



GETTING READY

1. Opener/Closer

What You Need:

- Host
- One boy volunteer
- His Small Group Leader (male)
- Table
- Chair
- Disposable poncho (adult-size)
- Plastic bin with the following items:
 - Comb
 - Box of cereal
 - Bowl
 - Spoon
 - Small container of milk
 - Banana
 - Small bucket (for the Leader to spit in)
 - New toothbrush
 - Toothpaste
 - Bottle of water (break the seal but leave the cap on)
 - Towel
 - Wet wipes

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room
- “Get Ready (Orchestral Mix)” by 2 Unlimited

Large Group Visuals (downloadable from the website):

- AMPED Theme Slide
- Confidence Slide
- Bottom Line Slide

What You Do:

- Cue “Get Ready” to start at 0:27. You can adjust the start time in iTunes this way: control-click on the song, then choose Song Info, then Options, then set the start time.
- Spread out the drop cloth on stage and set the table on top of it. Place the chair behind the table.

2. Bible Story

What You Need:

- Storyteller
- Bible
- Two boys
- Their Small Group Leader (pre-selected, if possible) OR you could use the Host
- Two chairs (or bean bags, video game chairs, etc.)
- Two fake beards

Large Group Visuals (downloadable from the website):

- Bottom Line Slide

What You Do:

- Show the script to the Leader beforehand (if possible) so he has some ideas of how to pose the kids during the story.
- Place the chair on stage (out of the way) or backstage where it is quickly accessible for the Storyteller.

3. Worship

What You Need:

- Worship Leader(s)

You’ve Got a Friend in Me

Bible Story: You've Got a Friend in Me (Philip and Nathanael) • *John 1:43-51*

Bottom Line: Find friends who help you trust Jesus.

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 should treat others the way I want to be treated.

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 is on stage, welcoming the kids as they enter.

Opener

HOST: "It's another great day here at [your environment's name], and I'm AMPED to be with you again! We're talking about what it means to have confidence and live fully alive. What is confidence?"

CG: Confidence Slide

"Confidence is living like you believe what God says is true. Let's say that together."

HOST and KIDS: "Confidence is living like you believe what God says is true."

HOST: "I know I feel really confident when I start the day off right. All of us have things that we're used to doing first thing in the morning. If I skip something or do it out of order, I feel like my whole day is off. What are some things you always do to start your day?"

Call on a few volunteers to share about their morning routines.

"Wow—I do those same things! I wonder if we do them the same way. Let's find out! Let me get one of you and your Small Group Leader up here on stage.

Choose a boy and his Small Group Leader. (Make sure the kid and Leader are both male.)

(To audience) "I'll tell all of you about my morning routine, and while I do that *(to volunteers)* you two will act out what I say. For example, if I say the first thing I do when I wake up is stretch, how would you act that out?"

Stretch along with the two volunteers.

“Perfect! But I think we need to make this more extreme. Instead of you both acting out the same thing, how about you work together?”

“[Leader’s name], you’ll need one of these.

Hand him the poncho.

“You’ll sit here, behind this table.

Position the Leader behind the table so he’s sitting in the chair facing the crowd.

“[Kid’s name], you’ll stand behind him.

Have the kid stand behind the Leader.

“[Leader’s name], you have the easy job. All you have to do is react with your face to what I say. [Kid’s name], you’ll be his arms. Sound good?”

(To audience) “Ladies and gentlemen, I present to you my morning routine, reenacted by [Leader’s name] and [kid’s name].

Allow the volunteers to react to each step. Be ready to coach or help them if needed.

“After a long night of sleeping, the first thing I do is stretch really big! I reach up to the ceiling . . . and then down to the floor. And sometimes I yaaaawn.

“To get myself amped for the day, I put on one of my favorite songs and have a quick morning dance.

SFX: “Get Ready (Orchestral Mix)” by 2 Unlimited (starting at 0:27)

“Dancing in the morning is always fun! Check out those moves!

“Of course, I wake up with bed head, so I find my favorite comb and comb my hair. *(Hand the comb to the kid volunteer.)* There’s this one spot that always sticks up in the back. I make sure to comb that part really well. And I always brush the front a few extra times. Now we’re looking good. Two thumbs up!

“They say breakfast is the most important meal of the day, and I never skip it! My favorite breakfast is cereal. *(Set out the bowl, cereal, milk, and spoon on the table.)* First, the cereal goes in the bowl. Then I add the milk. Let me do that part for you. *(Pour the milk in yourself.)*

(To volunteers) “That looks good. Why don’t you take a few bites?”

“Fresh fruit is also a good breakfast, and I love a banana in the morning. *(Hand the banana to the kid volunteer.)* Of course, first I have to peel the banana. *(Pause.)* Then I take a giant bite!

“The last thing I do is brush my teeth. It’s good to start the day with fresh breath. *(Hand the toothpaste*

and toothbrush to the kid volunteer.)

“First, I have to put toothpaste on my toothbrush. And then I brush my teeth—being sure to go up and down and back and forth. We want those teeth to be good and clean. It’s important to spit after you brush your teeth, too. *(Hold up the bucket so the Leader can spit.)* And we have to rinse after we brush. Here’s a bottle so you can rinse. *(Hand the water bottle to the kid volunteer. Be ready to hold up the bucket again for the Leader.)*

“That’s a great start, [Leader’s name] and [kid’s name]. I think you’re ready to a ‘fully alive’ kind of day. *(To audience)* Let’s give them a hand!

Give towel and wet wipes to the volunteers so they can clean up. Dismiss them to their seats.

“Something else that helps me get ready for the day and fills me with confidence is singing praises to God. Let’s stand up and sing together!”

Worship Leaders enter. Host puts the game items back into the bin, moves the table to the side, and exits.

Worship

Every Beat

Sons And Daughters

Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “It was fun to watch [kid volunteer’s name from Opener] be the arms for [Leader’s name from Opener] earlier. [Kid volunteer’s name] was trying to be a good friend and help [Leader’s name] start his day off right.

“Choosing our friends is important. Our friends influence what we do, what we say, and what we like. Have you ever tried something new because a friend said it was fun? Maybe you went down a big slide because your friend did it first. Maybe a friend played a song for you, and now it’s your favorite song to sing. Friends can also encourage you to follow God and live fully alive.

“Sometimes, though, friends can keep us from living fully alive. Sometimes friends make unwise choices or encourage us to do things we know we shouldn’t do.”

JOE AND WILL: NEGATIVE EXAMPLE

STORYTELLER: “To show you what I mean, I need two boys from the same group and your Small Group Leader to help me on stage.

Choose two boys and their Leader to come up on stage. Set up the two chairs center stage, side by side, facing the

audience.

NOTE: Move quickly through the story. Let the Leader pose the boys, but don't feel like you need to pause and look at them each time.

(To Leader) “[Leader’s name], I’ve made up a story about two friends. You get to use puppets to tell it. Your puppets are right here. *(Point to the two boys.)* As I tell the story, you’ll pose the two of them to illustrate what’s happening. You can move their arms, make them smile, or even move them around on stage.

(To boys) “[Boys’ names], once [Leader’s name] poses you, you can’t move a muscle. You have to act like a statue and freeze in place until [Leader’s name] moves you again. Okay? Let me get you in place really quick.

Have one of the boys sit in one of the chairs, facing the crowd. Instruct the other boy to stand over to the side.

(To audience) “We’ll call these two friends Joe and Will. Joe recently got a new video game and was really excited about playing it.

Leader poses “Joe” like he’s playing a video game, smiling.

(Look at the volunteers) “Even more excited.

Leader poses “Joe” more dramatically.

“Joe didn’t want to keep the good news to himself. He invited his friend Will over to his house.

Leader moves “Will” over toward “Joe” and sits him in the other chair.

“Will had brought a video game from his house, too. But he didn’t know Joe’s mom had told Joe that he wasn’t allowed to play this particular game. When Will told Joe about the game and asked him if he wanted to play, Joe got sad.

Leader poses “Joe” with his head down, looking sad.

“Will asked Joe why he was sad, and Joe said he wasn’t allowed to play Will’s game. ‘But it’s so much fun!’ Will said. ‘We should play anyway.’

Leader poses “Will” by moving his arms.

“Joe didn’t want to upset his friend, and the game did look fun. So Joe agreed to play.

Leader poses both boys like they’re playing the game.

“While they were playing, Joe wasn’t having much fun because he knew what they were doing was wrong. Joe’s mom brought them warm cookies, but when she saw what video game they were playing, she became very upset. They couldn’t have any of the cookies because they disobeyed. They wished they had made a different choice.

Leader poses both boys with their heads hung low.

“Oh, no! That’s not a happy ending at all. It can be hard to **[Basic Truth] make the wise choice** when your friends are encouraging you to do the wrong thing.

(To the boys) “Hang tight, though, because things are about to get better for you two.”

PHILIP AND NATHANAEL

STORYTELLER: “Let’s look at a story in the Bible (*hold up Bible*) where someone helped a friend make a wise choice.

Give the fake beards to the boys.

(To the boys) “Go ahead and stand up for me. This time, [first boy’s name], you get to be Philip, and [second boy’s name], you’ll be Nathanael.

“Philip and Nathanael were in town when people were first starting to follow Jesus. They were deciding to be Jesus’ friends—His disciples. Philip had HEARD . . .

Leader poses “Philip” by putting his hand to his ear.

“. . . about Jesus, so when Jesus said, ‘Follow me,’ I’m sure Philip was excited to come along.

Leader poses “Philip” with both hands raised.

“Philip was so excited that he couldn’t keep the news to himself. He quickly found his friend Nathanael.

Leader brings the two boys close together.

“Philip told Nathanael that Jesus was the Savior they had been waiting for! But Nathanael didn’t believe him at first.

Leader poses “Nathanael” with his arms crossed.

“Philip was a good friend, though, so he wasn’t going to let Nathanael miss out. He said . . .

Open the Bible to John 1:46 and read.

“Come and see (NirV).

Leader poses “Philip” with his hand beckoning, like “come here.”

“Nathanael decided to go with Philip, even though he still wasn’t sure that Jesus was the Son of God. When Nathanael and Philip caught up to Jesus, Jesus told Nathanael that he had seen him sitting under the fig tree before Philip even found him. Nathanael was shocked!

Leader poses “Nathanael” with his hands on his cheeks and an open mouth.

“Now Nathanael understood just like Philip did—Jesus was the Savior they had been waiting for!”

JOE AND WILL: POSITIVE EXAMPLE

STORYTELLER: “All right. Let’s go back to Joe and Will and see if they can make a better choice this time around.

Collect the fake beards from the two boys. Have “Joe” sit in the chair again, and have “Will” stand to the side.

“As you know, Joe recently got a new video game and was really excited about playing it.

Leader poses “Joe” like he’s playing a video game, smiling.

“Joe didn’t want to keep the good news to himself. He invited his friend Will over to his house.

Leader moves “Will” over toward “Joe” and sits him in the other chair.

“Will had brought a video game from his house, too. But he didn’t know Joe’s mom had told Joe that he wasn’t allowed to play this particular game. When Will told Joe about the game and asked him if he wanted to play, Joe got sad.

Leader poses “Joe” with his head down, looking sad.

“Will asked Joe why he was sad. Joe told Will he wasn’t allowed to play Will’s game. Will was disappointed, but he knew it was the wise choice to obey Joe’s parents. He told Joe it was okay if they didn’t play his game.

Leader poses “Will” with thumbs up.

“Joe and Will played JOE’S new game instead, and they had a lot of fun!

Leader poses both boys like they’re playing the game and smiling.

“Joe’s mom brought them warm cookies right from the oven, and they tasted delicious.

Leader poses both boys like they’re eating.

“Later, Joe and Will got up and jumped on the trampoline!

Leader poses both boys like they’re jumping on a trampoline.

“Let’s give a big round of applause for our volunteers.”

Dismiss the volunteers to their seats.

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “What a difference a good friend makes! Think about how much better Joe and Will’s story was the second time around. It was all because they wanted to help each other **[Basic Truth] make the wise choice**. They encouraged each other to follow Jesus and do what HE would want them to do.

“Think about what Philip did for Nathanael, too. He pointed Nathanael to Jesus, and it changed Nathanael’s life for the better. All of us need friends who will help us like that. All of us need to BE friends like that, too.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “Find friends who help you trust Jesus.

“God knows how important our friendships are. He knows that we all need people who encourage us to believe what He says is true. We need friends who will help us **[Basic Truth] make the wise choice**—even when it isn’t easy. Let’s pray and ask God to give us friends who will help us trust Him more.”

Pray

STORYTELLER: “God, thank You for friends who encourage us to make the wise choice. Please surround us with friends like Philip who will help us to trust You more. Please give us the confidence to live the way You’ve asked us to and to help each other along the way. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

Storyteller exits as Host enters.

Closer

HOST: “Do you have friends like Philip? Do you have friends who will encourage you to trust Jesus and **[Basic Truth] make the wise choice** even when it’s difficult? Good friends are important! That’s why this is the one thing to remember today:

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “Find friends who help you trust Jesus.

“If you don’t know where to start, look around your group! One friend who can help you make wise choices is your Small Group Leader. Your Leader is good friend to turn to—someone who will help you trust Jesus. Your friends in your small group can also encourage you to follow God and live fully alive.

“If you want to grow and learn, you need to have friends around you who also trust Jesus. Then, even when you’re stuck or facing a problem, you won’t be alone. Your friends will be there to help you and give you confidence in God.

“In our small groups, you’ll talk all about how to find friends who can help you trust Jesus.”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

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