

# 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 ("Yes I Am" from Everything to Me, "At the Top of My Lungs" from Live It Out!)
- Bible Story (sections about God's Big Story are included as optional)
- Prayer

### Small Group (25 minutes)

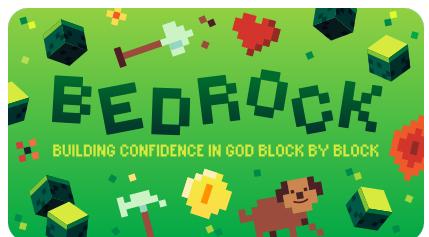
#### Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. Application Activity: Take a Snapshot
2. Bible Story Review: Bible Story Extension and Discussion Questions
3. Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You
4. Prayer Activity: Make It Personal with Prayer

#### Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

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

THIS MONTH



### Today's Bible Story

#### Esther

#### Esther

#### Conversation Starter

#### When has someone stood up for you?

#### Bottom Line

#### God can help you stand up for others.

#### Memory Verse

**“Those who trust in the LORD will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak.”**

**Isaiah 40:31 (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-cancelling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

## ① Welcome

**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 has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to [NAME OF ENVIRONMENT]. Host is relatable and inviting. Host can talk about something that happened culturally throughout the week like a big sports game, movie opening, a viral video on YouTube, etc. Host tells them how excited he or she is that they're there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what's happening.*

## Opener

**HOST:** "Hey, hey, hey! What's up, [NAME OF ENVIRONMENT]? I'm absolutely pumped to see you! Let's make some noise for the awesome people around you—give your neighbor a confidence-powered high five or a big 'You're awesome'!"

"Whoa! You guys brought EPIC energy! All month, we've been diving deep into something super-important. Confidence!

"But the kind of confidence is not just feeling good about ourselves. We're talking about the kind of confidence that comes straight from God. It's confidence that comes from knowing and living in the reality that God is with us! And when we know God is with us, we can have confidence to try what seems impossible, confidence to do what's right and follow God's ways, and as we'll see this week in our Bible Story, confidence to stand up for others.

"But before we dive into our story today, it's game time! Who's ready for a game called 'Stand Up for Me'?

→ **Set up two chairs on the stage. On each chair, place a clipboard with several sheets of paper and a marker.**

"To play this game, I need two volunteers who know each other really well—either siblings or friends. If you want to play, raise your hand!

→ **Choose a pair of kids with their hands raised. Instruct the kids to sit in the chairs, holding the clipboards and markers.**

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

- **(NOTE: If it's a better fit for your group, this game can be played with adult volunteers.)**

"Okay! Now that we're set up, we're going to play a game where I ask you questions about the other person. I want you to write down how you think the other person would answer this question I ask. The kid with the most correct answers at the end wins!

"I'll go through each of these questions one at a time, but before we start the game, let me read through all our questions first so you know what's coming. These are the questions I'm going to ask you to answer about the other person!

**Read through the following questions:**

- What's their favorite color?
- What's their favorite song?
- What's their favorite food?
- What's their pet's name?
- What city were they born in?
- Without looking at their face, what color are their eyes?
- What is their favorite hobby or sport?

- **React to wild answers, and ask a few kids to explain their choices.**

"Now that we know what questions are coming, let's start our first round! Kid 1, one at a time, I will ask you those questions about Kid 2 first.

"For each question, you'll write down what you think the other kid will answer. Once you are done writing the answer to that question, turn the clipboard around and show us the answer.

"Kid 2, if your partner answered the question correctly about you, stand up!

- **Read back through the questions one at a time, with Kid 1 answering for Kid 2 and Kid 2 standing up when the answer is correct.**
- **Repeat the game so Kid 2 answers all of the questions about Kid 1. Keep track of which kid gets the most correct answers. Declare them the winner, but celebrate both kids for being a friend.**

"Wow, you guys! It's so awesome that you know so much about each other! Having people know things about us—even if they don't know everything—means a lot. It's a gift in life to have a friend!

"And you know what means even more? When someone stands up for you, when someone looks out for you. Today, we're going to talk about someone who realized God had put her exactly where she was to stand up for a whole group of people. But before we do that, let's head to worship!"

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

## ② Worship

→ Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

**WORSHIP LEADER:** ““Hey, friends! This month we’ve been learning that we can have confidence because the God of all goes with us in everything. And it’s even more awesome than that! The reason God wants to be so close to you is because He loves you! You are a child of a Father, God, who loves you! Let’s sing about that in this first song, ‘Yes I Am!’

**AUDIO**→ “Yes I Am” track 1 from Everything to Me  
**Optional Video** → Yes I Am” Dance Moves or Live Lyrics Video

“Great worshiping! And this is a cool thing about life—so much of what your heart lights up for, God is! He is kind. (**WE LOVE KINDNESS!**) He is fair. (**WE LOVE FAIRNESS!**) He is faithful. (**WE LOVE FAITHFULNESS!**) God is good, good, good! God is so good, let’s shout it out to Him at the top of our lungs! This song is called, ‘At the Top of My Lungs.’

**AUDIO**→ “At the Top of My Lungs” / track 5 from Live It Out!  
**Optional Video** → “At the Top of My Lungs” Dance Moves Video or Live Lyrics Video

“Great job, everyone! God is so, so good!

“God is so good that even though He asks us to do a lot in our world—like show the world how good He is by following His ways—He gives us the strength to do it! That’s what our Memory Verse this month promises. It’s Isaiah 40:31. I’ll read it and then we can say it together!

**SLIDE** → Memory Verse

**WORSHIP LEADER:** ““Those who trust in the LORD will receive new strength.

They will fly as high as eagles.

They will run and not get tired.

They will walk and not grow weak. —Isaiah 40:31

“Let’s say it together!

**WORSHIP LEADER AND KIDS:** “Those who trust in the LORD will receive new strength.

They will fly as high as eagles.

They will run and not get tired.

They will walk and not grow weak. —Isaiah 40:31

“Wow! What a great promise! God will give us the strength to do what He asks us to do!

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"Today's Bible Story is an example of exactly that. God put Esther in the exact right time and place to stand up for her people, and then He gave her the strength to do it. Let's sit down and hear our true story from the Bible today!"

## BIBLE STORY (COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT)

SLIDE → Theme Background

→ Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit.

*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 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." Or if you are joining us at some point throughout the year, you can opt out of the God's Big Story part and just join us as we journey through the rest of the story of Scripture! We are going to go through the Bible as we teach throughout the year, but whether or not you share God's Big Story each week is up to you!*

*Whatever way you decide to use the following, know that we're praying diligently for you—we're asking God to help kids see and believe that He loves them, He invented them, and He wants to be their closest Friend. Forever. It's an honor to get to know God with you through the Bible this year!*

### INTRODUCTION

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Hey, what's up, everybody? Let's make some noise if you're excited to be here! Come on, I know you can be louder than that—let's fill this room with energy!"

### TENSION

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Let's kick things off with a question: When has someone stood up for you? Maybe it was a friend who included you when you felt left out, or someone who spoke up when you were treated unfairly. Maybe a teacher noticed you were struggling and encouraged you to keep going. Think about it—how did that make you feel? Did it fill you up with courage, or help you believe you mattered?"

→ **Pause for a few moments to let the question settle and for kids to think of a time when someone stood up for them.**

"Today we're going to look at the story of someone who stood up for someone else—a lot of people, actually. It's the true story of a girl named Esther. And she learned that God had placed her exactly where she was to do something."

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"But before we get into her story, let me tell you about something amazing we're doing this year! We're going through key stories in the Bible from cover to cover!

"But are we going through the Bible just so we'll become really smart Bible people? Not exactly! One of the reasons God gave us the Bible is so that we can get to know Him! He wants us to be His friends! So as we go through the Bible this year, our hope is that we learn about Him!

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

#### STORYTELLER:

"We're going to go through God's Big Story in the Bible to learn about Him! **(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 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—Abraham's family! Many years after God first spoke to Abraham, 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. Sadly, the nation of God's people split in two—into the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah.

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"During this time, there were prophets in both kingdoms who spoke and taught on God's behalf. Many of the prophets delivered the same message from God: 'Come back to Me!'

"But many of the kings didn't listen. They turned their hearts away from God, and as a result, the northern kingdom of Israel was totally destroyed and never heard from again. The southern kingdom of Judah was taken captive by other nations. God's people were taken from the Promised Land! It was sad, but God was preserving a remnant, mostly from the nation of Judah.

"After some time in captivity, God worked through a foreign king to allow His people to come home to the land of Judah, which is part of the Promised Land. Many of God's people came back home! But some stayed in foreign lands—like Esther and her family. But even there, God was still in charge, protecting His people and His promise to rescue us!

"And that's where we are in God's Big Story."

## TRUTH

**COMMUNICATOR:** "This week we're continuing on right through the Bible.

"And you might need to buckle up! Because today we're diving into one of the most jaw-dropping, plot-twisty, underdog adventures in the entire Bible. I want you to imagine putting on a glittering crown, straightening your new royal robes, and stepping into a palace where you can change the world. Because today we're talking about Esther—a young girl who seemed ordinary, but God used her to stand up for an entire nation. Ready to step into the story?

"Our story begins right in the heart of ancient Persia, under the rule of a king named Xerxes.

"King Xerxes—talk about extra! If you think celebrities today like to show off, this guy would have put them all to shame. He threw a party that lasted 180 days—can you even imagine? Six months of feasting, music, dancing, golden goblets clinking, the smell of roasted meats and honey cakes filling the air. When that party ended, he threw another week-long bash to show off his wealth and remind everyone just how important he was.

→ **Mimic sipping from an imaginary cup, pinky up, then roll eyes playfully.**

"But then, in the middle of all the glitz, Xerxes made a huge poor choice. He demanded that his queen, Vashti, come out and show off her beauty to his guests. But Queen Vashti was having nothing of it. She said, 'No way,' and stood her ground. Xerxes was embarrassed and furious—so, just like that, he banished her. No more queen. Gone from the palace. Pretty harsh, right?

"Some time later, the king realized how foolish he'd been and that he needed a new queen. So his advisors suggested this: to bring the beautiful girls from the kingdom to see who the king liked.

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"Enter Esther. Esther was Jewish, a member of God's people. She was also an orphan, raised by her older cousin Mordecai, who loved her like his own daughter. Mordecai told Esther, 'Keep your identity secret. Don't tell anyone you're Jewish.' So Esther did.

"Esther didn't have a choice about being in the contest. She couldn't escape. But when she was brought before King Xerxes, he chose her. He placed the royal crown on her head and declared, 'You will be my new queen.' Just like that, Esther went from orphan to queen of the most powerful empire in the world. But God had a much bigger purpose for her than just wearing a crown.

## SLIDE 1 → Esther Is Crowned Queen

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Mordecai was close by, at the palace gates. One day, he overheard two guards whispering about a plot to kill King Xerxes! Mordecai sent word to Esther, who warned the king. Xerxes's life was saved. The king's record-keepers jotted it down in the royal history books, but Mordecai didn't get any reward. Not yet, anyway ...

"Enter Haman—cue the villain music! Haman was the king's top official. Xerxes had promoted Haman above all the other nobles and ordered everyone to bow low when Haman strutted by. Everyone obeyed ... except Mordecai. Mordecai stood tall, refusing to bow.

## SLIDE 2 → Mordecai Refuses to Bow to Haman

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Haman was furious—like, steam-coming-out-of-his-ears, can't-sleep-at-night, angry. When he found out Mordecai was Jewish, his anger exploded into evil. It wasn't enough to punish Mordecai; Haman wanted to wipe out every Jewish person in the Persian Empire. Imagine hating someone so much that you want to destroy their entire people. That's next-level villainy.

## SLIDE 3 → Haman Tells the King His Plan

**COMMUNICATOR:** "So Haman went to King Xerxes and twisted the truth: 'There's a group of people who don't follow your laws. Let's get rid of them.' King Xerxes, not realizing what Haman was really planning, handed over his royal ring. The orders were sent to every territory in the Persian Empire.

"On a certain day, all Jews in the empire were to be destroyed—men, women, children, all because of Haman's grudge. The news spread like wildfire. Across Persia, Jewish people wept, tore their clothes, and wore scratchy sackcloth, pouring out their hearts to God in prayer and grief.

"Esther heard that Mordecai was in grieving clothes too, so a messenger travelled back and forth between the two to help Esther find out what was going on and figure out a plan.

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

## SLIDE 4 → Esther Finds Out about the Orders

"Mordecai explained Haman's evil plan and begged Esther to help. But Esther explained through a messenger that there was a huge catch: No one—not even the queen—could go up to King Xerxes without being summoned. If you did, and the king didn't extend his royal scepter to you, you could be executed.

"What would you do if you were Esther? The lives of your family, your friends, your entire people depended on you—but one wrong move could cost you everything. Let's pause for a second. If you were Esther, would you risk your life to stand up for others? Raise your hand if you think you'd be brave enough. Raise your hand if you're not sure. Yeah, it's tough. Sometimes, doing the right thing is the scariest thing of all.

"Mordecai sent back a message:

→ **Open the Bible to Esther 4:13-14 (NIV) and read.**

"You live in the king's palace. But don't think that just because you are there you will be the only Jew who will escape. What if you don't say anything at this time? Then help for the Jews will come from another place. But you and your family will die. Who knows? It's possible that you became queen for a time just like this."

"In other words, maybe God had placed Esther exactly where she was, at exactly the right moment, to be part of His plan to rescue His people. God puts us in specific places, not by accident, but on purpose. Even if it's a place we wouldn't have chosen or want to be.

"That truth, that God had put her as a queen for that exact time, gave Esther the confidence to act. She said:

→ **Open the Bible to Esther 4:16 (NIV) and read.**

"Go. Gather together all the Jews who are in Susa. And fast for my benefit. Don't eat or drink anything for three days. Don't do it night or day. I and my attendants will fast just as you do. Then I'll go to the king. I'll do it even though it's against the law. And if I have to die, I'll die."

"After three days, Esther put on her royal robes. Her heart pounded as she walked to the inner courtyard of the palace in front of the king's hall. The king saw her. Would the king welcome her—or have her punished?

## SLIDE 5 → Esther Approaches the King

**COMMUNICATOR:** "For a moment, time seemed to stop. Then—the king reached out his golden scepter, the sign of mercy. Esther exhaled. She approached, gently touching the tip of the scepter. She was safe. For now.

## SLIDE 6 → The King Extends His Scepter to Esther

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

**COMMUNICATOR:** "The king asked:

→ **Open the Bible to Esther 5:3 (NIV) and read.**

"What is it, Queen Esther? What do you want? I'll give it to you. I'll even give you up to half of my kingdom."

"Esther didn't blurt out her request. Instead, she invited Xerxes and Haman to a special banquet she'd prepared—golden plates, the aroma of spices and sweet fruit later that day. The king agreed to attend.

**SLIDE 7 → Esther, King Xerxes, and Haman Feast**

**COMMUNICATOR:** "As the king and Haman feasted, Xerxes asked again, 'What is your request?' Esther invited them to another banquet the next day. Haman strutted out, feeling like the VIP of the universe, but still burning with hatred for Mordecai.

"That night, Haman built a giant gallows—tall enough to be seen for blocks—planning to hang Mordecai the next morning."

"But that night, something strange happened. The king couldn't sleep. Maybe it was the food from the feast, maybe it was God at work. He called for the royal records—basically, the world's most boring bedtime story. As the attendant read aloud, Xerxes heard about how Mordecai had saved him some time before. 'Did we ever reward him?' the king asked. No.

"So, the next morning, just as Haman arrived to ask for Mordecai's death, Xerxes asked Haman, 'What should I do if I want to honor someone?' Haman, thinking, 'He must mean me!' suggested a royal parade, with fancy robes and a royal horse. Xerxes loved the idea: 'Great! Go do all that for Mordecai!'

"Haman had to lead the parade, shouting Mordecai's praises through the streets. He was humiliated. But the real showdown was still coming. At Esther's second banquet, with the king and Haman there, Xerxes asked again, 'What is your request, Queen Esther?' Esther took a deep breath, her voice steady and clear:

→ **Open the Bible to Esther 7:3-4 (NIV) and read.**

Then Queen Esther answered, "Your Majesty, I hope you will be pleased to let me live. That's what I want. Please spare my people. That's my appeal to you. My people and I have been sold to be destroyed. We've been sold to be killed and wiped out."

"Xerxes was stunned. Then this happened:

→ **Open the Bible to Esther 7:5-6 (NIV) and read.**

King Xerxes asked Queen Esther, "Who is the man who has dared to do such a thing? And where is he?"

Esther said, "The man hates us! He's our enemy! He's this evil Haman!"

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

## SLIDE 7 → Esther Points Out the Evil Haman

**COMMUNICATOR:** "The king was furious. He ordered Haman to be punished on the very gallows he had built for Mordecai. Xerxes oversaw as a new decree was issued: the Jewish people could defend themselves. When the day of danger came, God's people stood together and were saved. Not because Esther was fearless or perfect, but because she knew that God had put her exactly where she was, and she had to stand up for her people."

### APPLICATION

**COMMUNICATOR:** "So, what about you? Esther didn't have superpowers. She didn't always know what to do. She was scared. But God gave her the confidence to stand up for others, even when the outcome wasn't certain. God gave her the strength to risk her own comfort to do what was right. And God can do the same for you."

"You probably won't have to face a king or stop an evil plot. But you are placed exactly where you are to show God's love and stand up for others. So there will be moments—at school, on your team, in your neighborhood—when someone needs you to stand up for them. Maybe it's a classmate being teased, someone sitting alone at lunch, or a friend too nervous to speak up. In those moments, you don't need to be the loudest or the bravest. You just need to trust that God is with you. God can help you stand up for others. Not because you're perfect, but because He goes with you every step of the way."

"You can even do like Esther and ask your friends to pray for you for wisdom and strength to stand up."

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

**COMMUNICATOR:** "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 up here in on the path past the picture of Daniel. Esther lived after Daniel! We're on the path of God's Big Story! (GESTURE TO IMAGE OF GOD'S BIG STORY.)

"This week we talked about Esther! Esther's family stayed in a foreign land when God's people were allowed to go home to Judah. But God used Esther, right where she was, for His good plan. Because when Esther stood up for her people, she stood up for all of God's people in the Persian Kingdom! And the Persian Kingdom was so big, it included God's people who were back home in Judah too. God used Esther's bravery to preserve His people! And many, many years later, from that remnant of people whom God protected, God would send Jesus! And Jesus would rescue us all!"

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

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

## 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 Esther!"

### LANDING

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Wow—what an epic story we explored today! Esther was an ordinary person, but she showed extraordinary confidence—not because she was the biggest or the bravest, but because she realized that God had put her right where she was to stand up for people!"

"God has put you right where you are so you can show your world His love too. God has put you right where you are to stand up for people!"

"God was with Esther every step of the way, and He is with you every step of the way too.

Let's give God a thunderous round of applause and a cheer so loud the roof shakes!

→ **Pause as the kids clap and cheer.**

"Here's the big thing I want you to take home: God can help you stand up for others. Let's shout it out together—on the count of three! One, two, three!"

**COMMUNICATOR and KIDS:** "God can help you stand up for others!"

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Fantastic! Let's be real—standing up for others isn't always simple. Sometimes your heart pounds, your palms get sweaty, and you feel butterflies in your stomach. But God promises to be with you, in you, giving you the strength and courage you need."

"Sometimes, standing up means using your voice when you see someone being teased or left out. Other times, it's as simple as noticing someone sitting alone at lunch and inviting them to join you, or speaking up to a trusted adult if someone needs help. These moments might look small, but they shine brightly—like little sparks of God's love in a dark world. You don't have to do something huge. Just care enough to take a step, even when it feels scary."

"When you stand up for others, you're living out God's love in a real, powerful way. You're being a leader, just like Esther. Next time you see someone who needs a friend, or you notice something unfair, ask God for confidence. You might be the answer to someone's prayer!"

"As you head to your Small Groups, really think about this Conversation Starter:

## SLIDE → Conversation Starter

Preteen

Large Group

November — Week 4

25 MINUTES

## Story

10 MINUTES

## Worship

**[CONVERSATION STARTER]** "When has someone stood up for you?"

"How did it feel when someone stood up for you? You can make someone feel the same way by standing up for them!"

"Let's pray and ask God to help us stand up for others."

### ③ Prayer

**COMMUNICATOR:** "God, thank You for giving Esther the confidence to stand up for her people. Thank You for being with us, giving us what we need to stand up for others too. Help us trust You and reflect Your love, even when it's tough. 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: Welcome/Opener

**What You Need**

- Host
- Two chairs
- Two clipboards
- Two markers
- Several sheets of paper (at least seven for each clipboard)

**Music and Sound Effects**

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter the room

**Large Group Visuals**

- Theme Slide
- Memory Verse Slide

**Optional Videos**

- Theme Loop
- Countdown
- Theme Intro

**What You Do:**

- Download 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.
- Before group time, set two chairs in the middle of the stage. Put a clipboard with blank sheets of paper and a marker on both chairs.

## PLANNING

# Getting Ready: Worship

**What You Need**

- Worship Leader(s)

**Music and Sound Effects**

- "Yes I Am" from Everything to Me
- "At the Top of My Lungs" from Live It Out!

**Optional Videos**

Available for purchase.

- "Yes I Am" Dance Moves Video or Live Lyrics Video (available through [Store.ThinkOrange.com](http://Store.ThinkOrange.com))
- "At the Top of My Lungs" Dance Moves Video or Live Lyrics Video (available through [Store](http://Store.ThinkOrange.com))

## What You Do:

**Note:** We've suggested worship songs below 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 below, 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

**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
- 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 the curriculum. There are two versions of each Timeline Image—a slide and a print version. A digital God's Big Story poster is available as well in the Orange Store.

**Optional Videos**

- Theme Loop

**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."*

*Whatever way you decide to use the following, know that we're praying diligently for you—we're asking God to help kids see and believe that He loves them, He invented them, and He wants to be their closest Friend. Forever. It's an honor to get to know God with you through the Bible this year!*

- Communicator
- Bible

**Music and Sound Effects**

- Upbeat music to use as kids exit the room

**Large Group Visuals**

- Theme Background Slide
- Conversation Starter Slide
- Bottom Line Slide
- Theme Slide
- Bible Story Images, containing:
  - "1 Esther Is Crowned Queen" Slide
  - "2 Mordecai Refuses to Bow to Haman" Slide
  - "3 Haman Tells the King His Plan" Slide
  - "4 Esther Finds Out about the Orders" Slide
  - "5 Esther Approaches the King" Slide
  - "6 The King Extends His Scepter to Esther" Slide
  - "7 Esther, King Xerxes, and Haman Feast" Slide
  - "8 Esther Points Out the Evil Haman" Slide

**What You Do:**

- 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).
- As the script prompts, add a line of red tape onto the ground.

## PLANNING

# Getting Ready: Bible Story

**Optional for God's Big Story**

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**Optional Videos**

- Theme Loop

## 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.