

# Large Group Leader Guide

## Today's Suggested Schedule

### Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

### Small Group (15 minutes)

#### Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Opening Activity

### Large Group (35 minutes)

#### Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

#### Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- Opener
- Worship ("Know You More" and "Further Faster")
- Bible Story (sections about God's Big Story are listed as optional)
- Prayer

### Small Group (25 minutes)

#### Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. The Source of ALL Wisdom (K-1st grade), Stick or Shift (2nd-3rd grade), Bible Story Extension 4th-5th Grade)
2. Focus on God (K-1st grade), Map to Wisdomland (2nd-3rd grade), Take a Snapshot (4th-5th Grade)
3. Better than Silver & Gold (K-1st grade), Focus and Follow (2nd-3rd grade), Verses to Take with You (4th-5th Grade)
4. Pray and Dismiss

#### Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue Card (print or email)
- [Parent Cue App](#) and [ParentCue.org](#)

✧ Need activities for a K-5th group? Check out the 2nd-3rd guide.

THIS MONTH



### Today's Bible Story

## David and the Psalms

**Psalms 1:1-4 (supporting: Psalm 23:1-2; 8:1; 18:2)**

### Bottom Line

**God can help you make the wise choice.**

### Memory Verse

**"It is much better to get wisdom than gold. It is much better to choose understanding than silver."**

**Proverbs 16:16 NIV**



### Inclusive Pro Tips

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

## ① Opener

**AUDIO** → Play high-energy music as kids enter.

**SLIDE** → Theme

**Optional Video** → Theme Loop

→ **Host enters.**

**Optional Video** → Countdown

**Optional Video** → Theme Intro

**Optional Video** → Theme Loop

**HOST: (HIGH ENERGY, THEME PARK EXCITEMENT!)**

"Welcome to Wisdomland, everyone! This is a place where every day is an adventure—and the best part is, you get to make choices that help you grow wise. And God wants to help you get wise! He is the wisest! Are you ready to hang out in Widsomland today?"

**SLIDE** → Theme

**AUDIO** → Fun music (theme park background music, if possible)

"We're going to start with a super-fun game called 'Fast Pass Decision Dash!' Just like at a real theme park, you get special cards to help you decide what to do next. Sometimes, you have to think fast and make a choice. That's an important part of being wise—making the best choice, even when you have lots of options!"

"Let me divide our group into teams for our game today!"

→ **Divide your group into a number of teams that you have cards for (6-8 is a manageable number of kids, but it's fine if teams have more kids!). Instruct the kids to sit in a circle. Put a pile of 'Fast Pass' cards in the middle of the circle facedown.**

"Here's how it works: In the center of your group is a pile of 'Fast Pass' cards with a challenge on each card. When I say, 'Go!' your group must complete the challenge listed on the card as quickly as you can. When you're done with one card, grab another. After the game, we'll talk together about which choices were wise, silly, or tricky!"

"Once a team completes a challenge, they will draw another card. The team with the most completed cards wins. These volunteers and I will make sure you complete the challenges!"

→ **Have a volunteer (or two) walk around the groups and ensure that the challenges are completed by the groups before moving on to the next card. Help with reading as necessary.**

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"Are you ready to start the game? **(PAUSE FOR RESPONSES. MAKE SURE EACH OF THE TEAMS HAS A SET OF CARDS IN THEIR CIRCLE.)**

"Alright! Ready, set, go!!!!

- **Stop the game after a few minutes, before a group has gone through all of their cards.**

**The challenges listed on the cards: (FOR THE LEADER'S REFERENCE)**

- Find someone in your group wearing the same color shoes as you and give them a high five.
- Everyone in the group, jump three times, then freeze in a silly pose for five seconds.
- Work together as a group to make up a short cheer for "Wisdomland."
- Pretend you're all riding the wildest roller coaster—scream (politely) and throw your hands up!
- Decide as a group—would you rather wait in line for your favorite ride, or try something new with no wait? Share your answer.
- Choose a group leader to pick a "theme park snack"—then act out eating it together.
- Line up shortest to tallest.
- Tell the person next to you in the group one thing you think a wise person does every day.
- Make up a handshake with a new friend in your group.
- Imagine you lost your ticket—what would you do? Let each person in your group act it out.
- Sit in a circle as a group and pretend to paddle a boat together—nominate a leader to guide the boat, and shout "Splash!" every time you switch directions. Change directions at least three times.
- Share with your group: What's the wisest thing you've heard? (Let each person share.)
- Pretend you're a theme park mascot—be in character for 10 seconds.
- Think of a question you'd want to ask God if He was right here face-to-face with you. Share it with your group.
- Move as slowly as possible from one side of the room to the other—like you're in slow-motion traffic!
- As a group, freeze like you're taking a souvenir photo—big smiles!
- Say together: "If you want to be wise, focus on God!" in your best robot voices.
- Decide: Would you rather have wisdom or a suitcase full of candy? Why?

"You guys did a great job! Let me ask you something: So when a challenge involved having to make a choice, which ones were silly? Which ones required thinking? **(INVITE DISCUSSION, REFER TO THE LIST OF CHALLENGES AS YOU DISCUSS.)**

"That was awesome! At Wisdomland, making decisions is part of every adventure. And you know what? God goes through every moment with you and He wants to help you make wise choices. That's what we're learning all month!

"Now, let's get on our feet and get ready to worship the God who wants us to live wisely and well and who goes through everything with us!"

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

## ② Worship

→ **Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.**

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Wow, Wisdomland is off to a great start! I loved seeing how you made fast, creative choices in our 'Fast Pass Decision Dash.' But here's something even better—when we worship through music, we get to focus our hearts on God. Something in our hearts starts to realize that God is king and we are His children. Knowing God is God is where real wisdom begins.

"Our first song is called: 'Know You More.'

"As we get to know God, as we learn who He is and His ways, we'll become wiser because He is the wisest.

"God wants us to know Him so we can be His friend. So let's make this song a prayer—we want to know God more, so we can be His friend. Let's sing our first song together!

**AUDIO** → "Know You More" / track 1 from Focus

"Awesome! When we worship through music, we're not just singing words—we're telling God that we love Him!

"Now, let's keep that going with our next song—'Further Faster.'

"This song reminds us that God's way is the best way. God has made it so that if you follow His ways, they'll lead you to a better life! You'll go further and faster when you follow God and His ways!

"Let's sing our next song: 'Further Faster!'

**AUDIO** → "Further Faster" / track 6 from This Little Light

"When we worship together, it's like we're cheering for the best Guide of all—God Himself. He's the one who knows the path, gives us wisdom, and helps us grow every day.

"The verse we are memorizing will help us remember how valuable God's wisdom is!

**SLIDE** → Memory Verse

"Let's say it all together, loud and clear:

*It is much better to get wisdom than gold.*

*It is much better to choose understanding than silver.*  
(Proverbs 16:16 NIV)

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"What a great reminder! God's wisdom is more precious than silver or gold, and God wants to give it to us! God wants to give us something so precious because He loves us and He wants us to live wisely and well!"

"Thanks for singing and worshipping with all your hearts! Let's go ahead and sit down and hear our true story from the Bible today."

## ③ Bible Story

SLIDE → Theme Background

→ **Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.**

### INTRODUCTION

**STORYTELLER:** "Hi, hi, hi adventurers in Wisdomland! I'm so happy you're here today! We're going through something amazing together this year—we're going through the entire story of the Bible!"

"One of the reasons God gave us the Bible is so we can know Him. So as we go through some of the key stories in the Bible this year, we'll learn about God!"

### GOD'S BIG STORY OPENER (OPTIONAL)

"We're going to go through God's Big Story together! **(GESTURE TO SLIDE.)**

SLIDE → God's Big Story

"Each week, we'll look at a story from God's Big Story and add a picture of that story to our timeline, so we can see where we've been in the Bible as we journey along. **(GESTURE TO TIMELINE.)**

"Let me bring you up to speed on where we've been in God's Big Story so far!"

"So you might remember that in the very beginning, God made everything! He made the world, the animals, people ... everything! God made the first people for the same reason He made all people—to be His close, close friends. But sadly, the first people God made chose to turn away from Him and sin. God wanted people to be close to Him, but they couldn't anymore! It was so sad.

"And awful things happened to the world too. Pain, sickness, and death entered into it.

"But God didn't want to leave things that way! So He put His rescue plan in motion right from the start!

"God was going to rescue everything through a family! God chose a man named Abraham and promised that his family would bless the whole world. Many years later, Abraham's great-grandson Joseph ended up

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

in Egypt. After some hard times, God helped Joseph become a super-important leader there! Joseph saved his whole family by bringing them to Egypt. But hundreds of years passed. God grew and grew His people. A new Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, came along. He didn't know about Joseph. He saw how many of God's people there were, he got scared, and he started being mean to them.

"God's people cried out to God for help. He answered! He brought His people out of slavery into a beautiful home He had for them—the Promised Land! After some time living in the Promised Land, God's people wanted a king like the other nations around them.

"The first king, Saul, made lots of unwise choices. But the next king was named David. David wasn't perfect, but he loved God with his whole heart and tried to follow God. And that's where we are in God's Big Story."

## SETTING UP THE STORY

**STORYTELLER:** "We're moving right along through the Bible. This week, we're looking at a very special book of the Bible, one that's right in the middle of the Bible, the book of Psalms. Psalms is the greatest playlist of all time—God's playlist! We're going to take a journey through this great playlist!

"You know, the Psalms weren't just written by one person, but a LOT of them were written by someone really special. Does anyone know who that is? **(PAUSE, LISTEN FOR ANSWERS.)**

"That's right—David! One of the reasons David was really special was that he was good friends with God. He was really wise because he loved and followed God.

"A key part of David's friendship with God was that he was always, always honest with Him. He always told God what he was feeling. You can see that honesty in the psalms David wrote.

"We're going to look at some of the psalms and what was going on in David's life when he wrote them, and as we do, we'll check in to see how you think he might have been feeling. We're going to use those emoji cards you have!

"Let's learn a little about those emoji cards. **(HOLD UP THE "HAPPY" EMOJI CARD.)** What feeling do you think goes with this emoji? **(PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.)**

"Great! This card shows the happy feelings David might have felt. Let's look at another one. **(HOLD UP THE "SAD" EMOJI CARD.)** What feeling do you think goes with this emoji? **(PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.)**

"Yes, this emoji card shows the sad feelings David might have felt. You guys are so good at emotions! What about this one? **(HOLD UP THE "SCARED" EMOJI CARD.)**

"Yes! This one is the scared emoji card, for the times when David felt scared and was facing something bigger than he was.

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"And one last one. **(HOLD UP THE "PEACEFUL" EMOJI CARD.)** What feeling do you think goes with this emoji? **(PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.)**

"Yes! This one is a little tougher, but this emoji represents feeling peaceful. It shows the times when David was rested and not worried about anything.

"Now that you are emoji emotion experts, let's take a closer look at David's life and the psalms he wrote during his lifetime. As we talk about those psalms, we'll talk about David's feelings at certain points—and that's where those Emoji Feelings Cards will come into play! Sometimes David could have felt a couple of emotions on those cards, and that's okay. Emotions are complicated, and a lot of times we feel several things at once. But now that you're ready, let's get started!

"Now, at one point in his life, David did become king. But before he became king, David was a young shepherd boy, taking care of his family's sheep. Picture this: just David, a bunch of sheep, rolling hills, and a sky full of stars at night.

"Now, some days David just probably relaxed, lying back on the grass, listening to the wind in the trees, while the sheep grazed. How do you think David might have felt on those days? Hold up an emoji that you think he might have felt! **(KIDS MIGHT HOLD UP A "HAPPY" EMOJI CARD OR THE "PEACEFUL" EMOJI CARD.)** Yes! I think he could have felt either way.

"But other days, danger showed up. Wild animals, storms, and scary stuff. Out there, David learned to trust God for help, even when he was scared or alone. How do you think David might have felt on those days? Hold up an emoji that you think he might have felt! **(KIDS WILL PROBABLY HOLD UP THE "SCARED" EMOJI CARD.)** Yes, I would have been scared too. Life was definitely bigger than David those days.

"But David loved to make music. Can you hold up an imaginary harp and strum it? **(WAIT FOR KIDS TO MIME PLAYING THE HARP.)**

"David played real songs to God. When he felt thankful, he wrote songs. When he was scared or in trouble, he wrote songs. When he messed up and needed forgiveness, he wrote songs. For David, it didn't matter what was happening—he always brought it all to God in prayer and music. A lot of those songs make up the psalms we're going to look at today!

## DAVID'S CHALLENGE

**STORYTELLER:** "As we saw, David's life wasn't always simple. After he defeated the giant Goliath—yes, the giant!—with God's help, he became a hero. King Saul, the ruler at the time, noticed David and made him a leader in his army. For a while, everything seemed great. But soon, Saul became jealous. He didn't want David to become king, and he actually tried to hurt him. David had to run and hide in caves. Imagine hiding in a cold, dark cave, listening for footsteps.

"How do you think David felt when he was running from someone who was after him? Hold up the emoji card you think fits what David might have been feeling. **(PAUSE WHILE KIDS FIND THEIR CARDS. THEY WILL PROBABLY HOLD UP THE "SCARED" EMOJI CARD.)**

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"Yes, I think he was scared too. Let me read you one of the psalms David wrote when he was running for his life, hiding from people who wanted to hurt him. This is what David wrote that's recorded in Psalm 18.

→ **Open the Bible to Psalm 18:2 (NIRV) and read.**

*The Lord is my rock and my place of safety. He is the God who saves me.  
My God is my rock. I go to him for safety.*

"Even when David was scared, David remembered something incredibly important: God was his safe place.

"When you're scared, you can always turn to God. He can be your strong, safe place that you run to, like a big, strong rock.

"Give yourself a hug with some strong arms. That's what God wants to be when you're going through hard times. He wants to be the strong place you run to.

## PSALM 8

**STORYTELLER:** "Thankfully, not all moments in David's life were like those hard moments.

"Some moments, David just wanted to praise God. Listen to these words from Psalm 8:1.

→ **Open the Bible to Psalm 8:1 (NIRV) and read.**

*Lord, our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in the whole earth!*

*You have set your glory  
in the heavens.*

"David was looking up at the night sky—can you all look up and point at the sky with me? I know we're under a ceiling, but imagine we're outside, it's nighttime, there are a million stars, and it's amazing that God made every one, and knows each one by name. That's so amazing! David wrote this song to tell God how awesome He is!

"How do you think David was feeling when he wrote that psalm? Can you hold up an emoji card that describes how you think David might have been feeling? **(PAUSE WHILE KIDS FIND THEIR CARDS. THEY MIGHT HOLD UP THE "HAPPY" EMOJI CARD OR THE "PEACEFUL" EMOJI CARD.)**

"Great job! I can see David feeling both of those things. Either way he was feeling, he was honest with God, his friend, and God loved that.

"Let's look at another psalm David wrote on his journey with God. Sometimes David felt super-thankful—like after God helped him win a battle or kept him safe. David also had been a shepherd, so he knew a lot about taking care of sheep. David also saw in his life that God is the best shepherd of all, and God had taken care of him so well.

"Listen to these words from David that are recorded in Psalm 23:



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# Story

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# Worship

→ Open the Bible to Psalm 23:1-2 (NirV) and read.

*The Lord is my shepherd. He gives me everything I need.  
He lets me lie down in fields of green grass.  
He leads me beside quiet waters.*

"Let's all close our eyes for a second and imagine lying in a green field, with a gentle breeze, feeling totally safe. How do you think David might have felt when he wrote this psalm? Can you hold up an emoji card that describes how you think David might have been feeling? (PAUSE WHILE KIDS FIND THEIR CARDS. THEY MIGHT HOLD UP THE "HAPPY" EMOJI CARD OR THE "PEACEFUL" EMOJI CARD.)

"I think both of those feelings—peaceful and happy—were something David could have felt. David knew that God was taking care of him, just like a good shepherd cares for his sheep.

"Here's another one. Sometimes, David needed to ask God for help or forgiveness because he'd messed up and sinned. Listen to what he wrote to God in this psalm.

→ Open the Bible to Psalm 51:1, 3, 10 (NirV) and read.

*God, have mercy on me  
according to your faithful love. ...  
I know the lawless acts I've committed. ...  
God, create a pure heart in me.  
Give me a new spirit that is faithful to you.*

"How do you think David might have felt when he wrote this psalm? Can you hold up an emoji card that describes how you think David might have been feeling? (PAUSE WHILE KIDS FIND THEIR CARDS. THEY WILL PROBABLY HOLD UP THE "SAD" EMOJI CARD.)

"I think David felt sad. Very, very sad. David knew he had messed up, he knew he had sinned. He knew he had hurt God. But he also knew he could come back to God and be honest with Him. He turned to God when he had made some bad choices, and he asked God to help him start fresh. And God did. God helped His friend.

"That's what's so amazing about the psalms David wrote—no matter how David felt, he brought it all to God.

"You know what? God invites us to do the same. Happy, sad, scared, thankful, confused—God wants to hear it all! He wants to go through life with you as your good, good friend who you share every feeling with.

## PSALM 1

**STORYTELLER:** "So, David wrote all these songs for every kind of feeling—happy, worried, thankful, even sad. But do you know what he discovered after all those years, all those songs, all those prayers? The greatest wisdom is to focus on God—every single day. In fact, that was something that the other writers of Psalms learned too.

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"Let's look at another psalm. This one is right at the very beginning of the book. David probably didn't write this psalm, but he knew the truth in it. It's Psalm 1. Everybody, show me 'number one' with your finger!

"Let's listen to what the writer of Psalm 1 wrote:

→ **Open the Bible to Psalm 1:1 (NirV) and read.**

*Blessed is the person who obeys the law of the Lord.*

*They don't follow the advice of evil people.*

*They don't make a habit of doing what sinners do.*

*They don't join those who make fun of the Lord and his law.*

"The writer was saying: Wise people don't just go along with what everyone else does! Wise people follow God and His ways. The writer wrote this next:

→ **Open the Bible to Psalm 1:2-3 (NirV) and read.**

*Instead, the law of the Lord gives them joy.*

*They think about his law day and night.*

*That kind of person is like a tree that is planted near a stream of water.*

*It always bears its fruit at the right time.*

*Its leaves don't dry up.*

*Everything godly people do turns out well.*

"The writer was giving us a picture. Let's act out what he was telling us about. Everyone, stand up and pretend you're a tree. Press your feet into the ground like you're planting roots—wiggle your toes! Now reach your arms up like big, leafy branches! When a tree is near water, it never dries up, it never gets weak, and it always has fruit in season.

"The writer was saying that a person who follows God is like strong, strong tree that grows great fruit when it's fruit time.

"That's what happens when we focus on God—He gives us what we need to grow wise, strong, and full of good things.

"If you're a leafy tree that has everything it needs, how do you think you feel? (PAUSE WHILE KIDS FIND THEIR CARDS. THEY MIGHT HOLD UP THE "HAPPY" EMOJI CARD OR THE "PEACEFUL" EMOJI CARD.) Great job! I can see a full, strong tree feeling both of those things.

"But the writer didn't stop there. He warned about the other choice. He said:

→ **Open the Bible to Psalm 1:4 (NirV) and read.**

*Sinful people are not like that at all.*

*They are like straw*

*that the wind blows away.*

"Let's all wave our hands like straw blowing in the wind—back and forth, back and forth. Straw doesn't have roots. It's light and gets blown away so easily! When we don't focus on God, we can get blown off course by anything—friends' opinions, hard times, even our own feelings.

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"If you're a dried piece of straw, how do you think you feel? Hold up one of your emoji cards that you think would fit. Pause while kids find their cards. They will probably hold up the "sad" emoji card.) I would feel so, so sad to be a weak piece of straw that gets blown away.

## WRAPPING UP THE STORY

**STORYTELLER:** "So, here's the big secret David and the other writers of the psalms discovered: If you want to be wise, focus on God. Every day! Not just on the good days, but when things are confusing, when you feel left out, when you don't know what choice to make.

"That's what the psalms are for. They remind us to bring everything to God—our happiness, our sadness, our worries, our thanks—and let Him shape our hearts and our choices.

"Put all of your emoji cards in front of you. God wants you to bring all of those emotions to Him, and more. If you're feeling a certain way, talk to God. If you are struggling with a hard choice, turn to God. Being wise is about staying close to God.

"If you want to go through life well, if you want to be wise, focus on God. Turn to Him in everything! That's our Bottom Line for this week.

**SLIDE → Bottom Line**

**[BOTTOM LINE]** "If you want to be wise, focus on God! Now say that with me."

→ **Host enters.**

**STORYTELLER, HOST, and KIDS:** **[BOTTOM LINE]** "If you want to be wise, focus on God!"

## GOD'S BIG STORY CLOSER (OPTIONAL)

**STORYTELLER:** "Let's take a look at the progress we made in God's Big Story this week!

**SLIDE → God's Big Story**

"This week, we're still up here in the part of this picture of God's Big Story with David kneeling and having Samuel pour oil over his head to anoint him as the next king. **(GESTURE TO SLIDE.)** That's where we are in God's Big Story!

"This week, we looked at David and the psalms. David wrote a lot of the psalms, and as we saw, he talked about everything with God. He ran to God like a fortress in times of trouble, he praised God for His beauty and bigness, he turned to God when he had messed up. David went through life as God's friend, and God loved it! God said that David was a man after His heart. But David wasn't just a good king, he was a special king. God was so honored by David's love and trust, that He wrote this shepherd-boy-turned-king into the rescue story He was writing. God used David's love in His plan to save us. Because many, many years after David, from

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

David's family, would come Jesus! And Jesus would rescue us all!

"God had been working on His rescue plan to save us through every image of this timeline! **(GESTURE FROM THE BEGINNING OF YOUR TIMELINE ALL THE WAY TO THE END.)**

"Let's put the next image on our timeline!.

**SLIDE → Week 2 Timeline Image**

→ **If you're making a timeline of printed images on your wall, take this moment to place today's timeline image on the clothesline.**

"This week we talked about David and the psalms!"

## WHAT'S OUR PART IN THE STORY?

**HOST:** "When we think about David and the psalms, we can remember that being wise is about staying close to God.

"Just like David and the other psalm writers, we can bring every feeling, every question, every moment to God. And because of Jesus and because the Holy Spirit lives inside of all of God's friends, we know God hears us, helps us, and gives us wisdom for every step.

"David started as a shepherd boy, just doing his everyday job, and he ended up as a king. He faced giants, won battles, made friends, lost friends, hid in caves, celebrated victories, and sometimes even made really big mess-ups. But through all of it, David kept coming back to one thing: he focused on God.

"When David was happy, he told God: 'Thank You.' When he was sad or afraid, he ran to God for help. When he messed up, he asked God for forgiveness. David learned, over and over, that wisdom doesn't come from always getting it right—it comes from always turning to God, no matter what.

"Now, you and I may not be kings or shepherds, but we all have choices to make every day. Sometimes it's easy to know what's wise—like when you remember to help a friend, or listen to your parents, or speak kindly to someone who needs it. Other times, it's a lot harder. You might be tempted to go along with the crowd, even when you know it's not right. You might want to keep all your feelings inside and not talk to God about them. Or maybe you just forget that God's wisdom is for you—not just for people in Bible stories, but for everyone, everywhere, all the time.

"So we can focus on God. That means we spend time learning about Him—reading or listening to the Bible, talking to Him in prayer, asking Him for help, and being honest about what's going on inside. It means we look for wise voices in our lives—like parents, teachers, or friends who care about us and want what's best for us.

"It means we make a habit of bringing everything to God—our happiness, our worries, our questions, our thanks. When we do that, God promises

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

to help us grow strong, steady, and wise—like a tree planted by the water, with deep roots and green leaves, no matter what storms come.

“So next time you have a big decision, or even a small one, remember this: If you want to be wise, focus on God. He wants to be your close, close friend.

“Let’s pray together.

## ③ Prayer

**HOST:** “God, thank You for being with us in every moment. Thank You for the stories in the Bible, for all of the psalms, and for showing us what real wisdom looks like. Help us remember that You are always there, ready to help us, guide us, and give us strength—no matter what we’re feeling or facing. Teach us to be Your close friends, like David was. We love You, God, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

**Transition** → Dismiss kids to their small groups.

**AUDIO** → Play high-energy music as the kids exit.

**SLIDE** → Theme

**Optional Video (MEDIA PACKAGE)** → Theme Loop

## PLANNING

# Getting Ready: Opener

## What You Need

- ☐ Host
- ☐ "Fast Pass" cards, one set of 18 for each team
- ☐ *Optional: Zip-top bags, one for each team (to hold a set of cards)*
- ☐ Volunteers: 1-2 helpers to verify that the teams complete the challenges on the cards, and to help with reading the cards if necessary

## Music and Sound Effects

- ☐ Upbeat music to use as kids enter the room
- ☐ Upbeat music for entry and game

## Large Group Visuals

- ☐ Theme Slide
- ☐ Memory Verse Slide

## Optional Videos

- ☐ Theme Loop
- ☐ Countdown
- ☐ Theme Intro

## What You Do:

- Prepare the slides or optional videos and have them ready to use. If you do not have screen capabilities, you have Orange's permission to enlarge and print the slides on paper.
- Refer to week 1 to confirm that your church has appropriate licensing to perform or play music and sound effects in your kids' environments.
- Print or prepare "Fast Pass" cards—18 for each team.
- *Optional: Place each team's card in a zip-top bag.*
- *Note: If you have a larger group, there is quite a bit of cutting for the Opening game and for the "Emoji Feelings Cards" in the Bible Story. Recruit volunteer help as needed to spread the cutting workload around!*

## PLANNING

# Getting Ready: Worship

## What You Need

- ☐ Worship Leader(s)

## Music and Sound Effects

- ☐ "Know You More" from Focus
- ☐ "Further Faster" from The Good Thing

## Optional Videos

Available for purchase.

- ☐ "Know You More" Dance Moves or Live Lyrics Video (available through Store.ThinkOrange.com)
- ☐ "Further Faster" Dance Moves Video or Live Lyrics Video (available through Store.ThinkOrange.com)

## What You Do:

*Note: We've suggested worship songs from Amazing Kids Worship and Orange Kids Music. We've created these songs to be developmentally appropriate for elementary and preteen kids, incorporating simple, direct language, fun dance movements, and upbeat, current arrangements.*

*We've chosen these specific songs that amplify our teaching content for this month. We recommend that you use these songs as scripted, or combined with other popular worship songs that your kids know and love. Be sure to share the links to these songs with parents so they can stream them at home or in the car! Songs can be purchased at store. [thinkorange.com](http://thinkorange.com) or for free with APlay.*

A Worship Leader and live instruments are recommended to sing along with the music tracks. Encourage children to be active during worship by incorporating the appropriate hand motions.

- Download all songs and have them ready to use.

*Note: Make sure your church has obtained licensing rights to play or perform music. You can obtain a license to perform worship music from Christian Copyright Licensing International ([www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com)). It covers over 200,000 worship songs for congregational singing. You are responsible for including the copyright information on all songs reproduced under the Church Copyright License (including song lyrics projected onscreen). This includes the song title, writer credit(s), copyright notice, and your church's CCLI license number. You can include this information on one of the lyric slides, or you can create a separate slide detailing this information, but the copyright information must appear at least once for each song you play or perform. For example:*

"Hallelujah" words and music by John Doe  
©2000 Good Music Co.  
CCLI License # 0000

- Dance Moves Videos and Live Lyrics Videos are available for many Orange Kids Music songs. For more information, visit [Store.ThinkOrange.com](http://Store.ThinkOrange.com).
- Visit the Orange Store for Music Scope and Cycle purchases. Check out the Ministry Leader Guide for more information.

## PLANNING

# Getting Ready: Bible Story

## What You Need

- ☐ Storyteller
- ☐ Host
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ "Emoji Feelings Cards," one set for each kid and Storyteller (or for larger groups, one set for each Small Group)
- ☐ Volunteers: 2–4 helpers to help hand out "Emoji Feelings Cards"

## Music and Sound Effects

- ☐ Upbeat music to use as kids exit the room

## Optional Videos

- ☐ Theme Loop

## Large Group Visuals

- ☐ Theme Background Slide
- ☐ Bottom Line Slide
- ☐ Theme Slide
- ☐ "Emoji Feelings Cards" (printable)

## What You Need:

*NOTE: We're so excited to be going through key stories of the Bible this year and learning more about its Author—God! It's God's Big Story! But to provide you with flexibility as you experience God's Big Story in your own unique setting, there's more than one way to use the following script!*

*If you want to follow "God's Big Story," read the following script straight through. Each week will build on the previous ones. But, if your church wants to teach a Large Group session on its own as a standalone, without connecting it to what has come before, there are two sections in the script below that are optional—"God's Big Story Opener" and "God's Big Story Closer."*

## Optional for God's Big Story

- ☐ Clothesline and clothespins for the timeline in your room
- ☐ God's Big Story Slide
- ☐ Week 2 Timeline Image Slide
- ☐ We recommend that you create a timeline in your Large Group room that you can add to throughout this curriculum year as we travel through the Bible. This can be a simple clothesline or a section of the wall where you can hang the printed timeline images in order, week by week. We'll provide a timeline image for each week of curriculum. The timeline image is listed as a slide, but can be printed. A [God's Big Story poster](#) is available as well in the Orange Store.

## What You Do:

- Prepare the slides and have them ready to use. If you do not have screen capabilities, you have Orange's permission to enlarge and print the slides on paper.
- Download the sound effects from the Large Group scripts folder and have them ready to use.
- Confirm that your church has appropriate licensing to perform or play music and sound effects in your kids' environments (see above under Opener).
- Prepare one set of "Emoji Feelings Cards" for each kid and the Storyteller by cutting each "Emoji Feelings Cards" page into quarters. For larger groups, feel free to group the audience by Small Group, and give each Small Group Leader a set of "Emoji Feelings Cards" for the group. The members of the group can take turns holding up the "Emoji Feelings Cards."



## Video Enhancements for Your Environment

*Available in media files and APlay.*

Our Large Group scripts are interchangeable with these videos so you can plug and play the way you need to each week.

### **For 252 Kids (KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 3RD GRADE):**

→ StoryLab: Invite elementary kids to engage with inquisitive young hosts as they explore core biblical truths and stories in a STEAM-inspired setting.

### **For 252 Preteen (4TH AND 5TH GRADE):**

→ The So & So Show: Guide preteens to explore questions of faith through a YouTube-style show full of humor and lots of zany fun.

### **Additional environment enhancements including:**

- Motion graphics, including loops
- Themed transitions
- Countdown videos (30 seconds, 60 seconds, and 5 minutes)

## APlay

Get the most out of your curriculum with APlay! [JoinAPlay.com](https://JoinAPlay.com) is an all-in-one media organization and presentation tool. Experience all of your Orange Curriculum media assets, now pre-built and fully customizable. No more sorting through multiple download folders.

APlay is free with your curriculum subscription and packed with features to help your weekly experience run smoother. APlay gives you more time to focus on what truly matters — more ministry, less media management with Apple TV-based media solutions.