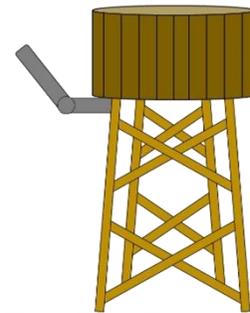


MALFUNCTION JUNCTION

The way of a fool is right
in his own eyes,
But a person who listens
to advice is wise.
--Proverbs 12:15



This quarter in Kidspiration, we visited **Malfunction Junction** and learned about the Bible stories in the books of Judges, Ruth, & the beginning of 1 Samuel.

Malfunction Junction is a train station where nothing ever seems to go right. The train hasn't left the station in over 10 years. Every week, there is some type of malfunction that keeps the train from getting back on track.

Uncle Joe runs the Shady Rest Hotel. Charlie Smoot & his wife, Betty Jo, run the train station. Floyd Smoot, Charlie's twin brother, is the train engineer. They've been trying to figure out why these malfunctions continue to happen. Read about the malfunctions that happened the past 9 weeks and see if you can figure out the problem.

Week	Malfunction	Cause	Bible Lesson
1 	The light on the train didn't work.	Uncle Joe used the light bulb from the train to fix the streetlight. That was a bad decision!	The Sun Stands Still
2 	The safety arm was going across the track.	Uncle Joe had repaired the safety arm and had decided to turn it the wrong way. That was a bad decision!	The Israelites Divide the Promised Land
3 	The train tunnel collapsed.	Charlie Smoot dug in the tunnel and set off dynamite trying to find gold. That was a bad decision!	God Establishes Cities of Refuge
4 	The caboose was not attached to the engine.	Charlie Smoot detached the caboose and didn't reattach it. That was a bad decision!	The Israelites Forget God
5 	The train derailed.	Floyd Smoot put a railroad spike on the engine which fell off and derailed the train. That was a bad decision!	Deborah Judges Israel
6 	The bank caught on fire, and the fire engines blocked the track.	Betty Jo told Charlie Smoot to take a lighted torch into the dark bank to find the electric box. That was a bad decision!	Gideon Judges Israel
7 	The columns on the bank fell on the train.	Floyd Smoot insisted that the columns would not fall even though they were not attached to the bank that had burned. That was a bad decision!	Samson Judges Israel
8 	The water tank was full of bubbles.	Betty Jo decided to wash her laundry in the water tank in order to get the house ready for her mother-in-law to visit. That was a bad decision!	Ruth and Naomi
9 	The water tank sprung a leak, and everyone got wet.	Uncle Joe and Charlie Smoot filled the tank too full because they didn't follow Floyd Smoot's directions that he gave them over the walkie-talkie. That was a bad decision!	God Calls Samuel

Did you figure it out? That's right. Everyone had been making bad decision! We learned that the people in **Malfunction Junction** were a lot like the Israelites. They didn't listen to good advice, and their bad decisions caused them a lot of problems. Did you read this quarter's Memory Verse at the top of the page?

In the end, the folks at **Malfunction Junction** decided that it was time to start making good decisions. They got the train back on track after 10 years of malfunctions. Unfortunately, they found out that the **Malfunction Junction** station had been shut down 5 years earlier and no one knew it. Oh, well, at least they learned how important it is to make good decisions!

