

# 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. Kings and the Kingdom (K-1st grade), Seeds of Wisdom (2nd-3rd grade), Bible Story Extension (4th-5th Grade)
2. Wise or Not So Wise (K-1st grade), Cause and Effect (2nd-3rd grade), Take a Snapshot (4th-5th Grade)
3. Coin Flip Memory Verse (K-1st grade), Verse Tower Challenge (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](http://ParentCue.org)

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

THIS MONTH



### Today's Bible Story

## The Kings

1 & 2 Kings

### Bottom Line

**Be wise because your choices matter.**

### 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: (WAVES, SUPER-EXCITED. OPTIONAL: WEARS THEME-PARK STYLE HAT.)**

**AUDIO** → Upbeat music (**THEME PARK MUSIC WOULD BE GREAT!**)

"Hey, everyone! Welcome to Wisdomland—the wildest, wisest theme park around! I'm your Host, **[HOST'S NAME]**, and today we're going to learn about how God can help us make wise choices. He wants to help us live wisely and well!"

"Turn to your neighbor and say, 'Buckle up! It's going to be a wild ride!'"

**KIDS:** "Buckle up! It's going to be a wild ride!"

**HOST:** "Here in Wisdomland, you get to make all kinds of choices. Some choices are easy, like: 'Do I ride the Ferris wheel or eat cotton candy?' Some are trickier, like: 'Do I help my friend or rush to get in line to my favorite ride?' But every choice—big or small—matters! That's what we're learning today: Be wise, because your choices matter."

"Let's say that together. I'll say a line, and you can repeat after me!"

**HOST:** "Be wise ..."

**KIDS:** "Be wise ..."

**HOST:** "because your choices matter!"

**KIDS:** "because your choices matter!"

**HOST:** "Awesome! That's our Bottom Line for the day. Before we jump into our Bible Story about lots of kings, we're going to do something amazing. We're going to build our very own theme parks—right here on stage!"

"Now, at every theme park, the creator had to make choices about what to include in their theme park. And you're going to make those choices too! Do you want more rides? More snacks? More water slides? You can't have everything—you have to choose! That's just like life. Your choices make your story special."

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

- Cue the three volunteers to bring out the nine large Theme Park Choices signs on sticks. Each sign should be big enough for a kid to hold and move.
- Volunteer #1 should hold the three Theme Park Choices signs for round 1 (GIANT ROLLER COASTER, HUGE WATER SLIDE, DROP TOWER).
- Volunteer #2 should hold the three Theme Park Choices signs for round 2 (SPLASH ZONE, HAUNTED HOUSE, BUMPER CARS).
- Volunteer #3 should hold the three Theme Park Choices signs for round 3 (GIANT HOT DOG STAND, SHOW STAGE, GAME BOOTH).

**HOST:** "I need three groups—each with three volunteers—to come up and be our park builders. Let's cheer them on as they come up! You guys can stand here in the tape square on the floor here for you. This is where your theme park will be!"

- Pick three groups of three kids. Applaud as each team comes up. Direct each group of three to stand in one of the three large tape areas that's on stage.

**HOST:** "We'll have three rounds to pick one item at a time for your park. I'll announce the three Theme Park Choices for each round, and you'll have to talk with your teammates and decide together which one you want to add."

"That team will send their teammate to the volunteer who is holding the choices for that round."

"But here's the twist: Once a team chooses a part, it's off the board—other teams can't pick it for their park!"

"Let's get started building our parks! Can our first adult volunteer step up here, please?"

- Pause as the volunteer steps to a place that's central to all three "park areas."

"I'm going to set the timer for ten seconds. Once your team has chosen, send a teammate to grab the sign with that Theme Park Choice on it, and bring it back to your 'park area!'"

- Set your timer for ten seconds, and start it after you've read the choices.

"Here are our first choices."

## Round 1 Choices:

- Giant Roller Coaster
- Huge Water Slide
- Drop Tower

"Each team, huddle up and decide—Giant Roller Coaster, Huge Water Slide, or Drop Tower! Then go grab your choice!"

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

- Teams may choose the same item. Encourage teams to share, and assure them that all parks will be great because you've got some great choices!

**HOST:** "Nice work, park builders! It's great to see those parks taking shape. Ready for Round 2?"

"Can our second adult volunteer step up here, please?"

- **Pause as the volunteer steps to a place that's central to all three "park areas."**

"We'll do the same thing as before! I'm going to set the timer for ten seconds. Once your team has chosen, send a teammate to grab your sign and bring it back to your 'park area!' Set your timer for ten seconds, and start it after you've read the choices.

"Here are our second choices.

## Round 2 Choices:

- Splash Zone
- Haunted House
- Bumper Cars

- **Repeat the process—10 seconds to decide, grab and place sign. Encourage fun and quick teamwork conversations.**

**HOST:** "Last round! It's going to be so fun to see how your parks turn out. Can our third and final adult volunteer step up here, please? Pause as the volunteer steps to a place that's central to all three "park areas."

"Let's do everything one final time!

- **Set your timer for ten seconds, and start it after you've read the choices.**

"Here are our third and final choices.

## Round 3 Choices:

- Giant Hot Dog Stand
- Show Stage
- Game Booth

**HOST:** "Time's up! Let's hear it for our Wisdomland park builders!  
**(LEAD APPLAUSE.)**

"Now hold up your team's Theme Park Choices signs so we can see! Each park is different because of the choices you made.

- **Go through each of the three "parks." Comment and encourage each team about how awesome their park is and how you so want to visit it!**

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"Your choices built your park, just like your choices build your life. Every moment, every choice—it all matters!"

"Can we give it up for our awesome park building teams? You can head back to your seats. **(LEAD APPLAUSE.)**

"And let's give ourselves a round of applause for being ready to make wise choices today!"

**HOST:** "Now, who's ready for worship? Let's stand up and get ready to sing, move, and show God how thankful we are for the wisdom He gives us!"

## ② Worship

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

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Who's ready to worship? Our first song is 'Know You More'. This song is about getting to know God better—He's the source of all wisdom! Getting to know Him and His ways is the wisest thing you can do with your life! As you sing, think about asking God to help you make wise choices in every part of your life.

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

"Great job, everyone! Now, our second song is called 'Further Faster.' "It reminds us that when we follow God and His wisdom, He helps us go even further in life! Let's keep moving and show God how much we love Him!

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

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "You all sounded incredible! Here's the best part: Worship isn't just something we do with music. Every time you make a wise choice, every time you show kindness, every time you ask God for help—that's worship too. It's saying, 'God, I love You and I want to show You with my life!'

"Let's take a moment to remember our special verse we're memorizing this month.

**SLIDE** → Memory Verse

"Let's say it together:

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

*It is much better to choose understanding than silver. (PROVERBS 16:16 NIRV)*

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"Wow! God's wisdom is worth more than anything. And He wants to give it to us because He loves us so much and wants us to live well!"

"Let's take a moment to thank God for all He's done and ask Him to help us be wise this week."

"God, thank You for loving us, for making us, and for giving us wisdom through Your Word and Your Son, Jesus. Help us to follow You and make wise choices every day. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen!"

"Awesome job! You can sit down, but stay tuned—because up next, we're going to take a wild Wisdomland journey through the Bible and see how kings' choices changed everything."

## ③ Bible Story

SLIDE → Theme Background

### INTRODUCTION

**STORYTELLER:** "Hi, you guys! I am so excited that you're here this week! Let me tell you about something amazing we're doing this year! We're going to go through the entire story of the Bible together!"

"Why are we going through the Bible? Is it because we just want to learn the awesome stories of the Bible? Not quite! You see, God gave us the Bible for us to learn about Him. As we read it, we learn about who He is and what His heart is like. And that's what we hope to discover—we're going to learn Bible stories, yes. But more importantly, we're going to get to know 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."

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"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 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! God brought His people out of Egypt 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. God gave them a king, and then many more kings **(AND ONE QUEEN)** followed. And that's where we are in God's Big Story."

## SETTING UP THE STORY

**STORYTELLER:** "Now we're ready for our Bible Story today! Who's ready for the wildest ride in Wisdomland? **(PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.)**

"Today, we're not riding a roller coaster or a spinning teacup—we're hopping on the 'Wisdomland Decision Doors' ride!

"Just like in a theme park, life is full of doors. Sometimes you know exactly what's behind each one ... and sometimes, you have to make a choice and trust God to lead you. Today, we'll see what happened to a bunch of real kings in the Bible—some made wise choices, and some, well ... let's just say their 'ride' took some wild turns.

**SLIDE** → Decision Doors

"Here's how you get to help: For each king, I'll tell you their situation. Then, you'll vote—by raising your left or right hand or both—on which 'door' you think they chose. We'll see if they took the wise path, the shortcut, or something else! Are you ready? Hands on your laps ... eyes on the Decision Doors ... here we go!"

→ **NOTE: The kids' hand raising will line up with the image on the screen—LEFT hand for Wisdom Way, BOTH hands for Shortcut Slide. Because of the mirror effect and the effect of presenting things on stage, Storyteller will be calling out the opposite hand arrangement than the one they experience. But the kids will line up with the image!**

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

**STORYTELLER:** “Let’s start our Wisdomland adventure at the very first ‘Decision Door.’ Here comes King Saul—the first king of Israel! Saul was tall, strong, and started off wanting to do what was right. But then, Saul was faced with a big choice.”

“God told Saul to wait for the prophet Samuel before offering a special sacrifice. Saul got impatient—he saw people getting nervous and started to worry. Here’s the question: What do you think Saul did? Which door do you think he chose?”

## VOTING MOMENT:

- **“Raise your left hand if you think Saul chose Wisdom Way and waited for the prophet Samuel.”**
- **“Raise both hands if you think Saul took the Shortcut Slide—and just did it himself.”**
- **“Put your right hand up if you want to pick the Mystery Gate—you have no idea what will happen!”**

→ **Pause for the kids to vote.**

## SAUL, DAVID, AND SOLOMON

**STORYTELLER:** “Let’s see what Saul chose ... Saul took the Shortcut Slide! He did things his own way instead of waiting for God.

“Listen to what a prophet of God told Saul:

→ **Open the Bible to 1 Samuel 13:13-14 (NIRV) and read.**

*“You haven’t obeyed the command the LORD your God gave you. If you had, he would have made your kingdom secure over Israel for all time to come. But now your kingdom won’t last.”*

“Saul’s choice cost him his position as king. He thought a shortcut would be easier, but it led to trouble for him. Eventually, he lost the throne of the entire nation. His choice mattered. Our choices always do.

**STORYTELLER:** “Next up—Decision Door #2, where another king will make a choice about which door to go through. Meet King David!

“David made a lot of choices as king. Sometimes he made mistakes, but he kept turning back to God and asking for forgiveness.

“When enemies attack God’s people, part of a king’s job is to defend them. When enemies, like the Philistines, came up against God’s people, what do you think King David did?

- **“Raise your left hand if you think he chose Wisdom Way—David asked God what his battle plan should be.”**
- **“Raise your right hand if you think he chose Shortcut Slide—David led the army how he wanted and didn’t talk to God about it.**
- **“Put both hands in the air for Mystery Gate—if you think David did something wild, just going up against his enemies alone!**

→ **Pause for the kids to vote.**



25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

**STORYTELLER:** "David chose Wisdom Way. He asked God what his battle plan should be. Over and over and over, when David faced something as king, he talked to God about it. David went through everything with God! God was His closest friend!

"The Bible says this about David before he ever became king:

→ **Open the Bible to 1 Samuel 13:14 (NirV) and read.**

"The LORD has already looked for a man who is dear to his heart. He has appointed him king of his people."

"David's wise choices when he was king made the nation strong and brought hope and joy to the people. See what happens when you trust God and follow Him?"

**STORYTELLER:** "Here comes Decision Door #3—King Solomon, David's son. When Solomon became king, God gave him one thing—anything he wanted! Solomon could have picked gold, power, or lots of snacks.

"When God let Solomon ask Him for anything he wanted, what do you think Solomon chose?

- **"Raise your left hand if you think Solomon chose Wisdom Way—he asked God for wisdom."**
- **"Raise your right hand for Shortcut Slide—if you think Solomon asked God for money."**
- **"Raise both hands for Mystery Gate—if you think Solomon asked for something silly, like unlimited roller coaster rides!"**

→ **Pause for the kids to vote.**

**STORYTELLER:** "Solomon chose Wisdom Way! He asked God for wisdom, and God made him the wisest king who ever lived.

"The Bible says Solomon asked God this:

→ **Open the Bible to 1 Kings 3:9 (NirV) and read.**

"Give me a heart that understands. Then I can rule over your people. I can tell the difference between what is right and what is wrong."

"But remember—even wise people need to keep making good choices. Because later, towards the end of his life, Solomon stopped following God and made some unwise decisions.

"Solomon started marrying ladies from other nations who didn't love God. He built temples for other evil gods and chose not to follow God or the wisdom God had given him.

"Let's do another 'Decision Door' for Solomon since he chose not to follow God at the end of his life.

"What do you think Solomon did later in his life?"

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

- **"Raise your left hand if you think he took Wisdom Way—and stayed close to God."**
- **"Raise right left hand if you think he took the Shortcut Slide—and did whatever he wanted."**
- **"Hold up both hands if you think he chose the Mystery Gate—and tried to please everyone."**

→ **Pause for the kids to vote.**

**STORYTELLER:** "Sadly, Solomon chose the Shortcut Slide and the Mystery Gate. He tried to do things his own way and make everyone happy, instead of staying close to God."

"The Bible says this happened to King Solomon:

→ **Open the Bible to 1 Kings 11:6 (NIRV) and read.**

Solomon did what was evil in the sight of the LORD. He didn't completely obey the LORD. He didn't do what his father David had done.

"Because of Solomon's choices, things in the kingdom started to fall apart—just like a roller coaster ride going off the tracks!

## MANY KIDS, MANY CHOICES

**STORYTELLER:** "Things in Wisdomland are getting wild! After Solomon, his son Rehoboam became king. Rehoboam had a choice to make right away. The people came to him and said, 'Please be kind to us and make life easier.' Rehoboam could have listened to the wise older leaders who told him to be gentle—or he could have listened to his friends, who said to be tough and show everyone who's boss.

"What do you think Rehoboam chose to do?

- **"Raise your left hand if you think he took Wisdom Way—he listened to wise advice and was kind to the people."**
- **"Raise your right hand if you think he took Shortcut Slide—he took his friends' advice, and he didn't make the people's work lighter."**
- **"Raise both hands if you think he chose Mystery Gate—if he ignored everyone and did nothing."**

→ **Pause for the kids to vote.**

**STORYTELLER:** "Rehoboam picked the Shortcut Slide. He followed his friends' advice and made the people's work unfairly hard.

"The Bible says this is how Rehoboam responded:

→ **Open the Bible to 2 Chronicles 10:13 (NIRV) and read.**

The king answered them in a mean way. He didn't accept the advice of the elders.

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"Because of that unwise choice, lots of people abandoned King Rehoboam, and the kingdom split in two. Now there were two kingdoms—the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah. Sometimes a bad choice doesn't just affect you—it can change everything for everyone around you."

**STORYTELLER:** "The kingdom was split in two! Oh no! There were 19 kings in the northern kingdom of Israel, and it's easy, but sad, to remember what Decision Door every single king in the northern kingdom chose. They chose the Shortcut Slide and did things their own way over and over and over. The kings of the northern kingdom of Israel were bad, bad, bad. They never followed God and His ways."

"Let's raise our right hands five times in a row to represent the bad choices the kings of the northern kingdom of Israel made over and over and over. They chose Shortcut Slide, and Shortcut Slide, and Shortcut Slide."

"Ready? Let's raise those right hands. One ... two ... three ... four ... five. Great job raising your hand, but boo for all of those bad choices, kings!"

"The northern kingdom of Israel turned their backs on God so badly that He allowed other nations to conquer it and scatter the people in it. The northern kingdom of Israel was never heard from again. Their kings led them to a bad place, and bad things happened."

"In the southern kingdom of Judah, things were a little bit different! It was a bit like a wild roller coaster—some kings went up high by making wise choices and following God, but most kings went crashing down with unwise ones. Let's go lightning-fast through a few! We'll only do two choices for these!"

"King Asa—he led people to turn back to the one, true God."

- **"Raise your left hand if you think he chose Wisdom Way—he led the nation to worship the real God.**
- **"Raise your right hand if you think he took the Shortcut Slide—he led the nation to worship false, evil gods of other nations.**

→ **Pause as the kids vote.**

"Asa picked Wisdom Way! Go, Asa! Next:

"King Jehoram—he led the people to follow the evil gods of other nations. He even built statues to them and made God's people worship them!"

- **"Raise your left hand (raise your RIGHT hand—that's the side that lines up with the image) if you think he chose Wisdom Way!**
- **"Raise your right hand (raise your LEFT hand) if you think he chose Shortcut Slide!**

→ **Pause as the kids vote.**

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"Jehoram picked the Shortcut Slide! Boo, King Jehoram! Next:

"King Joash—he fixed the temple so people could worship God.

"Wisdom Way (RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND) or Shortcut Slide (RAISE YOUR LEFT HAND)?"

"Wisdom Way! WOOHOO! Go, King Joash!

"King Ahaz—he was one of the worst. He moved God's altar and put another evil god's altar in its place.

"Wisdom Way (RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND) or Shortcut Slide (RAISE YOUR LEFT HAND)?"

"Shortcut Slide! Boo, King Ahaz!

"King Hezekiah—when an enemy army surrounded his city, he prayed to God and trusted God to save them.

"Wisdom Way (RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND) or Shortcut Slide (RAISE YOUR LEFT HAND)?"

"Wisdom Way! Yay, King Hezekiah!

"Let's do one last one! King Josiah—he found God's word and led the people back to following God. He was only eight years old when he became king!

"Wisdom Way (RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND) or Shortcut Slide (RAISE YOUR LEFT HAND)?"

"Wisdom Way! Yay, King Josiah!"

## GOD NEVER GAVE UP

**STORYTELLER:** "But after Josiah, there were more unwise kings in the southern kingdom of Judah. The people turned away from God, and soon the southern kingdom fell to enemies too.

"The Bible says:

→ **Open the Bible to 2 Kings 17:13-14 (NirV) and read.**

The LORD warned Israel and Judah through all his prophets and seers. He said, "Turn from your evil ways. Keep my commands and rules. Obey every part of the Law." ... But the people would not listen. They were as stubborn as their people of long ago had been.

"It was the lowest part of the roller coaster—the ride was rough, and the people were lost. But—this is important! Even when the kings and the people turned from Him, God never turned from them. He never stopped loving them. He had a rescue plan from the very beginning! God had promised that He would send a Savior. And He had not forgotten!

"Even though the northern kingdom of Israel was destroyed, God did something different in the southern kingdom of Judah. He preserved a remnant, a small group of people! He was going to bring His Savior

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

through that little group of people He preserved. God had not forgotten His plan to rescue us. He loves us too much.

"A long time after all those kings, from that little group of people God protected, God sent His Son, Jesus, to show us the way, to pay for our sins, and to help us live with real wisdom as His close friends.

## WRAPPING UP THE STORY

**STORYTELLER:** "Today, you and I aren't kings or queens over a whole country, but our choices still matter a lot. You get to face your own Decision Doors every single day! Maybe it's the choice to be kind when you feel mad. Maybe it's telling the truth even when it's tough. Maybe it's choosing to listen, help, or forgive.

"So, the next time you face a decision, picture those big theme park gates—Wisdom Way, Shortcut Slide, or Mystery Gate. Stop and ask, 'What would be the wise thing to do?' And remember, you can always ask God for help. He faces every Decision Door with you and He loves to give you wisdom when you ask Him for it!

"Let's say our Bottom Line for today. I'll say it first, and then let's say it together:

**SLIDE** → Bottom Line

**[BOTTOM LINE]** "Be wise, because your choices matter. Say that with me."

→ **Host enters and joins in.**

**STORYTELLER, HOST, and KIDS:** **[BOTTOM LINE]** "Be wise, because your choices matter."

## 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

"Let's zoom out like we're at the highest point of a super-tall roller coaster and take a look at where we are in God's Big Story. This week, we covered a lot of ground in this picture of God's Big Story. We talked a little bit about King David in this picture here, where he was being anointed as king, and then we went a little down the path and talked about some other kings who came after David! We're a little down the path—that's where we are in God's Big Story!

"This week we saw how God put kings over His people because they asked Him for one. Some kings were wise—like David, Hezekiah, and Josiah! But even the best kings sinned sometimes. That's why God promised to send someone even better—a perfect King. This perfect King lived a perfect life, and He gave His perfect life so that anyone who wanted to could be close friends with God. God was continuing His

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

rescue plan through that little group of people in the nation of Judah who He protected. Because many, many years later from that little group of people would come Jesus! Jesus was the Savior God had promised. 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 LAST IMAGE YOU'VE PUT UP.)**

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

**SLIDE → Week 4 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 the kings of Israel and Judah and how their choices mattered!

## WHAT'S OUR PART IN THE STORY?

**STORYTELLER:** "Today, we watched kings stand at the Decision Doors. When they followed God and His wisdom their choices brought good things and made their people stronger and happier. But when they chose not to follow God and His ways, their choices hurt others, broke trust, or led people away from God.

"You might wonder, 'What about me? I'm not a king or queen, and my life doesn't always feel like a big adventure.' It can be easy to think their choices were way bigger or more important than ours. But God's Word reminds us that our choices matter just as much. Every word you say, every action you take, every time you decide to help or hurt, to forgive or hold a grudge, to listen or ignore—each one is a decision door that shapes your story, and even shapes the world around you.

"When you choose to help a classmate instead of laughing at them, that's a wise choice. When you tell the truth—even if it means getting in trouble—that's a wise choice. When you forgive someone who hurt you or include someone who feels left out, those are wise choices. Every time you choose kindness, honesty, or patience, you're showing the world Jesus. He is kind. He is patient. He is good. And you are being just like Him.

"God doesn't expect you to get it right every time. The Bible is full of stories about people who made mistakes—even the kings we learned about today. David, Solomon, Josiah, Rehoboam—they all had moments of wisdom and moments they wished they could take back. But God was with them through it all, just like He's with you. He promises to help you, to guide you, and to give you wisdom when you ask. You go through life with the greatest guide.

"In the days and weeks ahead, you are going to face your own Decision Doors, and you get to choose which way you'll go.

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"If you ever need help, remember: You are not alone. When you chose to follow Jesus, His very Spirit moved inside of you, and He is going to face every Decision Door with you. He promises He will give you His wisdom when you ask.

"Let's spend some time asking Him for His help. Let's pray.

## ③ Prayer

**STORYTELLER or HOST:** ""God, thank You for all the stories we've heard that teach us that following You and Your wisdom leads to the best way. Thank You most of all for Jesus, who shows us what perfect wisdom looks like. We want to make choices that show the world who You are—to show Your love, bring Your hope, and shine Your kindness. When we face our own Decision Doors, remind us to ask You for wisdom, to listen to Your Spirit, to trust that You're with us every step of the way, and to do what You say. We want to show the world who You are because You are so wonderful. It is so amazing to be Your friend. We love You, 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
- ☐ *Optional: Giant theme park hat for Host*
- ☐ 9 pieces of cardstock/cardboard to make 9 signs on sticks (3 per round):
  - Round 1: Giant Roller Coaster, Huge Water Slide, Drop Tower
  - Round 2: Splash Zone, Haunted House, Bumper Cars
  - Round 3: Giant Hot Dog Stand, Show Stage, Game Booth
- ☐ 9 thick craft sticks, or 9 wood paint stirrers
- ☐ Thick marker (to write the nine Theme Park Choices on signs)
- ☐ Shipping tape
- ☐ Floor tape, (for the 3 'park spaces' marked on stage)
- ☐ 9 kid volunteers (3 groups of 3 volunteer kids each)
- ☐ Timer (phone, watch, or countdown video)
- ☐ Volunteers: 3 to carry the 9 signs

## Music and Sound Effects

- ☐ Upbeat music to use as kids enter the room
- ☐ Upbeat music to use as kids play the game (Theme-park style music would be great!)

## What You Need:

### Large Group Visuals

- ☐ Theme Slide
- ☐ Memory Verse Slide
- ☐ "Park Builder Game" 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.
- *Optional: Download a countdown video from a royalty-free site. Load it into your presentation software and have it ready to play during the Opener. You could also keep time on a smartphone or watch.*
  - *Note: Some presentation software, such as ProPresenter, has a countdown clock built into the program that you can overlay on a still image.*
- Create all nine large signs of the nine different Theme Park Choices. Write each of the following nine Theme Park Choices largely and clearly on each of the signs. The Theme Park Choices are:
  - Giant Roller Coaster
  - Huge Water Slide
  - Drop Tower
  - Splash Zone
  - Haunted House
  - Bumper Cars
  - Giant Hot Dog Stand
  - Show Stage
  - Game Booth
- Use the shipping tape to adhere the craft stick/wood paint stirrers to the nine Theme Park Choices signs.
- Use the floor tape to mark "park spaces" for teams on the stage. The 'park spaces' should be an equal distance from where the volunteers for each round will stand so that each team has to travel/run the same distance. The "park spaces" should also be large enough to hold a team of three kids and their three Theme Park Choices signs.
- Before group time, give one adult volunteer the three Theme Park Choices signs for round 1 (Giant Roller Coaster, Huge Water Slide, Drop Tower). Give the second adult volunteer the three Theme Park Choices signs for round 2 (Splash Zone, Haunted House, Bumper Cars). And give the third adult volunteer the three Theme Park Choices signs for round 3 (Giant Hot Dog Stand, Show Stage, Game Booth).



## PLANNING

# Getting Ready: Worship

## What You Need

- ☐ Worship Leader(s)

## Music and Sound Effects

- ☐ "Know You More" from Focus
- ☐ "Further Faster" from This Little Light

## 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

## Music and Sound Effects:

- ☐ Upbeat music to use as kids exit the room

## Large Group Visuals:

- ☐ Theme Background Slide
- ☐ Bottom Line Slide
- ☐ Theme Slide
- ☐ "Decisions Doors" Slide

## Optional for God's Big Story:

- ☐ Clothesline and clothespins for the timeline in your room
- ☐ God's Big Story Slide
- ☐ Week 4 Timeline Image Slide

## Optional Video:

- ☐ Theme Loop

## What You Do:

*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."*

- Download 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.
- Confirm that your church has appropriate licensing to perform or play music and sound effects in your kids' environments (see above under Opener).
- Prep and assign volunteers for the roles of the kings and for managing props or crowd participation.
- Place all props for each king and "Decision Door" visual at the front for easy access as you move through the story.
- 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. A [God's Big Story poster](#) is available as well in the Orange Store.

## Video Enhancements for Your Environment

*Available in your 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.