



## GETTING READY

### 1. Opener/Closer

#### What You Need:

- Host
- Boat race track (*Options: Purchase an inflatable raceway, such as: <http://bit.ly/2pyyX1H> or <http://bit.ly/2udA7Fm> or build your own. You can find direction on the “Make Your Own Track Instructions” sheet.*)
- Long dowel rod or yardstick
- If you don't have an opportunity for the kids to make boats before Large Group, you'll need the following supplies for each boat (one boat per small group). (See “What You Do” below)
  - Pre-cut 6-inch piece of a pool noodle; also cut in half lengthwise
  - Piece of cardstock or craft foam (for the sail)
  - Pair of scissors
  - Crayons or markers (to decorate the sail)
  - Popsicle stick or wooden craft stick
  - Straws; one for each kid
  - Gallon zip-top bag
  - Boat Example (see “What You Do” below)

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

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room
- “Come Sail Away” by Styx

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

- AMPED Theme Slide
- Confidence Slide
- Bottom Line Slide
- “Make Your Own Track Instructions” (see “What You Do” below)

### **What You Do:**

- The kids will be racing boats that they make in Small Group prior to Large Group (one boat per small group). Be sure to remind Small Group Leaders to bring their boats with them to Large Group. If you don't have Small Group time before Large Group, the Host can set aside three minutes for the groups to build a boat together. Place the supplies for each group in a gallon zip-top bag and give a bag to each SGL. See one of the Small Group documents for instructions. For the “Boat Example” check out the file labeled “1807\_LG\_Assets\_K3\_W3.”
- If you purchased an inflatable track, inflate it.
- Fill both “lanes” with equal amounts of water—at least a third full.

## **2. Bible Story**

### **What You Need:**

- Storyteller
- Bible

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

- Bottom Line Slide

### **What You Do:**

- Download the slides and have them ready to use. If you do not have CG capabilities, you have Orange's permission to enlarge and print the slides on paper.

## **3. Worship**

**This Is Living  
Alive Again**

# On Top of the Sea

**Bible Story:** On Top of the Sea (Peter Walks on Water) • *Matthew 14:22-33*

**Bottom Line:** Stay focused on 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 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 is on stage, welcoming the kids as they enter. Kids bring the boats they built in Small Group.*

### **Opener**

**HOST:** “Hey, everybody! Are you AMPED to be here? Are you excited? All summer we’ve been talking about confidence, and I’m confident that today is going to be awesome!”

**CG:** Confidence Slide

“**Confidence is living like you believe what God says is true.** When you live with confidence, you’re living fully alive. You focus on Him instead of focusing on the things that make you afraid or worried.”

“We’ll talk some more about that later. But right now, it’s time to check out those boats you made in Small Group! Show me what you’ve got.”

*Walk around and look at some of the boats while commenting on them.*

*Note: If you don’t have Small Group time before Large Group, give the groups three minutes to create a boat using the provided supplies. Let them know that all the boats need to have a sail.*

“Those are looking fantastic! Do you feel CONFIDENT about them? *(Pause for response.)* Do you think they’ll float? *(Pause for response.)* We’re about to find out. It’s time for our ‘Extreme Toy Boat Race’!”

*Point to your inflatable raceway (or gutters).*

“Toy boat—that’s hard to say. On the count of three, let’s all try to say ‘toy boat’ three times in a row, as

fast as we can. One, two, three!

*Say “toy boat” three times in a row, laughing at yourself as you stumble all over your words.*

“Ha! It’s impossible! But it’s fun to try.

“All right. Let’s get this race started! When it’s your group’s turn, you’ll set your boat at this end of our track behind the starting line. Everyone in your group will line up alongside your gutter. Be ready with your straw, because one by one, you’ll blow into the sail to move your boat all the way to the finish line. Whichever boat reaches the end first wins!

“Our first race will be [Leader’s name]’s group versus [Leader’s name]’s group. Are you ready? On your marks, get set, go!

**SFX: “Come Sail Away” by Styx (starting at 4:53)—play this for each race**

*Oversee the races, calling two groups up at a time. Try to have the same age kids race against each other. Start each race by lifting the dowel rod/yardstick, and declare the winner each time. Keep the tone light and fun (not overly competitive), and affirm both groups afterward. Make sure the Leaders end up with the boats when the races are over.*

*If you have an odd number of groups, you can use one of the other groups’ boats and compete against them yourself.*

“That was so much fun! I’m out of breath just watching you. But even still, I’m looking forward to singing praises to God together.”

*Worship Leaders enter. Host exits.*

## **Worship**

***This Is Living***

***Alive Again***

*Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.*

## **SETTING UP THE STORY**

**STORYTELLER:** “Hey, everyone! Today I want to tell you about something amazing that Jesus did, and I need your help! Can you make our sound effects for today? *(Pause for response.)* Great! I’ll let you know when we need a sound, okay?”

“Now, Jesus did a LOT of amazing things. He performed a lot of miracles. He healed blind people and made it so they could see again. He cured people of all kinds of diseases. He even brought people

back to life!

“There was one time when Jesus was teaching a group of over 5,000 people. Everyone was hungry, but no one wanted to leave. Everyone wanted Jesus to continue to teach them. Jesus took five loaves of bread and two fish, He thanked God for the meal, and He fed ALL those people. I bet I could eat five loaves and two fish by myself! Jesus performed a miracle and multiplied the food so that everyone was full. They even had leftovers!

“Over 5,000 people eating dinner together—I bet that was a loud meal. Everyone was happy and eating and celebrating. Let’s pretend we’re the people eating that day. Can you make some eating sounds?

*Invite the kids to make eating noises as you demonstrate as well.*

“Good job! Be sure to wipe your face when you’re done.

*Act like you have a napkin and dab the corners of your mouth.*

“The disciples who followed Jesus were amazed. Even though they only had a tiny amount of food, Jesus came through in a big way!”

### **JESUS SENDS EVERYONE AWAY**

**STORYTELLER:** “After everyone had eaten, Jesus told the 12 disciples to take a boat across the Sea of Galilee without Him. Jesus wanted to stay behind so He could pray and talk to God alone. The disciples did what Jesus told them to do. They got in a boat and began their journey across the water.

“After the disciples had left, Jesus told the 5,000-plus people to go home. People walking can be loud, especially if they’re leaving in a big group like they were that day. People shuffle their feet and murmur. Can you make that sound?

*Shuffle your feet and murmur along with the kids.*

“After everyone was gone, Jesus went up the mountainside to pray. Up on the mountain, it was very different from being with the crowd. The crowd was loud and busy. Up on the mountain by himself, it was quiet and peaceful. Maybe there were crickets. What does a cricket sound like?

*Pause for the kids to make cricket noises.*

“Maybe there was a quiet wind. How would you make a quiet wind sound?

*Pause for the kids to make wind sounds.*

“You know those frogs that only come out at night? Maybe there were some of those with Jesus on the mountain too. What do frogs sound like?

*Pause for the kids to make frog noises.*

“Let’s put all that together to see what it might have sounded like on the mountain with the crickets, the frogs, and the quiet wind.

*Invite the kids to make the different noises all at once.*

“Jesus prayed on the mountainside. He took the time to focus on God.”

### **DISCIPLES IN THE BOAT**

**STORYTELLER:** “As Jesus prayed, the disciples sailed across the lake. The waves got bigger and the wind got . . . windier.

“Let’s make it sound like a windstorm in here. First, let me hear some ferocious wind!

*Invite the kids to make wind sounds. After a moment, encourage them to get louder.*

“What about the waves crashing against the boat? What sounds did the waves make?”

*Invite the kids to make wave sounds.*

“Good job, everyone. Let’s put those together and hear the wind AND the waves.

*Invite the kids to make the wind and waves sounds. Demonstrate yourself by alternating between the two sounds.*

“Shortly before sunrise, while it was still dark, Jesus went out to meet His friends. But He didn’t take a boat. He walked on the water—just like it was dry ground! That might seem impossible, but it wasn’t impossible for Jesus.

“As Jesus got closer to the disciples in the boat, the disciples saw Him, and they were terrified! They thought He was a ghost. When you’re afraid, what noise do you make?”

*Invite the kids to make the noise they make when they’re scared.*

“The disciples were big, strong fishermen. (*Talk in a deep voice.*) They probably sounded like this. What do you think they sounded like when they were afraid?”

*Invite the kids to make the noise they think the disciples made when they were scared. Also “scream” in your best low voice to demonstrate.*

“Jesus knew the disciples were afraid when they saw him. Right away Jesus called out to them, ‘Be brave! It is I. Don’t be afraid’” (Matthew 14:27 NIV).

### **PETER LOSES FOCUS**

**STORYTELLER:** “Peter was one of the disciples in the boat. He must have been afraid just like the others. But listen to what he said to Jesus.

*Open the Bible to Matthew 14:28 and read.*

*“Lord, is it you?” Peter asked. “If it is, tell me to come to you on the water” (NirV).*

“Jesus said, ‘Come.’ Peter climbed out of the boat, stepped out onto the water, and started walking on the water toward Jesus! Amazing!

“Do you think the other disciples were surprised? I bet they were! When I’m surprised I sound like *(make a surprised noise)*. Can you make a surprised noise?

*Invite the kids to make the noise they make when they’re surprised.*

“In the middle of the night—with the wind blowing and the waves crashing—Peter was out there walking on water toward Jesus!

“But then Peter got distracted. He lost confidence because he started to look at the wind and waves. Let’s make those sounds again—really loud!

*Invite the kids to make the wind and waves noises again.*

“Peter was afraid because he looked away from Jesus. He focused on the scary wind instead, and he started to sink into the water! What do you think he said THEN?

*Invite the kids to yell.*

“As Peter sunk into the water, he cried out to Jesus, ‘Lord! Save me!’ Right away Jesus reached out His hand and caught Peter.

*Open the Bible to Matthew 14:31 and read.*

*“Your faith is so small!” [Jesus] said. “Why did you doubt me?” (NirV)*

### **WRAPPING UP THE STORY**

**STORYTELLER:** “Jesus helped Peter climb back into the boat. And immediately, the wind died down. The sea became calm and quiet. All you could hear was the sound of the boat creaking. What do you think a creaky boat sounds like?

*Invite the kids to make creaking noises.*

“After seeing all this, the disciples worshipped Jesus. They were confident that what Jesus said was true and He really was the Son of God. Let me hear you say, ‘WOO-HOO!’

*Invite the kids to cheer.*

“NOTHING matters more than staying focused on Jesus. Peter learned that for sure! When he was focused on Jesus, he was full of confidence. He was brave enough to get out of the boat and walk on water! But when he was distracted and focused on the wind and waves instead, he lost confidence. He sank into the water.

**CG: Bottom Line Slide**

“Just like Peter, you and I need to **[Bottom Line] stay focused on Jesus**. We might not be able to SEE Jesus like Peter could. But we can stay focused on what we know is TRUE about Him. We can think about how much He loves us and how He’s always with us. Then we’ll have the confidence to be able to live the way He wants us to.

“Let’s pray and ask God to help us.”

### Pray

**STORYTELLER:** “God, we want to stay focused on Jesus just like Peter did when he first climbed out of the boat. Help us to not get distracted by the things around us that make us worried or afraid. Help us to focus on You so we can stay confident and strong. Help us to remember how much You love us and to trust You in the middle of anything we might face. We love You, and we pray in Jesus’ name, amen.”

*Host enters. Storyteller exits.*

### Closer

**HOST:** “It seems like it should be so easy for us to focus on Jesus. We know He loves us. We know He’ll never ever leave us. We know we should live the way He wants us to live. But sometimes things can happen that distract us and keep us from focusing on Him.

“Maybe when you’re playing a video game, you get really focused on winning. You don’t want to let someone else have a turn, so you might end up hurting their feelings instead of being kind. Maybe you get totally focused on how frustrated you are when you don’t get your way. Or maybe you get really focused on something going wrong—like if you’re worried about something that’s happening at home or at school. It’s like what happened to Peter when he looked at the wind and the waves. Our fears, cares, and worries can make us take our eyes off Jesus.

“Here’s the one thing we need to remember today.

**CG: Bottom Line Slide**

**[Bottom Line]** “Stay focused on Jesus. Let’s say that together.”

**HOST and KIDS:** **[Bottom Line]** “Stay focused on Jesus.”

**HOST:** “There are lots of ways we can focus on Jesus. One way is to read our Bibles and think about Him. (*Hold up Bible.*) We can focus on Him by talking about Him with our friends. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can obey what He says to do. We can talk to God and pray. And we can even ask God to help us focus on Jesus. Sometimes figuring out how to focus on Jesus takes some work, but your



Small Group Leader is here to help.

“You’ll talk more about how to stay focused on Jesus back in Small Group. Have fun, and we’ll see you next time!”

*Dismiss kids to their small groups.*

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