



**Creating with God**

# Week 3 - Popsicle Sticks

**Big Idea:** We build our lives on the solid rock of God's Word.

**Key Verse:** "Everyone who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock." - Matthew 7:24

**Summary:** You can build lots of interesting projects with popsicle sticks. Families will learn that if we want to go far, we need to build our lives on the foundation of Jesus. (Matthew 7:24-27)

**Materials Needed:** A Bible, Popsicle/Craft Sticks, Glue, Markers or Paints (for adding color), Building Blocks

**Application :** We should try to read our Bible every day. It doesn't matter if we are young or old, God's Word is important for each of us! The more we read the Bible, the stronger our faith, and our families will be in Christ!

## Craft & Learn

**Craft:** Make your own popsicle stick art to share. There are so many tutorials online that show you how to make picture frames, airplanes, bird feeders, and so much more - all out of popsicle sticks! Find your favorite popsicle stick art and start creating!

While you make your projects. Encourage your family members to make a popsicle stick house, and then consider the story from this week's Bible lesson.

**Lesson:** If we were to build a tower, as tall as we could, from these popsicle sticks - what would we need to make sure we did to get it really tall? Will a single popsicle stick act as a strong and sturdy base for a tower? How long could we expect our tower to stand if we didn't have a strong base first?

You don't have to be a structural engineer to answer that question. If you want to make a big building or tall tower, you need to give it a firm foundation. It doesn't necessarily have to be big, but it has to be solid if your building is going to stand up to wind or rain - or little siblings who knock them down.

Jesus tells us that we need a strong foundation for our lives. That foundation is His Word. When we study the Bible and memorize verses, we are building on His foundation that will keep our faith growing strong the rest of our lives.

**Prayer:** Dear God, Thank you for giving us the Bible as the foundation for our lives. In Jesus' name, Amen!

## Week 3 - Popsicle Sticks

### Explore the Bible

**Introduction:** Art doesn't have to be fancy to be great. Some of the greatest artists of the last 100 years are the ones who broke from tradition and started using non-traditional materials. Instead of painting with oils or carving statues out of marble and stone, these artists got really creative. They looked for just about anything they could turn into art and created some unforgettable pieces!

*When have you seen something simple transformed into a beautiful work of art?*

That is certainly true of this week's art medium of choice - popsicle sticks! Popsicle sticks are simple on their own, but can be used to create some amazing pieces of art. You can do two dimensional pieces, creating the front of a house or the outline of a dog or cat. Or you can take those popsicle sticks and build detailed three dimensional sculptures too.

You can build anything you dream up with popsicle sticks, but as with any structure, you need to give your art a firm foundation if you want it to last. No sculpture can last for centuries without a firm foundation, just as no building can stand without a firm foundation.

In today's scripture Jesus tells his followers where they can find a firm foundation for their lives. If we want a firm foundation to our faith, we need to build on the Words and Promises of God!

**The Story:** Read the story of the Wise and Foolish Builders - Matthew 7:24-27.

**Main Point:** You don't have to be a structural engineer to figure out that a house needs a firm foundation. Any person who has ever built a house out of popsicle sticks, or building blocks, or even Legos will tell you that you need a solid foundation if you want to make something big. If a house is built on sand, or in a swamp, or any place unstable, it will eventually fall down.

God wants us to have a strong faith, one that can stand up to the storms of life. He knows we need a firm foundation, and he gave us one. Through the Bible we are given a sturdy foundation on which to build. It is there in scripture we see God's great love for us - as he created us to be his children, redeemed us through Jesus' death and resurrection, and keeps us in the faith through the work of the Holy Spirit. With the help of the Holy Spirit we build our faith on the foundation of God's Word.

When our lives are built on the foundation of God's Word, we will not be easily shaken. Our faith will hold strong as it is built up by God himself. The Good News of Salvation found in the Bible gives us the strength to live each day to God's glory and share that Good News with everyone!

**Prayer:** Dear God, Thank you for the truth of Your Word found in the Bible. Thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit to guide us in faith. Help us as we build our lives in you. In Jesus' name, Amen!

## Family Game Time

### SkyScraper Chicken:

**Materials Needed:** Building Blocks, A Table, A Timer

**How To Play:** Choose two family members to play this game at a time. Give each person an identical set of blocks to build with.

On “go” family members will have 60 seconds to race to see who can build the tallest structure they can. However, they may only stack one block on top of another the entire way up.

If a tower topples, they can start over, so long as the clock hasn’t run out. Bumps on the table or from blocks falling from a competitor’s tower are par for the course and can not be penalized.

When 60 seconds are complete, measure towers where they stand and record.

Continue head to head competition till everyone has had a chance to build. The tallest tower after 60 seconds wins and the builder gets to pick a family movie to watch this week!

### Word Scramble:

**Instructions :** Work together as a family to unscramble the words in the sentences as they relate to this week’s Bible lesson.

A \_\_\_\_\_ builder built a house on the sand. (OOSFIHL)

A wise builder set his house upon a \_\_\_\_\_. (KRCO)

When the \_\_\_\_\_ came, the house on the sand crashed. (MSSROT)

The Word of God is the foundation we need for our \_\_\_\_\_. (FHIAT)

We can build a firm foundation by reading our \_\_\_\_\_ every day. (LBESBI)

## **Week 3 - Popsicle Sticks**

### **Family Discussion Starters**

#### **Kindergarten - 2nd Graders:**

**Read:** Wise & Foolish Builders - Matt. 7:24-27

#### **Questions:**

1. What did the wise builder use as his foundation?
2. What did the foolish builder use as his foundation?
3. What happened when storms came?
4. What is the foundation we need for our faith?

#### **3rd Graders - 5th Graders:**

**Read:** Wise & Foolish Builders - Matt. 7:24-27

#### **Questions:**

1. What happened to the builders houses when the storms came?
2. What is the foundation we need for our faith?
3. How can we build our faith on a firm foundation?
4. What book of the bible should we spend more time reading together?

**Prayer:** Dear God, Be our foundation, and give us a strong faith. In Jesus' name, Amen!



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