

# 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)
- Conversation Starter
- Prayer

### Small Group (25 minutes)

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

1. Take a Snapshot
2. Bible Story Extension and Discussion Questions
3. Verses to Take with You
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.



## Today's Bible Story

### Solomon Chooses Wisdom

1 Kings 3:4-15

#### Conversation Starter

### When do you need wisdom?

#### 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 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:** "Welcome, everyone! Who's pumped to be back at Wisdomland? (PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.) Nice!

"I don't know about you, but when I hear the word 'theme park,' I think about adventure, wild rides, making choices, and maybe even getting a little lost along the way.

"Today, we're not just talking about wisdom—we're going to need it, right from the start!

"Why? Because you and our on-stage team are about to try ... (MAKE A DRUMROLL ON YOUR LEGS, OR INVITE THE DRUMMER FROM THE WORSHIP BAND TO DO IT.)

"The **Wisdomland Escape Room!**

"Here's how it works: I'll invite a team of 3–4 volunteers up front.

"The rest of you out there? You're not just an audience. You're the 'park guests,' and our stage team can call on you for help at any time—so pay attention!

"You'll work together to solve three Wisdomland 'escape' puzzles. Each one is themed like a park 'attraction'—but instead of rides, you'll face riddles, tricky choices, or problems you'd face in a real theme park.

"Let me pick three (OR FOUR) kids who want to do the escape room. Can you raise your hand if you want to try?

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

- **Choose three (or four) confident kids who like a challenge and invite them on stage.**

"Great! Let me continue on with the game. Like I was saying, you all are going to work together to solve three Wisdomland 'escape' puzzles.

"For each puzzle, we're going to ask what the audience thinks too—it's always helpful to talk to a 'Wise Friend,' and that's kind of what they are. Audience, when it's your turn, you can shout suggestions, send up clues, or brainstorm with these three **(OR FOUR)**.

"Let's meet our team!

- **Ask the three—or four—volunteers their names, favorite ride, etc.**

"Great! Now that we know everybody, let's get started.

"Here's your first puzzle:

## **Puzzle #1—The Map Mix-Up:**

"You've just entered Wisdomland and you're handed a confusing park map. There are arrows pointing in every direction, and you're supposed to get to 'Proverb Pavillion.'

"But wait—two paths are blocked, and there's a shortcut that's ... suspicious.

"Audience, what would you do?

- **Take a few crowd answers. Remind everyone of the dilemma, if needed.**

"Team, the audience has weighed in. What would you do?

- **After the team has shared their answer, ask: Why did you make that choice?**

"Great! You got out of that escape room and figured out a solution together! Here is your next puzzle!

## **Puzzle #2—The Snack Stand Dilemma:**

"Your group is starving, but you only have enough tokens for one snack. You spot a kid by themselves who looks lost and hungry. What's the wise thing to do?

"Team, huddle up. Audience, help them out! What would you do?

- **Take a few crowd answers.**

"Team, the audience has weighed in. What would you do?

- **After the team has shared their answer, ask: Why did you make that choice? Try to guide them to an empathetic answer if they haven't come up with one.**

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"You guys figured out an empathetic answer. Great work! Here's your last puzzle, and this one's for everyone:

## Puzzle #3—"Who Would You Ask?"

"You're stuck at Wisdomland's biggest crossroads—there are four rides, no signs, and everyone's confused.

"You can:

- A) Guess and rush ahead.
- B) Ask a random stranger.
- C) Stop and ask the park guide.
- D) Sit and do nothing.

"What's the wisest move? Why?

→ **Allow both the team and audience to shout out, then highlight choosing to "ask for wisdom."**

"The park guide would know the park the best, so they could give you the best information that you could make the wisest decision from!

"Great job working through those puzzles! You made it through! Sometimes the smartest thing you can do is slow down, ask for help, and listen to wise voices around you. That's what we'll be talking about today—how you can ask God for wisdom, just like King Solomon did.

"Escape Room team, thank you! You can head to your seats! Let's give our Escape Room team and our whole crowd a huge Wisdomland cheer!  
**(PAUSE WHILE THE KIDS RETURN TO THEIR SEATS.)**

"Now, before we dive into the story, let's worship through music together!

"Worship isn't just about singing songs—it's about connecting with God, listening for His voice, and letting Him shape our hearts.

"So, let's get on our feet, shake off those nerves, and get ready to praise the God who loves us, leads us, and fills us with wisdom!"

## ② Worship

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

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Hey, everyone! I love seeing you all here and ready to worship.

"Who here ever feels like life is a little wild—like a roller coaster, or maybe even a theme park? **(PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.)**

"Yeah—me too! The amazing thing is, no matter where life takes us, God is with us, giving us wisdom and strength for every twist, turn, and loop.

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"Let's start with a song about wanting to know God more—because getting to know Him is the wisest thing we can do with our lives. And as we get to know Him and His ways—He is faithful, He is honest, He is true—we'll learn what's right and wise. So let's make this song our prayer and sing it out together.

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

"That sounded awesome!

"Next, let's sing: 'The Good Thing.' It reminds us that God's wisdom is a good thing that God wants to give us! He loves us so much that He wants to give His wisdom to us! Let's sing this together!

**AUDIO** → "The Good Thing" / track 1 from The Good Thing

"Great job! Before we finish, let's check out our Memory Verse this month. We are focusing on a certain verse so we'll have it in our hearts when we need it!

"I'll say the Memory Verse first, then we'll say it together, line by line:

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

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

**WORSHIP LEADER:** It is much better to get wisdom than gold.

**WORSHIP LEADER and KIDS:** It is much better to get wisdom than gold.

**WORSHIP LEADER:** It is much better to choose understanding than silver.

**WORSHIP LEADER and KIDS:** It is much better to choose understanding than silver.

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Proverbs 16:16."

**WORSHIP LEADER and KIDS:** "Proverbs 16:16."

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Great! Let's try it together—this time, try saying it like you're announcing it on a roller coaster!

"I'll put the Memory Verse slide up there to help, but announce with all of your heart!

**SLIDE** → Memory Verse

**WORSHIP LEADER and KIDS:** (WITH A "RIDE ANNOUNCER" VOICE)

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

*It is much better to choose understanding than silver. —Proverbs 16:16*

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Worship with music is a way of giving our hearts and voices to God—and it's also a way of saying, 'God, I need You and Your wisdom.'

"God also gave us the Bible to help us learn His wisdom! So as we move into our true story from the Bible today, let's open our hearts to God's wisdom!"

## ③ Bible Story (Communicator Script)

SLIDE → Theme Background

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

### INTRODUCTION

→ **Set out the box of props, so they are available to the Communicator.**

**COMMUNICATOR:** "All right, Wisdomland travelers—before we jump into the story of Solomon, I want to tell you about one of my most embarrassing theme park moments ever.

### TENSION

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Picture this: I'm at the entrance of the world's coolest amusement park. I've got a backpack, some money, and—most importantly—a mission to buy the perfect souvenir. I saw people everywhere with these massive, glittery, glow-in-the-dark hats. I mean, you could see them from a mile away.

"So, I ran straight to the first shop I could find. I was worried they'd sell out, so I grabbed the hat, paid a crazy amount of money, and wore it all day long.

"At first, I thought the hat was awesome. But after a couple of hours, my head started to sweat. The hat didn't fit quite right, and the glitter started flaking everywhere.

"By lunchtime, I realized almost everyone else had waited in line for the new, limited-edition plush, and that was the thing everyone wanted—not the hat. The one thing I wanted most became the thing I wanted to take off the most! **(GRIN, A LITTLE DRAMATIC.)**

"Ever had a moment like that? When you made a choice that felt right at the time, but later you realized it may not have been your best move? **(PAUSE FOR A FEW HONEST OR FUNNY RESPONSES.)**

"We all have moments we wish we could redo, or choices we wish we could 'trade in' for something better. But here's the good news:

"God actually wants us to ask for help, for guidance—for wisdom—before

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

we get stuck with a glittery regret on our heads. Sometimes we think we know what's best. Sometimes we just follow the crowd, or grab the first thing we see. But what if you had the chance to ask God for anything—not just at a theme park, but in life? What would you ask for? Money? Stuff? A lifetime Fast Pass? **(PAUSE FOR FUN ANSWERS.)**

"Today's true story from the Bible is about a guy who got that chance—Solomon. God offered him anything he wanted. What do you think he chose? Let's find out together.

"But before we get into Solomon's story, let me tell you about something amazing we're doing this year!

"We're going through the key stories in the Bible from cover to cover!

"Why? Well, part of the reason God gave us the Bible is so we can get to know Him! So as we go through the stories of the Bible this year, hopefully we'll learn about Him!"

## GOD'S BIG STORY OPENER (OPTIONAL)

"We're going to go through God's Big Story! **(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 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.

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"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. King David had a son named Solomon, and Solomon became king after David. And that's where we are in God's Big Story."

## TRUTH

"This week, we're moving right along in the Bible! King Solomon, whose story we're going to look at today, was the third king of Israel, of the nation made up of God's people.

"Before we jump into the drama, let's set the stage.

"When King David died, his son Solomon became king of Israel. Solomon was still young when he started to lead. He had HUGE shoes to fill, and everyone was watching to see if he'd be wise, or just another ruler with a crown.

"So imagine: new king, tons of responsibility, a dad who was a legend, and everyone looking at you, wondering, 'Will he mess up? Or will he follow God's ways?'

"Solomon was probably a little nervous, but he was suddenly responsible for a whole nation.

"Solomon knew he needed help. So he went to a special place called Gibeon and offered God a huge sacrifice.

"That night, Solomon fell asleep, maybe under the stars, maybe in a big tent—wondering, 'How am I going to do this? How will I lead people? How will I know what's right?'

"Then, in the dream, God appeared. Not in a spooky way, but in a real, close, honest way. And He said this:

→ **Open the Bible to 1 Kings 3:5 (NIV) and read.**

*"Ask for anything you want me to give you."*

"Let's pause and make a giant 'Wisdom Tree' up here on the whiteboard. As we go through Solomon's story, we'll write key ideas we learn about wisdom on the branches of our tree.

→ **On the whiteboard, draw a big tree with long, empty branches (like a tree in winter). You will be filling in five of them.**

"Great! Now back to the story. What could Solomon ask for? Let's brainstorm!



25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

- Take answers from the kids—money, power, revenge, strength, fame, a giant roller coaster, etc.

"Solomon could have asked for any of these—honestly, most of us probably would have picked something for ourselves. But Solomon surprised everyone. He might have remembered something his dad told him: 'You want to be a great king? Start by loving and following God.'"

"So, Solomon responded to God's question this way:

- Open the Bible to 1 Kings 3:7, 9 (NirV) and read.

*"Lord my God, you have now made me king. You have put me in the place of my father David. But I'm only a little child. I don't know how to carry out my duties. ... So 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."*

"Wisdom was Solomon's answer to God's question. Solomon didn't ask for stuff. He asked for help. For understanding. For wisdom.

"Now, what did God do? Did He roll His eyes? Get annoyed? Nope. God was thrilled. Let's read how He responded to Solomon's request for wisdom:

- Open the Bible to 1 Kings 3:11-14 (NirV) and read.

*"You have asked for wisdom ... Because that is what you asked for, I will give it to you. I will give you a wise and understanding heart. ... And that is not all. I will give you what you have not asked for. I will give you wealth and honor. ... Obey my laws and commands, just as your father David did. Then I will let you live a long time."*

"That's so awesome. Solomon wanted wisdom, and God was so very happy about it! God was so happy that Solomon wanted wisdom, that God blessed him with even more incredible things! Let's write that wise truth about wisdom on our 'Wisdom Tree!'

- Write "God loves it when you ask for wisdom." on an empty branch of the "Wisdom Tree."

"God really does love it when you ask for wisdom! It makes Him so happy! Now, let's continue with our story.

"Solomon woke up. He was stunned, and probably a little amazed. Let's see what choices Solomon faced next and how he used the new wisdom God gave Him.

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Word spread: the new king was wise. People were hopeful—but also watched closely.

"Here came one of his first big tests. Two women come to Solomon with a heartbreaking problem.

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

- **Solomon volunteer enters stage wearing crown and robe. Put sword prop behind him. The two female volunteers enter stage as well, one holding the swaddled baby doll, and stand before the Solomon volunteer.**

"Both women said they were the mother of the same baby. There were no birth certificates, no family photos, and no way for anyone else to know the truth. The whole palace was waiting, whispering: 'What will the new king do?'"

"Let's pause here. What would you do? Would you guess, flip a coin, make both women share custody, or give up and hope someone else solves it?"

- **Invite a few answers from the crowd.**

"Because Solomon had already received wisdom from God, he was able to come up with a plan to figure out who the true mother was."

"Solomon called for a sword."

- **Nod to the Solomon actor to encourage him to pick up the sword prop. Pause to let the crowd react—"Wait, WHAT?!"**

"Then Solomon said:

- **Open the Bible to 1 Kings 3:25 (NIRV) and read.**

*"Cut the living child in two. Give half to one woman and half to the other."*

"There might have been a few gasps, maybe a few horrified faces. That sounds wild, right?"

"But watch what happened next."

- **Encourage the female actors to silently act out what you're describing.**

"One woman yelled, 'NO! Please, don't hurt him. Give her the baby. Just let him live!'"

"The other woman shrugged and said: 'Fine by me.'"

"And Solomon? He didn't blink. He looked at both women and said ..."

- **Open the Bible to 1 Kings 3:27 (NIRV) and read.**

*"Give the living baby to the first woman. Don't kill him. She's his mother."*

"Solomon knew that a mother's love is so strong that she'll do anything to see her child unharmed. God helped Solomon make a wise choice, just like He had promised."

"But Solomon didn't keep that wisdom to himself. After Solomon's wise

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

decisions, word traveled fast. People start showing up from all over the kingdom, asking for his help and insight. He shared God's wisdom with the entire nation as he ruled. Solomon followed God and His ways, and the nation was blessed. The nation of God's people was more prosperous under Solomon than it ever was.

"That's another truth about wisdom. Wisdom helps you live well. As you follow God and His ways, you'll live wisely and well. Let's write that truth about wisdom on our 'Wisdom Tree.'"

- **Write "Wisdom helps you live wisely and well." on one of the empty branches of the "Wisdom Tree."**

**COMMUNICATOR:** "With God's wisdom, Solomon ruled over the nation well, but it didn't stop there. Even kings and queens from other nations heard about Solomon's wisdom. Some sent people to listen to him. The most famous visitor? The Queen of Sheba herself came—she was a powerful ruler from far away.

"She came with huge questions and gifts, ready to see Solomon's wisdom for herself. She asked him every question she had, and Solomon answered every one. The Queen was amazed—and she praised God for Solomon's wisdom.

"This is what she said:

**COMMUNICATOR (AS QUEEN OF SHEBA):**

- **Open the Bible to 1 Kings 10:9-10 (NirV) and read.**

*"May the Lord your God be praised. He takes great delight in you. He placed you on the throne of Israel. The Lord will love Israel for all time to come. That's why he has made you king. He knows that you will do what is fair and right."*

"God made Solomon so wise! And we get the benefit from some of this wisdom too! Some of Solomon's sayings, thoughts, and life lessons were written down and became a lot of the book of Proverbs. Let's read a few that still shape people's lives today. Here's one:

- **Open the Bible to Proverbs 15:1 (NirV) and read.**

*A gentle answer turns anger away.  
But mean words stir up anger.*

"And here's another:

- **Open the Bible to Proverbs 3:5-6 (NirV) and read.**

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart.  
Do not depend on your own understanding.  
In all your ways obey him.  
Then he will make your paths smooth and straight.*

"There are so many, but here's another:

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

→ **Open the Bible to Proverbs 3:5-6 (NirV) and read.**

*A friend loves at all times.*

*They are there to help when trouble comes.*

"We can still benefit from the wisdom God gave Solomon today! Let's add another branch to our decision tree: 'Share God's wisdom with others.'

→ **Write "Share God's wisdom with others." on an empty branch of the "Wisdom Tree."**

"If God shares His wisdom with you—through the Bible, through an impression on your heart through the Holy Spirit—share it!

"Solomon wasn't perfect. He made mistakes later on, and the entire nation suffered. But while Solomon followed God and His ways, the wisdom God gave him changed a nation, and even today, if we learn God's wisdom and follow it, it can change us too.

"So here's a challenge for you—turn and talk for thirty seconds with someone near you: Where do you need wisdom right now? Is there a situation or a relationship where you could use God's help?

→ **Allow a short time for sharing.**

"The best part? God's offer of wisdom isn't just for Solomon. It's for you, for me, for anyone willing to ask.

## APPLICATION

**COMMUNICATOR:** "So, what's the point of this whole story? Why does it matter that Solomon asked for wisdom, or that he got it?

"Here's the thing—Solomon's story isn't just about being smart, or making one good decision, or being a famous king. It's about knowing he didn't have all the answers. It's about asking God for help.

"The Bible says:

→ **Open the Bible to James 1:5 (NirV) and read.**

*If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone.*

"God promises that He will give you wisdom when you ask. Let's write that on our 'Wisdom Tree.'

→ **Write "God will give you wisdom when you ask." on the "Wisdom Tree."**

"Wisdom isn't about looking perfect on the outside. It's about trusting God enough to admit you need help, listening for His answer, and having the courage to act—even when it's hard.

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"Imagine if, before every big choice—before every regret, before every 'I wish I could redo that moment'—you paused, turned to God, and asked: 'God, what's the wise thing to do?'"

"Let's put that question on our 'Wisdom Tree,' because it's a key question we can always ask God any moment of the day when we need wisdom.

→ **Write: "Ask: God, what's the wise thing to do?" on an empty branch of the "Wisdom Tree."**

"What if you did that when you're with your friends? When you're with your family? When you're alone and you think no one sees? What if you turned to God and asked Him for help whenever you need it?"

"God's offer of wisdom is still open. It's not locked up in a palace or reserved for someone with a crown. It's for anyone—especially those who are willing to ask.

"Let's look at our 'Wisdom Tree.' We filled it up with wisdom we ourselves learned in the last little bit. Let's look at the five truths it shares:

"God loves it when you ask for wisdom.

"Wisdom helps you live wisely and well.

"God will give you wisdom when you ask.

"Share God's wisdom with others.

"Ask: 'God, what's the wise thing to do?'"

"What a beautiful, wise tree we've made together! Thank you so much for going through Solomon's story with me.

"As we wrap up, take a second to look at your life. Where do you need wisdom? Is it with your friends? Your future? A tough decision, or something you haven't told anyone about?"

"What would it look like to ask God for wisdom this week? He promises to give it—no glittery hat required.

## 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!"

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"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 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 3 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 psalms."

## LANDING

**COMMUNICATOR:** "So, after everything we've explored about Solomon and wisdom, what's our part?

"Solomon started out asking for help. He didn't pretend to have all the answers. He turned to God and said, 'I need You.' And God loved that!

"That's still true for us. We don't have to have it all figured out. In fact, the wisest people you'll ever meet are the ones who keep asking God for help, who pause before big decisions, who slow down enough to listen for His voice.

"This week, you're going to face moments that require wisdom—maybe at home, at school, with your friends, or even just inside your own thoughts. You might feel the pressure to figure it out on your own. But you have the same invitation Solomon did: Ask God for wisdom. Trust Him to answer. Listen for His leading. And don't be afraid to talk it out with people you trust too.

"Here's our Conversation Starter—you can chew on this question as you head to your Small Groups:

SLIDE → Conversation Starter

[CONVERSATION STARTER] "When do you need wisdom?"

SLIDE → Theme Background

25 MINUTES

# Story

10 MINUTES

# Worship

"And let that other question we talked about go with you this week. When you feel lost, confused, or just need help—pause, turn to God, and ask: 'God, what's the wise thing to do?'"

"He promises to listen. He promises to give you what you need."

"Let's talk to God about that right now."

## ③ Prayer

**COMMUNICATOR:** "God, thank You for loving us so much that You want to share Your wisdom with us because You want us to live wisely and well. Help us remember to ask You for wisdom—not just when we're desperate, but every day. Give us the humility to ask for help, hearts that listen, and courage to follow what You say. 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
- ☐ 3–4 confident volunteers (on-stage “escape” team)

**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.



## PLANNING

# Getting Ready: Worship

## What You Need

- ☐ Worship Leader(s)

## Music and Sound Effects

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

## Optional Videos

Available for purchase.

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

## 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
- ☐ Whiteboard and dry-erase markers for "Wisdom Tree" (You can also use posterboard and regular markers.)—on an easel or somehow visible to the audience
- ☐ Male Solomon volunteer
  - Crown
  - Robe
  - Sword prop (for Solomon and the baby decision)
- ☐ Two female volunteers for "two mothers" (Solomon and the baby decision)
- ☐ Baby doll (for Solomon and the baby decision)
- ☐ Box for props

## 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

## 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).
- Set up the whiteboard or posterboard for the "Wisdom Tree" so it will be visible to the audience throughout the Bible Story. (Consider using an easel, if needed.)
- Place all props in the box and make sure it's accessible to the three volunteers.

## 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.