org.

If you have any questions, please be quick to contact me. Blessings!

Lenae Bulthuis

GEMS Girls' Clubs Training Manager – lenaeb@gemsgc.org

A Planning Guide for Club Coordinators

Time Frame	Celebration Breakdowns	People/Supplies Needed
When families begin to arrive until the determined start time of your event.	<p>Pre-Celebration</p> <p>Counselors warmly greet families, introduce themselves to people they may not know, and invite them to take a place at the table.</p>	<p>Serve refreshments.</p> <p>Have “Photo Opt” places and a GEMS Photographer willing to take pictures of families.</p> <p>Play GEMS music quietly in the background.</p> <p>Enough tables and chairs should be set up for GEMS families and counselors.</p>
15 – 45 minutes	<p>Meal/Dessert/Snacks</p> <p>Determine when you will serve the meal/dessert/snacks and schedule it into your celebration. Dessert and snacks can be easily served at the beginning or conclusion of the evening. A meal should be served near the beginning.</p>	<p>Have booster seats or high chairs available for families with small children.</p>
Throughout the celebration		<p>If using the <i>Get Wisdom: Go beyond the Gold!</i> PowerPoint you will need to download it from www.gemsgc.org, have a computer/projector to display it, and a technology person designated to run it.</p>
12 minutes	Welcome/Opening Prayer	<p>Club Coordinator does most of introduction. Can invite a CIT, GEM, or other counselor to open in prayer.</p>
7 minutes	Wisdom about Words	<p>Awareness Level girls (grades 1-3), Awareness Level counselor/CIT, dark sunglasses for each girl, five posters: F, A, C, T, S (a</p>

		letter displayed on each), and the Dragnet theme song and the ability to play it. Can be played from youtube.com.
6 minutes	Wisdom about Relationships	Club Coordinator or another counselor, a dinner plate, and a bowl of Skittles, Starbursts, M&M's, or jelly beans for each table – at least one piece of candy per person, and the <i>Get Wisdom: Go beyond the Gold!</i> PowerPoint or poster board displaying the conversation table within this portion of the Family Celebration.
5 minutes	Wisdom about Integrity	Discovery Level girls (grades 4-6), Discovery Level counselor/CIT, a table, blanket, and a bucket full of rocks – one rock for each girl.
9 minutes	Wisdom about Work	Advanced Level girls (grades 7-8) – need a narrator and five actresses, Advanced Level counselor/CIT, two backpacks, a kitchen table set for breakfast, and muffins.
4 minutes	Wisdom about Money	3 CITs (or whatever other group of girls you choose), an empty purse, a purse overflowing with play money, a Bible, and a loaf of bread.
5 minutes	Theme Song: “I Want to Know You”	All girls sing the theme song, “I Want to Know You.”
Time depends on option that you choose and size of your GEMS group.	Optional: Badge Award Ceremony	Club Coordinator and badges earned by the girls.
6 minutes	Closing	Club Coordinator.



**Please join us for the
*GEMS Family Celebration!***

Date: _____

Place: _____

Time: _____

_____ GEMS Club invites its GEMS and their parents (or guardians) and siblings to a special event that focuses on this season's theme, *Get Wisdom: Go beyond the Gold!* Your daughter(s) are eager to host their families at this special event that will celebrate all that they've learned and experienced this season. It'll be fun for the **entire** family!

We're looking forward to having your family be our guest!

RSVP

_____ (Club Coordinator)
_____ (phone number) or _____ (email)

Decorating Ideas:

Centerpiece Options:

- A Bible opened to the book of Proverbs chapter 9:10.
- A Wisdom Box: fill small wooden boxes with bits of wisdom. On cardstock print various quotes from Proverbs or godly quotes of wisdom. Laminate them and put them in the box. Encourage your guests to take a quote/verse home with them at the end of the event.
- A plant that can be given away at the end of the event. Decorate the pot with these words: Grow in wisdom!

Room Décor Options:

- Set up pillars and create a banner that reads: Solomon's Porch of Wisdom. Pillars can be ordered through [Oriental Trading.com](http://OrientalTrading.com).
- Festive streamers and balloons. Order GEMS mylar balloons from gemsgc.org.
- Have a large treasure trunk that's open. Place purple satin or another royal like fabric within it. Place the Bible in the center and pearls around it.

Get Wisdom: Go beyond the Gold! Family Celebration

After pre-celebration activities are complete . . .

*If using the Get Wisdom: Go beyond the Gold! PowerPoint, please show Slide #1.
Alternative Option: Display the theme banner. Pattern found in the Theme Resource Book.*

WELCOME/OPENING PRAYER

Club Coordinator (CC):

Welcome to the _____ (name of club) GEMS Girls' Club Family Celebration! My name is _____ and I serve as Club Coordinator to these wonderful girls and their counselors. We're so thankful and excited that you are here. The girls have been looking forward to this event for sometime and have special things planned for you! We're going to enjoy a fun evening together as they share their talents and God's truth about this season's theme, *Get Wisdom: Go beyond the Gold!*

Before we enter into all the treasures that are in store for you, let's pray together.

CC can pray or invite a CIT, GEM, or another counselor to pray:

Heavenly Father, You are all wise and good. Thank You for the opportunity to celebrate all that You've done in and through our GEMS Club this season. Thank You for each girl, family member or friend, and counselor that has gathered in this place. Use this event to build relationships with one another, and most of all to establish or strengthen a relationship with You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

CC: As families there tends be a great deal of wisdom passed on from one generation to another, doesn't there? Let's think through some examples you may have heard or said in your home. I'll begin the wisdom quote and you finish it, OK?

If you can't say anything nice . . . *extend your hand, motioning for them to respond* . . . don't say anything at all.

Always wear . . . *extend your hand, motioning for them to respond* . . . clean underwear.

Look both ways before . . . *extend your hand, motioning for them to respond* . . . you cross the street.

Money doesn't grow on . . . *extend your hand, motioning for them to respond* . . . trees.

Don't judge a book . . . *extend your hand, motioning for them to respond* . . . by its covers.

Always say please and . . . *extend your hand, motioning for them to respond* . . . thank you.

Very good! Those are practical tidbits of wisdom that help us live well. During our GEMS season we went beyond tidbits to God's truth found in His book, the Bible. *Hold your Bible open to the book of Proverbs and say* . . . Most of this season's study came out of one book of the Bible, the book of Proverbs. The book of Proverbs is God's handbook on how to live wisely.

In Proverbs we learned that there is only one place to get true wisdom and that's from God. Girls, will you please stand right where you're at and say Proverbs 9:10 aloud with me?

*If using the Get Wisdom: Go beyond the Gold! PowerPoint, please show slide #2.
Alternative Option: The girls recite the verse from memory.*

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding (Proverbs 9:10).

Thank you. You may sit down again. At this time I'd like each person to share their name and one thing that you fear or are afraid of. When you say your name, introduce yourself in relation to the GEM or GEMS that you came to the celebration with. If you're a GEM, please share your name and what grade you're in. After everyone at your table has introduced themselves and shared one thing they fear, please raise your hands to signal to me that you're finished.

After everyone has finished sharing say . . . The book of Proverbs says that *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom* (Proverbs 9:10). At club, we learned the meaning of that verse. To fear God is not the same as fearing spiders, small spaces, and scary noises. To fear God is a combination of reverence, admiration, wonder, and humility. To fear God involves both a shrinking back as we recognize His greatness and power, and a drawing close in awe and worship. It's only when we really grasp what it means to fear God that we can begin to live our lives in the light of His wisdom.

Girls, will you please stand and say Proverbs 16:16-17 aloud with me?

*If using the Get Wisdom: Go beyond the Gold! PowerPoint, please show slide #3.
Alternative Option: The girls recite the verse from memory.*

How much better to get wisdom than gold, to choose understanding rather than silver! The highway of the upright avoids evil; he (she) who guards his (her) way guards his (her) life (Proverbs 16:16-17).

There's nothing necessarily wrong with owning things like gold, silver, or other things on your wish list. What God wants us to understand in these verses is that if you must make a choice between getting wisdom or getting things, choose wisdom! It's the best choice! The things of this world won't help us walk wisely, but God's wisdom will. It will keep us on God's highway of right living.

The book of Proverbs contains so much wisdom about so many facets of our lives. Tonight we're going to narrow down those facets down to five things we're going to focus on. **(Note: Or however many you decide to use. Depending on time available, you have 1-5 wisdom options to choose from.)**

If using the Get Wisdom: Go beyond the Gold! PowerPoint, please show PowerPoint slides #4-8. Alternative Option: Download the five logos from gemsgc.org and display them on poster boards. Have five girls come to the front and take turns holding up their poster board as you say them aloud.

CC: We're going to learn . . .

- Wisdom about words
- Wisdom about relationships
- Wisdom about integrity
- Wisdom about work
- Wisdom about money

WISDOM ABOUT WORDS

You will need: Dark sunglasses for each girl and five poster boards with one letter prominently displayed on each poster: F, A, C, T, S. Assign five girls to hold the posters. If there are more than 5 girls, two girls can hold each poster – one holds each corner, or you can create F, A, C, T, S posters for each group of five girls. If there's one set of five girls, they should stand in the front. If there are more, they can continue to extend the line around the room. You will also need Dragnet's theme song and the ability to play it. (It's available through youtube.com. It has a distinctive "dum-de-dum-dum" opening four notes of its theme music.)

If using the Get Wisdom: Go beyond the Gold! PowerPoint, please show slide #9. Alternative Option: Have a girl come forward with the wisdom about words poster and display it near the front of the stage.

CC: Let's begin with Wisdom about Words! I'd like to invite the Awareness Level (grades 1-3) girls and their counselor/CIT forward to lead us.

The girls put on their dark sunglasses, receive their F, A, C, T, S posters, and remain off stage until the Dragnet theme song plays. That's their signal to walk on stage.

Awareness Counselor or CIT:

Long before these girls or most of their parents were born, there was a radio drama that transitioned to a television show called *Dragnet*. *Play the Dragnet theme song. The Awareness girls walk in with their sunglasses and posters.*

Within the *Dragnet* show and the movies that spun off from it Sgt. Joe Friday has become known for his famous business-like catch phrase, “Just the facts, ma’am.”

Those who walk on the highway of right living should also keep their words to just the FACTS. Kenneth B. Wingate in his book, *A Father’s Gift – Lessons from Proverbs*, says that people who are wise should use the acronym FACTS to guide their words.

F is for few. Our words should be few. *Girl(s) holding the F poster board(s) holds it high in the air.* Wise people use few words; they don’t talk too much! The more we talk the greater our chance of getting into trouble with our words. *Girl(s) puts her poster board(s) down.*

A is for apt. Our words should be apt. *Girl(s) holding the A poster board(s) holds it high in the air.* Wise people use words that are apt. Apt words are appropriate words. We should speak the right words at the right time. *Girl(s) puts her poster board(s) down.*

C is for calm. Our words should be calm. *Girl(s) holding the C poster board(s) holds it high in the air.* Wise people use words that are calm. Calm words are controlled and peace-filled. The opposite of calm words is to lose our temper, speak in anger, and use filthy, hurtful language. *Girl(s) puts her poster board(s) down.*

T is for true. Our words should be true. *Girl(s) holding the T poster board(s) holds it high in the air.* Wise people speak words that are honest and truth-filled. The opposite is when we lie, and are dishonest and deceitful. *Girl(s) puts her poster board(s) down.*

S is for sweet. Our words should be sweet. *Girl(s) holding the S poster board(s) holds it high in the air.* Wise people speak words that are sweet and build each other up! Their words are pure, encouraging and gracious. *Girl(s) puts her poster board(s) down.*

Hold your Bible and say . . . Proverbs 12:18 says, Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing. Always use wisdom with your words by only speaking words that are . . .

Few, *Girl(s) holding the F poster board(s) holds it high in the air,*
Apt, *Girl(s) holding the A poster board(s) holds it high in the air,*
Calm, *Girl(s) holding the C poster board(s) holds it high in the air,*
True, *Girl(s) holding the T poster board(s) holds it high in the air,*
Sweet, *Girl(s) holding the S poster board(s) holds it high in the air.*

Dragnet theme song plays, girls bow, and walk off the stage.

CC: *Applause!* Thank you to the Awareness girls and their Counselor/CIT for teaching us wisdom about words. At this time I'd like each family to speak a word of encouragement to one another. Complete this sentence with each person that you came with tonight, "I like you because . . ." Be sure to speak the FACTS! After everyone at your table has shared, please touch a finger to your lips to signal to me that you're finished.

WISDOM ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS

You will need: a dinner plate and a bowl of Skittles, Starbursts, M&M's, or jelly beans for each table – at least one piece of candy per person. If you're not using the *Get Wisdom: Go beyond the Gold!* PowerPoint you'll need to create a handcrafted poster with the following information. **Note: You're welcome to change the candy, colors, and questions.**

Jellybean Colors	Tell about . . .
Yellow	A happy time in your life
Green	Your favorite place in God's creation and why
Purple	A piece of wisdom someone once said to you that you've implemented in your life
Red	An embarrassing moment
Orange	A little known fact about yourself
Black	Your favorite food and why
White	Your favorite thing to do on Saturdays

*If using the Get Wisdom: Go beyond the Gold! PowerPoint, please show slide #10.
Alternative Option: Have a girl come forward with the wisdom about relationships poster and display it near the front of the stage.*

CC or another Counselor:

After everyone has finished sharing say . . . Now let's focus on Wisdom about Relationships.

Hold your Bible and say . . . Proverbs 17:17 NLT says, A friend is loyal, and a brother (sister) is born to help in time of need.

Hold up a dinner plate and say . . . One of the best ways to build relationships happens around the table – just like we’re doing here tonight. Eating together with family and friends is a bonding experience with proven benefits. Did you know that families who regularly eat dinner together have stronger relationships and better communication with one another? Plus their children do better in school and experience improved nutrition.

Nutrition is not the goal of this relationship building activity! I’d like to invite one GEM from each table to come forward to pick up a bowl of candy for her table. *Ask the girls to pass the bowl around the table. Each person should take one piece of candy.*

After everyone has a piece of candy in hand, turn their attention to the table that is displayed on the Get Wisdom: Go beyond the Gold! PowerPoint, slide #11 or to the handcrafted poster.

CC or another Counselor:

Please go around the table and have each person take turns answering the question that corresponds to the color of the piece of candy that you chose. After everyone at your table has shared, please give each person at your table a high five to signal to me that you’re finished.

WISDOM ABOUT INTEGRITY

You will need: a Bible, a table, a blanket and a bucket full of rocks – one rock for each girl.

If using the Get Wisdom: Go beyond the Gold! PowerPoint, please show slide #12. Alternative Option: Have a girl come forward with the wisdom about integrity poster and display it near the front of the stage.

Counselor/CIT places the blanket on the table, bunched in teepee fashion so girls can tuck their rocks under it. The Counselor/CIT then walks to the microphone with the bucket full of rocks.

CC: Now let’s focus on wisdom about integrity! I’d like to invite the Discovery Level (grades 4-6) girls and their counselor/CIT forward to lead us.

Discovery Level Counselor/CIT:

Hold your Bible and say . . . Proverbs 10:9 says, The man (woman) of integrity walks securely, but he (she) who takes crooked paths will be found out. Together we learned that people of integrity always do the right thing. They walk rightly with God at all times and places.

*Girls line up by the microphone and takes turns picking up a rock out of the bucket, saying their line, and then hiding their rock under the blanket. **Note: If***

you have more than 8 girls either add more “people of integrity” sentences or have one girl say the sentence and one girl put the rock under the blanket.

GEM #1: People of integrity don’t cheat on their tests or their taxes.

GEM #2: People of integrity tell the truth even if it means they’ll get in trouble.

GEM #3: People of integrity don’t steal from lockers, office supply rooms, or bulk candy bins.

GEM #4: People of integrity don’t lie to their parents or children, to their teachers or bosses.

GEM #5: People of integrity only download music that they’ve paid for.

GEM #6: People of integrity do not try to deceive people with their words or their silence.

GEM #7: People of integrity do what is right even when no one is watching.

GEM #8: People of integrity choose to do the right thing and please God rather than do the wrong thing and please people.

The girls then smooth out the blanket so it’s flat. The rocks will then easily be seen as lumps even though the blanket is supposedly hiding them.

Discovery Level Counselor/CIT:

If we lie, cheat, steal, or make wrong choices, we only fool ourselves if we think it’s OK as long as we don’t get caught or no one is watching. This blanket doesn’t hide the rocks, nor can we hide anything from God – including every wrong thought, action, and word.

Girls lift the blanket off the rocks and each girl holds her rock in the air.

Discovery Level Counselor/CIT:

Join us in being people who always do the right thing *because . . .*

ALL GIRLS say . . . integrity rocks!

CC: *Applause!* Thank you to the Discovery Level girls and their Counselor/CIT for teaching us to use wisdom about integrity. At this time I’d like each of you to look to the person on your right and the person to your left and say, “Integrity rocks!”

WISDOM ABOUT WORK

You will need: a narrator, five actresses, two backpacks, a kitchen table set up for breakfast, and muffins.

If using the Get Wisdom: Go beyond the Gold! PowerPoint, please show slide #13.

Alternative Option: Have a girl come forward with the wisdom about work poster and display it near the front of the stage.

CC: Now I'd like to invite the Advanced (7th-8th) Level Girls and their Counselor/CIT to come forward to lead us in a skit that teaches us wisdom about work.

Angie and Jamie stand on one side of the stage. A younger Angie, her sister Amy, and her mom sit at the kitchen table on the opposite side of the stage. The narrator stands in the middle of the stage. The younger Angie, Amy, mom, and the narrator "freeze" while Angie and Jamie act out their portion of the skit.

Angie: Hands her backpack to Jamie and says . . . Feel how heavy my backpack is!

Jamie: Puts Angie's backpack in one hand and her backpack in the other and says . . . It feels as heavy as mine. Miss Garryson sure poured on the work today!

Angie: Yeah. We should ask her for caution tags for our bags: Heavy: Need help to lift!

Jamie: Remember the good old days when life was one big playground?

Angie: So Kindergarten is our good old days, huh?

Jamie: I guess. Everyone says, "Enjoy being a kid!" But how I am supposed to enjoy it? As soon as I get home from school I have to finish my homework, do my chores, and practice the violin. It's no fun. Life would be so much better if it were always summer vacation.

Angie: Don't say that in front of my mom. She'd tell you that you'll miss out on the blessing!

Jamie: The blessing? Since when did work become a blessing?

Angie: Take a peek into my past and my Mom will tell you all about it.

Angie and Jamie "freeze" while the narrator, younger Angie, her sister Amy, and her mom begin their portion of the skit.

Narrator:

Stands between the two groups of actresses, points to the three new actresses sitting at a kitchen table eating breakfast, and says . . . Five years ago during a breakfast of blueberry muffins Angie and her younger sister Amy learned the life lesson of The Blessing.

Angie: Wow, Mom, these muffins are so good.

Amy: They are yummy-licious!

Mom: Thank you, girls.

Angie: What are we going to do today?

Mom: I thought we'd bring the rest of these muffins over to Mr. Gruffus' house and then do some housework for him.

Amy: *Groans.* Do we have to? Mr. Gruffus is so grumpy. I've never heard him say thank you in his entire life.

Angie: Amy's right! Plus, why would we want to ruin a perfectly good Saturday morning in his stuffy old house. Pretty sure he only bathes on odd numbered years.

Mom: Mr. Gruffus is a very old and lonely man. The work of giving him muffins, sweeping his kitchen, and yes, even cleaning his toilet will bless and encourage him.

Angie: And it will absolutely disgust us!

Amy: *Plugs her nose . . .* Pee-u!

Mom: Girls, with your whining and complaining, you're going to miss the blessing!

Amy: The blessing?

Angie: If we stay home the only one missing out on the blessing will be Mr. Gruffus and I think he has it coming for being so grumpy to his nice neighbors.

Mom: Mr. Gruffus will miss the blessing if we don't serve him, but so will you!

Angie: There's no blessing in cleaning a toilet!

Amy: *Plugs her nose . . .* No doubt. Pee-u!

Mom: You're wrong, girls. Work is a gift from God. He gave you hands to serve, and a mouth to encourage others, a mind to think of ways to help people, and abilities and skills to do the work. Work is an amazing gift and blessing from Him!

Amy: So you're saying this work is going to be fun?

Angie: And it's going to be easy?

Mom: Maybe, maybe not. But work is still a blessing and if we whine and refuse to give our best to it, we'll miss out on the joy of serving God by serving others. Too many people dread work and miss the blessing. I don't want that to be true of us, do you?

Angie: You're right. I don't want to miss the blessing.

Amy: Ditto. I don't want to miss the blessing either.

Mom: Then let's roll up our sleeves and get to work!

Narrator:

Each morning we have a choice. We can roll over in bed and groan about the work a new day brings or we can roll up our sleeves and receive work as a blessing from God. Proverbs 31:17 says, *She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks* (Proverbs 31:17). Let's roll up our sleeves and be wise in our work!

CC: *Applause!* Thank you to the Advanced Level girls and their Counselor/CIT for teaching us wisdom about work. Remember, work goes far beyond having a job and receiving a paycheck. Work is any task or assignment that we're responsible for. Think about the work you need to do yet tonight or tomorrow. *Pretend to roll up your sleeves.* At this time I'd like each of you to take turns rolling up your sleeves – whether real or imaginary – and think about the next task you need to do at home, school, work, or the place you volunteer. Take turns sharing what that task is by saying, "I will roll up my sleeves and give my best to doing my homework." Or, "I will roll up my sleeves and give my best to taking out the garbage." Or, "I will roll up my sleeves and give my best to driving bus." Please take turns sharing what you're going to give your best to. After everyone at your table has shared, please pound the table three times with your strong arms to signal that you're finished.

WISDOM ABOUT MONEY

You will need: three readers, an empty purse, a purse overflowing with play money, a Bible, and a loaf of bread.

*If using the Get Wisdom: Go beyond the Gold! PowerPoint, please show slide #14.
Alternative Option: Have a girl come forward with the wisdom about money poster and display it near the front of the stage.*

CC: Now I'd like to invite the CITs (or whatever other group of girls you choose) to come forward to lead us in a reading that teaches wisdom about money.

Reader 1: *Takes her purse overflowing with money, opens it, holds it upside down, shakes all the money to the floor, and says . . . There's a prayer in Proverbs 30:8-9 that goes like this: Dear God, please do not give me poverty.*

Reader 2: *Takes her empty purse, opens it, holds it upside down, shakes it, and says, and says . . . Dear God, please do not give me riches.*

Reader 3: *Holds out the loaf of bread and says . . . Dear God, please give me only my daily bread.*

Reader 2: *Pretends to reach for things and stashes them in her empty purse. Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my God.*

Reader 1: *Reaches to the floor for the play money, tosses the money in the air and says . . . Otherwise, I may have too much and dishonor You and say, "Who is the LORD?"*

Reader 3: *Holds out the loaf of bread in one hand and a Bible in the other and says, Dear God, may I be content with my daily bread and find satisfaction and true riches in Jesus, the Bread of Life.*

Reader 2: *Proverbs 3:9a says, Honor the LORD with your wealth. Takes her empty purse, opens it, holds it upside down, shakes it, and says . . . Dear God, teach me to honor You with my wealth by trusting You even when the bills are difficult to pay and the future feels uncertain. Forgive me when I worry instead of pray.*

Reader 1: *Reaches to the floor for the play money, puts it back in her purse, and says . . . Dear God, teach me to honor You with my wealth and to use it wisely. Forgive me when I find security in paychecks and savings accounts instead of You.*

Reader 3: *Holds out her loaf of bread and says, Dear God, teach me to honor You with my wealth and to trust that You will meet each day's need.*

Readers 1, 2, 3: That's our prayer for us. That's our prayer for you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

CC: *Applause!* Thank you to the CITs (*or whatever group of girls that lead*) for teaching us wisdom about money. At this time I'd like each of you to cup your hands in front of you, bow your heads, and close your eyes as we pray together.

Dear Heavenly Father, Thank You that You alone know each individual and family's needs in this room and You alone can meet those needs. Our hands are cupped before You. Fill each person's heart and home with what they need most tonight. If it's physical bread, meet their need. If it's a relationship with You, come near and be their Savior and Friend. If it's heartache, bind them up. If it's sickness, give healing. Thank You for all that You've done and will do in our lives. It all belongs to You and we desire to honor You with it. In Jesus' name, Amen.

THEME SONG: "I WANT TO KNOW YOU"
All GEMS!

CC: At this time I'd like to invite all the girls to come forward to sing their theme song, "I Want to Know You"!

Girls sing theme song, "I Want to Know You."

CC: *Applause!* The GEMS Counselors will testify with me what a joy it has been to praise and worship God with these girls, to study the book of Proverbs, to do badge work, service projects, and make crafts with these girls. It's our sincere prayer that they will continue to make good choices and walk the highway of the upright and the path of the wise.

BADGE AWARD CEREMONY (OPTIONAL)

You can acknowledge the badge work that's been done by choosing one of these options or create an option of your own. Each counselor and her small group take turns up front.

Options . . .

- The counselor can list the badges they earned together as a small group and then gift each girl an envelope filled with the badges she's earned for the season as a small group and individually.
- The counselor can list the badges each girl earned (as a small group and individually) and gift the badges to the girls in an envelope or displayed on a ribbon.
- The counselor can give a brief summary of their season, a word of encouragement to the girls, and thanks to the parents, and then hand the girls the badges they earned without listing them one by one.

- Parents can be encouraged to look at what's displayed around the room that may include the Discovery Studio Wall Banners, the Discovery Place Badge Display Scrapbook, crafts, and pictures taken throughout the season.

CLOSING

CC: Before we say our good-byes, there are people we want to acknowledge and thank. Could I please have all of the GEMS Counselors and CITs stand? Ladies, thank you for praying, caring, loving, and mentoring these girls. You've faithfully and willingly given your very best throughout the season. I appreciate each one of you so much. Please join me in thanking God for these women through your applause. *Applause!* You may be seated.

Could I please have all of the parents and friends of the GEMS stand? Thank you for entrusting your daughters to our care this season. That's been a gift to us and we hope a gift to you and your family. We're thankful for the opportunity that GEMS has given us to have a relationship with your entire family. Our time with these girls was short and limited in comparison to the influence you have in their lives. If you desire that your children walk wisely throughout their lives they need to see that in your daily example. You are the primary faith nurturers to your children! If any of you are looking for a church home or want to learn more about having a relationship with Jesus Christ, please talk to myself or one of the counselors. Let's thank God for these parents and friends of GEMS through your applause. *Applause!* You may be seated.

Could I please have all of the GEMS stand? Thank you for being you. Each one of you is special, unique, and dearly loved by God, your families, and our counselor team. Ultimately the choice to get wisdom belongs to you. No one can make you choose wise living – your parents can't do it, your counselors can't do it, your friends can't do it, it's up to you. It's our prayer that you will choose wisdom and will walk the highway of right living today and always. Let's thank God for these girls. *Applause!* You may be seated.

If there are people to thank for set up, the meal/snacks, or any other special helpers throughout the season, thank them at this time.

Give any closing announcements on what the girls can experience this summer including camp or any other activity you have planned, and invite them to come back again next season!

Let's now thank God in prayer. Heavenly Father, thank You for a wonderful evening together with the girls and their families. Thank You for all You've taught us about getting wisdom throughout our GEMS season and again tonight. Please bless and shine Your favor on each girl and her family. Teach all of us to walk wisely and live lives that go beyond the gold. In Jesus' name, Amen