



GETTING READY

1. Welcome/Opener

What You Need:

- Hosts
- Inner Tubes

2. Communicator Script

What You Need:

- Communicator
- Kid volunteers
- Bible Story Images

Large Group Visuals (downloadable from the website):

- Key Question Slide
- Story Cards (1-20)
 - Card 1a: Picture of the world
 - Card 1b: Picture of the world with oversized man and woman in it (caring for it)
 - Card 2a: Tree with fruit
 - Card 2b: Same tree with serpent wrapped around it
 - Card 3a: Same world as Card 1, but it is now fractured
 - Card 3b: In the fractures are words like “Selfishness/Violence/Pride/Hatred”
 - Card 4a: A single star
 - Card 4b: That single star now surrounded by many smaller stars

- Card 5a: Shackles with a chain between
- Card 5b: Shackles with a broken chain between
- Card 6a: Green traffic light
- Card 6b: Red traffic light
- Card 7a: A throne with all caps “GOD” on it
- Card 7b: A throne with lowercase “gods” on it
- Card 8a: A single star (same as 4a)
- Card 8b: A single star turned into a cross
- Card 9a: Rock tomb with stone sealed over entrance
- Card 9b: Rock tomb with open entrance and light flooding out
- Card 10a: Same world as Card 3a
- Card 10b: Same world as Card 1a

What You Do:

- Use the tape, book rings, or string to attach each set (A and B) together. Each set of cards should be taped together in a way that the ‘A’ image can fold down and reveal the ‘B’ image. (Example, Card 1A shows the world. Card 1B shows the man and woman in the world.)
- During the script, the communicator will need volunteers to hold up the story cards while he talks about them. The volunteers do not need to be preselected.

3. Worship

What You Need:

- We Are Royals
- Alive Again
- Never Gonna Stop Singing
- Through It All

Mapped Out

Bible Story: Mapped Out (Easter Story) • *The Bible*

Bottom Line: Jesus is alive!

Key Question: How do you celebrate Easter?

Memory Verse: “Wait for the LORD. Be strong and don’t lose hope. Wait for the LORD!”
Psalm 27:14, NIV

Life App: Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now

Basic Truth: I can trust God no matter what.

Story: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways

Engage kids’ hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

SFX: Play high-energy music as kids enter.

CG: Road Trip Slide

OPENER VIDEO

WORSHIP

SFX: “We Are Royals”

HOST

Opener

HOST 1: “Hey, everyone! We are so glad you’re here today.

HOST 2: “It’s Easter Sunday and we’re are excited to hang out with you on this special day

HOST 1: “Well it’s also the beginning of a brand new series.

HOST 2: “Say what?! Oh no you didn’t!

HOST 1: “Oh yes I did, and yes it is! A brand new series call Road Trip!

HOST 2: “All month long we’re going to talk about Road Trips?

HOST 1: “That’s right my little booger blossom. And more than just road trips, we’re going to talk about a new life app. Let’s take a look at the new life app.

HOST 2: “Patience: Waiting until later for what you want now

HOST 1 & 2: “Let’s say that together... Patience: Waiting until later for what you want now

HOST 2: “Well what does a road trip have to do with Patience?”

HOST 1: “Have you guys ever been on a road trip? I mean like a REAL road trip?”

HOST 2: “You mean like the kind of road trip where you’re so hungry, but you haven’t stopped for snacks in like FOREVER!”

HOST 1: “Exactly! Or the kind where you really have to pee, BUT the sign says “Next rest stop 200 miles.”

HOST 2: “That’s like every day for me....”

HOST 1: Or what about the road trip where your brother or sister turns up the radio and it’s that one song that no one likes... and then... they start to sing it like really loud and WILL NOT STOP!

HOST 2: “Wow... road trips sound pretty tough when we talk about it like that...”

HOST 1: “No no no! Road trips are AWESOME! They’re so much fun because they’re all different!”

HOST 2: “Really? How?”

HOST 1: “How about instead of tell you, how about I SHOW YOU! I think you know what time it is...”

HOST 1 & 2: “IT’S GAAAAAAME TIIIIIIIME!”

HOST 1: “For this game you will need to get into groups of at least 6! You’re going to have to decide what kind of road trip you would want your group to go on. We are going to throw up 2 completely different options on the screen and you’re going to walk, AS A GROUP, to which ever side of the room you would choose.”

HOST 2: “Sounds pretty easy right? Think again kimosabi! You know that on road trips you’re stuck in a small space with not a lot of room for you to stretch and you feel like everyone is on top of you. So here are some bicycle inner tubes! Your group has to all fit into 1 of these tubes and walk together. Good luck!”

Hosts go thru game. Make it fun and exciting as the kids try to walk as a team from side to side of the room looking funny doing it.

WORSHIP

WORSHIP LEADER: “What a special day to be together and worship Jesus as we sing praises Him this Easter Sunday! Jesus is alive and because He is alive we can experience life and freedom. C’mon, let’s get ready to sing and celebrate together.

SFX: “*Alive Again*”

WORSHIP LEADER: That was awesome! Let’s keep those voices singing! It’s time for us to rock out to our God who saves. This song is called ‘Never Gonna Stop Singing.’ Let’s lift up God’s praises in this place. C’mon, rock it out.”

SFX: “*Never Gonna Stop Singing*”

Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.

COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT

INTRODUCTION

COMMUNICATOR: “Hey, everyone! Happy Easter! I’m so excited. And I’m so glad you’re here to celebrate together. And for those of you who are here for the very first time—welcome! We’re SO glad you made it! Now, when we say it is Easter, most of us know WHY we celebrate. We know that today is not about bunnies or eggs or even Peeps! No, on Easter, we celebrate Jesus and the fact that He rose again from the dead!”

TENSION

COMMUNICATOR: “But have you ever wondered WHY? I mean, WHY did Jesus have to come back to life . . . and does it even matter?”

TRUTH

COMMUNICATOR: “Now, if you’ve been around [name of environment] for a while, you know that each week, we take a look at A Bible STORY. But this week, we’re doing something crazy: to answer that question, why does it matter, not by just telling A Bible STORY . . . instead, we’re going to take a little road trip thru the bible. Now it’s not the kind of road trip where we have to get in a car and get uncomfortable after driving for hours. This is gonna be a good one! We will be looking at the STORY of the BIBLE! Okay, so before you get too nervous, we’re not covering every single book or person, but the Bible tells one big story, and I’d love for you to understand what that means. This might be insane . . . I’m up for the challenge but also will need some help!”

Communicator chooses volunteers to help him or her hold the cards that will be used to tell the story.

“Here we go!”

“In the beginning, God made a magnificent world (*Card 1a*) filled with beautiful creation—land, sky, and sea . . . plants and trees . . . birds, fish, and land animals. Then God created man and woman and put them into His perfect world (*Card 1b*) to be in charge of and care for it all!”

“Everything was, well, perfect. God walked and talked with His precious creations. He set them free into

his perfect world with one condition: don't eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (*Card 2a*). ALL OF THIS (*motioning around*) is yours, but this ONE TREE (*pointing to the card*) is not. Obey Me about the tree or you will certainly die."

"Sadly, they were tempted (*Card 2b folded down*) to go against God's instructions for them, and the perfect world was shattered (*Card 3a*) along with their relationship with each other, creation, and even their relationship with God."

"And the sin that was introduced into the world spread from generation to generation. (*Card 3b folded down*) Selfishness. Violence. Pride. Hatred."

"This was not God's plan for his creation . . . or his people."

"But God wasn't done yet. Not at all. Many years after the sadness in the Garden, God chose a man named Abraham. (*Card 4a*) And God asked Abraham to leave EVERYTHING behind . . . but He made him an incredible promise in return. God said, 'I'm going to make you into a great nation . . . a nation so big that your descendants will be as numerous as the stars in the sky! (*Card 4b folded down*). And I'm going to bless you and your family, and through you, I'm going to bless the whole world.' (*Point to Card 1 – the world card*)."

"After lots of waiting, God's promise to Abraham began to happen! Abraham had a son named Isaac who had a son named Jacob . . . whose name became Israel, yes, like the 'nation of Israel.' And Jacob, or Israel, had twelve sons. And pretty soon that family with twelve sons grew to a large family and moved to Egypt because of a bad famine. Which means there wasn't food available for everyone to eat. And during the few hundred years that this family lived in Egypt, they grew, well, as numerous as stars in the sky (*point to Card 4b*). But this made the king of Egypt scared, so he made the people his slaves. (*Card 5a*)."

"But God wasn't done yet. Not at all. Instead, He sent a deliver named Moses to rescue his people—who we now call the Israelites—and bring them out of Egypt! (*Card 5b folded down*)."

"Once they left Egypt, Moses led them to Mount Sinai, where God would teach them what it means to be His people . . . his people that would bless the whole world . . . (*Point to Card 1*), just like God had promised to Abraham so long ago. (*Point to Card 4*)."

"After Mount Sinai, the next stop was supposed to be the Promised Land . . . (*Card 6a*), but the people refused to trust God (*Card 6b folded down*) and ended up wandering in the desert for 40 years."

"The next generation got it right, though, and they trusted God and moved into the Promised Land. And I would like to say that once they were in the Promised Land, they lived happily ever after and worshipped God. (*Card 7a*) There were definitely times like this (*pointing to Card*). But sadly, there were just as many times, if not more times, like this (*Card 7b folded down*). The people replaced the one true God with human kings . . . with foreign gods . . . even with their own wants and desires. And the world continued to break. (*Points to Card 3b*)"

"But guess what? God wasn't done yet. Not at all. See, God still remembered all of His promises. And He still wanted to bless the whole world. And God knew the world couldn't rescue itself . . . it was too broken. This time, God sent another star. (*Card 8a*) This star appeared in the sky and settled above a

little town called Bethlehem, where Jesus was born. God had sent His very own Son into the world as a baby. And THIS baby was at the center of God's rescue plan for the world."

"As He grew, He taught the people how to love God and love one another. He spoke of peace, REAL peace. He healed the sick and befriended the outcasts. And throughout His life, He showed us what God is like. And through His death He showed us just how much God loved us. *(Card 8b folded down)* He showed us just how much God loves this broken world *(pointing to Card 3b)* and how He was willing to take all of the sin . . . all of the brokenness . . . and pay for it so that it could be healed . . . so WE could be healed."

"But why would God do this? Why would God let Jesus die? Here's why: *(Read from John 3:16a, NIV)* 'God so LOVED the world that he gave his one and only Son...' *(Emphasis ours.)* Jesus died for you and for me because of LOVE."

"But here is where we need to stop. If Jesus is dead, doesn't death win *(pointing to Card 8b)*? Doesn't sin win *(Pointing to Card 3b)*? Doesn't the enemy win *(pointing to Card 2b)*? And we have to wonder if all of that was for nothing."

"But here's where Easter comes in."

"God wasn't done yet. Not at all. Three days later, some of Jesus' closest followers went to the tomb where He was buried. *(Card 9a)* They were there to say goodbye and to make sure His body was properly prepared for burial. But what they found changed everything . . . or maybe, I should say, what they DIDN'T find changed everything. *(Card 9b)* There was no body . . . there was no death . . . only life . . . NEW life, as Jesus had risen from the dead just like He promised he would!"

"And why does it matter? Because if Jesus rose from the dead, then death doesn't win *(pointing to Card 8b)*! And sin doesn't win *(Pointing to Card 3b)*! And the enemy doesn't win *(pointing to Card 2b)*!"

"Through Jesus, God is taking this broken world *(Card 10a)* and is making it whole again *(Card 10b)*!"

"So . . . does it matter that Jesus rose again? Absolutely!"

APPLICATION

COMMUNICATOR: "And that's the thing about Easter. It is not just a once-a-year celebration . . . just a date on a calendar. Easter is an event we can celebrate all of the time because this is a BIG DEAL! Jesus is alive, and because of that, we have hope for every single day!"

"Let me finish that verse I started reading before . . . *(Read from John 3:16, NIV)* 'God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life!' What an amazing promise, right?! Jesus' resurrection from the dead is DEFINITELY a reason to celebrate!"

LANDING

COMMUNICATOR: "As you head to small groups, think about this:"

CG: Key Question Slide

“How do you celebrate Easter? For some of you, this might be the first time the amazing story of Jesus made sense to you. And if that’s you, you might celebrate Easter this year by trusting Jesus as your Savior for the first time! For the rest of you who have put your faith in Jesus, you can celebrate with a bigger idea of the hope and life we have because of Jesus! Think about it: how will *YOU* celebrate Easter, knowing that Jesus is alive? Let’s pray.”

Communicator leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard. After prayer, Communicator dismisses kids to Small Group.

SFX: *Play high-energy music as the kids exit.*

WRAP UP

WORSHIP

WORSHIP LEADER: Let’s celebrate this Easter what Jesus came to do for us. Let’s celebrate by singing as loud as we can and thanking Him for everything.

SFX: *“Through It All”*

DISMISS BACK TO AREAS

Hosts come back out to dismiss.

HOST 1: “We’ve had so much fun hanging out with you today!”

HOST 2: “Right now you’re gonna head back to your group space where your leaders have some goodies for you to snack on while we hangout for your parents to get you.

HOST 1: “See you all next weekend!”