



## GETTING READY

### 1. Welcome/Opener

#### What You Need:

- Host
- Safety goggles
- Bike helmet
- Padding such as catcher's gear, hockey/football pads
- Tall ladder
- Step ladder
- Inflatable mattress with an X marked in the middle
- One baby doll per Small Group
- Prize for winning Small Group

#### *Music and Sound Effects (SFX):*

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter the room
- Upbeat music to use during the game

#### *Large Group Visuals:*

- AMPED Theme Slide
- Base-jumping video (See "What You Do" below)

#### What You Do:

- Find a short, age-appropriate video of someone base-jumping to show during large group.

## **2. Communicator Script**

### **What You Need:**

- Communicator
- Host
- Bible
- “Fireproof” Suit (can be same as Opener)
  - Safety goggles
  - Painters suit
- Three kid volunteers
- Three nametags
- Large furniture/refrigerator box
- Cup of confetti

### *Music and Sound Effects (SFX):*

- Upbeat music to use as kids exit the room

### *Large Group Visuals (downloadable from the website):*

- Key Question Slide

### **What You Do:**

- Place the large box off stage to be dragged in during the story. The box should be cut in such a way for the three kids to step inside box and still be seen by the crowd. To do this, cut out the largest surface of the box. At the top of the box, write the word “FURNACE” large enough for the audience to be able to read it.
- To dress Host in a “Fireproof” suit, he/she needs to wear the same attire from the base-jumping incident. Wrap the host in aluminum foil completely covering his or her body, leaving only the face uncovered.
- Create nametags for each of the volunteers. Nametags should read, “Shadrach,” “Meshach,” and “Abednego” respectively.

## **3. Worship**

### **We Are Royals Through It All**

# These Guys Aren't on Fire

**Bible Story:** These Guys Aren't on Fire (Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego) • *Daniel 3*

**Key Question:** What does it mean to trust God?

**Bottom Line:** Trust that God is always with you.

**Memory Verse:** "Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." Philippians 1:6, NIV

**Life App:** Confidence—Living like you believe what God says is true

**Basic Truth:** I can trust God no matter what.

## **Story: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 35 minutes)**

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:** AMPED Theme Slide

*Host enters.*

### **Welcome**

*Host has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to [Name of Environment]. Host is relatable and inviting. Host wears his or her favorite summer sportswear; such as, board shorts, tank top, or a theme appropriate t-shirt of their favorite extreme sport. Host discusses recent events: National Ice Cream Month, Independence Day, Wimbledon Championships, Tour de France, summer vacation, movie opening (Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation, Teen Titans Go To The Movies, etc.), 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:** "What is UP party people!? I've gotta tell you I am JAZZED! I am PUMPED! I am positively AMPED UP! All summer long we've taken things to the extreme. Now it is time to take the extreme to the EVEN MORE EXTREME! (*Encourage crowd to erupt*) Check this out, I got lost on YouTube® last night, and I discovered the wild world of EXTREME SPORTS!"

*Host runs around the stage for emphasis.*

"Backflips! Parkour! BMX! Base-jumping! Oh, man, don't get me started on *base-jumping!* You go to the top of the tallest structure you can find . . . and then you JUMP OFF! It's crazy! Does anybody want to see an example? Check this out!"

**CG:** Base Jumping Video

"Crazy, right?! There was some dude a few years back who jumped . . . FROM SPACE. I know; it's wild! I watched the video and thought to myself, "[Name of Host], you've got to get in on that action."

You've got to bring the magic of base jumping to *[Name of Environment]*." So today, I proudly present the *[Name of Host]* Base Jumping Extravaganza . . . starring me, *[Name of Host]!*"

*Host pulls a tall ladder and a mattress onstage. Host gears up with safety goggles, helmet, and padding.*

"Watch and be amazed as I base jump an astonishing . . . (*sizes up the ladder*) . . . roughly six feet onto this mattress!"

*Host climbs the ladder, building up hype as they ascend until they reach the top and prepare for their jump, only to be interrupted by . . .*

**Communicator:** "Whoa, whoa whoa. HOLD up! *[Name of Host]*, you can NOT jump off of that ladder. Our insurance doesn't cover intentional recklessness."

**HOST:** "Oh, COME ON! I already got all the way up here, these people are expecting a show!"

**Communicator:** "You can still jump . . . it just has to be safer."

*Worship Leader pulls out step stool.*

**HOST:** "Uuuugh . . . well, it's better than nothing I guess . . ."

*Host and Worship Leader set up the stage for a much smaller jump. HOST builds up the hype once more, until . . .*

**Communicator:** "Actually, scratch that. It would be difficult, but I'm pretty sure *you* could still manage to hurt yourself on this thing."

**HOST:** "WHAT?!"

**Communicator:** "Tell you what. Let's try this . . ."

*Communicator sets Host down on the edge of the mattress. The two of them count down from five, Worship Leader enthusiastically, Host not so much. At the end, Worship Leader gently pushes Host backwards onto the mattress and walks offstage, self-satisfied.*

**HOST:** ". . . Well. That was . . . somewhat anticlimactic. No base-jumping for me, but do you guys mind if I liven things up with a game? I call this one Base Babies. SOMEBODY'S got to fly around here, and if it can't be me . . . it's gonna be baby dolls."

"Each small group gets their very own baby doll. Out of your entire small group, pick FOUR representatives—preferably ones with good arms. All four of you are going to stand behind the line in the middle of the room and each will grab one of the baby doll's limbs. Working together, ALL FOUR

team members chuck their baby doll at the mattress we've got here onstage. Whichever small group gets their baby doll closest to the EXACT CENTER of the mattress wins a fantastic prize not only for themselves . . . but for their WHOLE SMALL GROUP! So be sure to pick your baby-chuckers wisely! Everyone understand? Alright, let's get to Base Jumpin' Babies!"

**SFX: High-energy game music**

*Host makes sure all understand the game. Host allows groups to toss their baby dolls one group at a time. Baby chaos ensues.*

"Wow! I haven't seen that many flying babies since I brought my industrial fan to the maternity ward! Congratulations to our winners, and my condolences to those who just barely missed it. I'm going to hop backstage and keep deep-diving YouTube for extreme sports . . . what do you guys think about motocross?"

*Host exits and Worship Leader enters.*

**Worship**

*We Are Royals*

*We Are Royals*

*Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit.*

## COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT

### INTRODUCTION

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Hey everybody! What a good-looking crowd we got today! Everybody looks like you slept really well last night! And I am happy to report: I did too! I slept like a baby.”

*Communicator shares an age-appropriate story about a time he or she felt alone and scared.*

“However, that was not always the case with me. When I was younger, I had a set of bunk beds. Anybody want to guess which bunk I claimed—the top or the bottom? (*Allow response*) That’s right! I slept in the top bunk or “the bed in the sky,” as I liked to call it! When my bedtime would come, I would snuggle deep into my covers and try my best to fall asleep, but more often than not, I would struggle to do just that. The only light in the room was my Buzz Lightyear night-light. Shadows in the night would grow and seemed to *move* from time to time. Noises in the night seemed extra spooky on the top bunk. I felt terrified and ALONE. But you wanna know the crazy thing? I was actually never ALONE. My brother would often interrupt most nights with his ear-splitting snores . . . from the bottom bunk. But that didn’t matter. I had some pretty miserable, LONELY-feeling nights.”

### TENSION

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Has anybody else had an experience where you felt alone . . . even though you weren’t? Maybe it wasn’t because of a quiet, dark room, but I’m sure most of you have felt alone even though you were around people. When you walk into a new school, you are surrounded by people, but it’s pretty easy to feel alone if you don’t know anybody. Maybe you have a chance to win the basketball game at the buzzer, but you miss the shot. There may be a crowd of people all around you and your teammates on the court with you, but you still feel like you’re all alone. Maybe your friend is passing out invitations to his or her birthday party. All of your OTHER buddies got one, but you were looked over. You feel *all alone*.”

“You’ve probably heard people say, ‘God is with you.’ But if this statement is true, why do we experience times in life when we *feel* alone? Why is it hard to see God’s face, hear His voice, or feel His presence when we feel alone and scared?”

“There were three guys in the Old Testament who knew all too well what it felt like to be surrounded by people and still feel alone. In fact, they had EVERY REASON to feel alone and scared and everything to lose. However, they never acted alone or scared. Let’s check out their story today.”

### TRUTH

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Their story comes to us hot and ready from the book of Daniel and starts us off on the plain of Dura, which was in a place called Babylon. This land was under the rule of King Nebuchadnezzar. We’ll call him King Neb for short. Well, King Neb was feared throughout the world. If he decided to invade another country, victory was a sure thing. Nobody messed with King Neb.”

“One day, the supreme leader decided to build a HUGE golden statue on the plain of Dura. We are talking about a statue as tall as a nine-story building made of solid gold. SOLID GOLD. Talk about extreme! King Neb wanted the entire empire to unite by worshipping his golden statue. Shortly after the statue was complete, Neb called every government official—governors, judges, advisors, treasurers,

you name it—down to his big ol’ statue to officially dedicate it. This included our three main characters. Maybe you’re familiar with their names—Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Could I get three volunteers to represent our main characters?”

*Host selects three kids and brings them to the stage. Host gives each volunteer a nametag with “Shadrach,” “Meshach,” or “Abednego” written on it.*

“Say hi, Shadrach (*prompt Kid 1 to wave*). Introduce yourself to the nice people, Meshach (*prompt Kid 2 to respond*). Abednego, say your name five times fast (*prompt Kid 3 to respond*). Excellent! Now, when the King had all these powerful people present, he declared that every time music was played, EVERYONE in attendance should bow down and worship his golden statue! Everyone including our three friends: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. The problem for these three was that they ONLY worshipped the one true God. They knew it wasn’t right to worship anything or anyone other than God, even if it was a 90-foot statue made of solid gold. However, these three faced another problem: King Neb also made a decree that anyone who did not bow down to the statue would be thrown ALIVE into a fiery, hot furnace!”

*Communicator drags out a big cardboard box with “FURNACE” written on it.*

“That’s pretty intense. There were two options: bow down to a big gold statue . . . or be burned alive. When the music played, unsurprisingly, pretty much everyone opted to worship Neb’s big, gold idol. There were, however, three notable exceptions (*referencing the three volunteers*). Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to worship the statue, and King Neb was not pleased.”

“He called for the guys so he could chew them out. Check this out. The Bible says it went down like this (*Open Bible and read Daniel 3:13-15*), ‘Nebuchadnezzar was very angry. He sent for Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. So they were brought to him. The king said to them, “Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, is what I heard about you true? Don’t you serve my gods? Don’t you worship the gold statue I set up? You will hear the horns, flutes, zithers, lyres, harps, pipes and other musical instruments. When you do, fall down and worship the statue I made. If you will, that’s very good. But if you won’t, you will be thrown at once into a blazing furnace. Then what god will be able to save you from my power? (NirV).”’”

“The king clearly liked Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego enough to give them another chance to redeem themselves. Regardless, the king was wasting his breath. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego responded to the king with a confident defiance. (*Open Bible and read Daniel 3:16-18*) ‘Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to him. They said, “King Nebuchadnezzar, we don’t need to talk about this anymore. We might be thrown into the blazing furnace. But the God we serve is able to bring us out of it alive. He will save us from your power. But we want you to know this, Your Majesty. Even if we knew that our God wouldn’t save us, we still wouldn’t serve your gods. We wouldn’t worship the gold statue you set up.”’”

“King Nebuchadnezzar was, uh . . . not pleased. In fact, he was SO not pleased that he ordered his guards to tie up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and throw them in the furnace ASAP . . . and on top of that, he ordered that the furnace be fired up to SEVEN TIMES hotter than it was normally. Now, I don’t know how often any of you stand by furnaces or fireplaces, but they’re pretty hot. Turning an



industrial furnace up to be SEVEN TIMES HOTTER is absolute crazy talk. In fact, it was SO hot that the guards that threw Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego into the furnace straight up DIED from getting too close to the flames. So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed—"

**HOST:** *[rushing onstage]* "HOLD EVERYTHING!"

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Aw, come on *[HOST's name]*, I was just getting to the best part!"

**HOST:** "EXACTLY! This part is EXTREME! And I want to do this section of the story justice!"

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Oh boy . . . what exactly did you have in mind?"

**HOST:** "I want the audience to really EXPERIENCE what this furnace must have been like. I am wearing a special fireproof suit designed to withstand the heat of a fiery furnace turned up SEVEN TIMES HOTTER than normal! I want to—right here and right now—light this box on FIRE with me inside. Step aside kiddies."

*Host hops into the box and puts on his goggles.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** "*[Name of Host]*, I . . . I can't believe I actually have to say these words, but . . . you absolutely cannot light the box on fire."

**HOST:** "Oh, COME ON! This is a chance to get AMPED! EXTREME! AND add some IMPACT to this story!"

*Communicator convinces Host real fire is not the best visual. Communicator offers confetti as a fire substitute and continues with the story. Host is unenthused.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** "So King Neb had his men crank up the furnace to SEVEN TIMES its normal strength, and into the raging tongues of flame and scalding, blistering heat fell our three heroes."

*Communicator throws a fistful of confetti at host.*

**HOST:** *(sighs)* "Man . . . talk about anticlimactic. You people never let me have any fun."

*Host exits.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** "So King Neb watched as the three guys were thrown into the furnace . . . but he was in for a big surprise. As he looked into the furnace, he saw not three—but FOUR figures standing in the flames! And they were all unharmed! God had saved them! Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego were in the furnace with a fourth person who was radiant and glowing. When he saw this, Nebuchadnezzar called Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego out of the furnace."

*Communicator directs Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego out of the furnace.*

“The three guys came out absolutely fine! Not even their clothes were burned. Neb was so shocked by this turn of events that he fell to his knees and praised God—the God who had been with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego throughout the whole fiery ordeal. Thanks for helping, you three, you can go take a seat.”

*Communicator dismisses the three volunteers.*

### **APPLICATION**

**COMMUNICATOR:** “While the rest of the leaders in Babylon bowed down, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego stood alone in opposition to the orders. Even when faced with the prospect of a death sentence, the three refused to give into the King’s orders. Why? When nobody likes to stand alone and afraid, what would compel a person to act in such a way? It’s simple. They trusted that God was with them, even in the most difficult decision of their lives.”

“I doubt you will have to defy any ruthless, Babylonian kings in your life, but you will face scary situations. Telling your friends that you’re not allowed to watch a certain movie or play a certain game is scary. Starting a friendship with someone you don’t know can be unnerving. Playing a new instrument at your first concert can be terrifying.”

“Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego demonstrated that even in the face of fear you can still make wise choices. God is with you just like He was with our three brave characters. When you need to stand up for what’s right, even when no one else is, take a deep breath then take the plunge because you are not alone. This kind of action requires trust.”

### **LANDING**

**COMMUNICATOR:** “As you head to Small Group, try to wrestle with this question:”

**CG: Key Question Slide**

“**What does it mean to trust God?** What does it look like to trust God when you’re standing alone? What does it look like to trust God when you’re scared? What does it look like to trust God when you’re starting something new? I bet each of you can think of awesome ways to trust God in all situations. Let’s pray.”

*Communicator leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard then dismisses them to small group.*

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