

Discussion Ideas



Choose strategies from the list below to facilitate group discussion.

Connecting Activity

Ask each person in the group to answer this question: What things are you and your friends pressured to do that you know are not right?

Discussion Questions

1. Why did Bahati decide to go to the abandoned house?
 - *He wanted to do what his friends were doing; didn't want them to think he was afraid.*
2. Was Bahati's decision to go to the abandoned house a good one? Why or why not?
 - *He puts himself in a dangerous situation; a friend is hurt.*
3. Who in this story shows true friendship? How do they show friendship?
 - *Bahati, Juma, Tembe; all risk themselves to help friends.*
4. The character trait of patience—continuing on a course of action in the face of difficulties—is very helpful to someone who is trying to make a good decision. How might patience have helped Bahati?
 - *If he had taken more time, sought advice, gotten his emotions under control, he might have made a better decision.*
5. ► Grandma says that “what’s right is right, even if nobody’s doing it”. When have you or someone you know made a decision to do something you knew was right, even when it was hard? What was the outcome?
 - *Answers will vary.*
6. ► Think of a decision you need to make in your life. What steps can you take to make sure you make a wise decision?
 - *Identify the problem, consider the options, evaluate each option, choose the wisest course of action, be patient, consult with trusted adults. See Grandma's Wisdom for a list of questions to consider.*

Personal Growth Activity

Think about a decision you need to make. What choice seems best to you? With this choice in mind, answer the six questions for making a wise decision. Do you still think your choice is the best?

☞ Spiritual Application

Read Proverbs 12:15. Then ask: What is the difference between a fool and a wise man? Whose advice should you seek when you're making a decision?

☞ Prayer Point

Lead the group in a prayer asking God for wisdom in making decisions and for the courage to choose what is right. Pray that group members would seek the advice of good friends and the wisdom of God.

☞ Encouragement

Remind participants that decision making skills are developed over time. Even if they've made poor decisions in the past, they can make better decisions for their future—decisions that will help them reach their dreams. Consider reading part of Grandma's Wisdom to close the group time.

Grandma's Wisdom

When you are asked to do something, ask yourself: Why does that other person want you to do it? What are your options? What would happen if you didn't do it or if you waited? Will it hurt someone? Will it make someone think less of you for doing it? Would most adults approve of what you are doing? These are important questions to ask. Bahati told me he wanted to make a good decision, but what he really wanted was to do the wrong thing. He knew that. There will always be something wrong we can do. It will often look very fun and maybe it will look like a good idea, but stop and think about what you do. It may make you sad to choose not to do something that seems enjoyable, but I promise you that you will be proud of your choice one day. It takes courage to choose wisely.

