



GETTING READY

1. Opener/Closer

What You Need:

- Host
- Two kid volunteers
- One Small Group Leader
- Items from previous Opener games this summer, such as:
 - Balance beam from June Week 1
 - “Bowling pins” (2-liter bottles) from June Week 2
 - Gym scooter from June Weeks 2 and 3
 - Two squirt guns from June Week 4
 - Ping-pong ball from June Week 4
 - Two new toothbrushes (from July Week 2)
 - Two bottles of water (from July Week 2)
 - Toothpaste (from July Week 2)
 - Spit bucket (from July Week 2)
 - Cookies (from July Week 4)
- Kid-sized bicycle helmet
- Kid-sized safety pads for elbows and knees, and
- Kid-sized snow gloves
- Painter’s tape
- Wooden bar stool
- Table

- Plate

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room
- High-energy music to use as kids race through the obstacle course

Large Group Visuals (downloadable from the website):

- AMPED Theme Slide
- Confidence Slide
- Bottom Line Slide

What You Do:

- Create an obstacle course in your environment using items from the previous Opener games in June and July. (*Note: If you no longer have the items from previous weeks, you can do a general AMPED obstacle course with various inflatables, etc.*) Below is a general guide for how to lay out the obstacle course. Alter it as needed for your space, and use your environment to enhance the course.
 - Place the balance beam with supports on the stage, away from the edge of the stage and any stairs.
 - Using a piece of masking tape put a starting line on the floor a few steps ahead of the first step of the balance beam.
 - A few steps away from the end of the balance beam, place the bar stool. Set the ping-pong ball on the stool in the center. To help keep the ball in the center of the stool, you can make a small square with the tape to “tee up” the ball. Fill both squirt guns and place them on the floor. If the squirt guns leak, you can put the guns in a bucket.
 - Using the tape, create a short “race track” for the contestants to scoot through on the scooter. The track could be short and straight, or it can have a curve in it, depending on your space. Put the scooter at the start of the track. At the end of the track, set up the bowling pins.
 - Set up the table a few steps away from the end of the track. On one end, place a plate with a few of the cookies. On the other end, place the toothbrushes (still in their packaging), toothpaste, bottles of water, and spit bucket.
 - Using a piece of tape, put an X on stage where the adult Leader will stand as she times the contestants. This will also serve as the end of the course, as contestants have to high-five the Leader.

2. Bible Story

What You Need:

- Storyteller
- Bible
- Pre-selected Small Group Leader
- Kid volunteer (from the Leader’s group)
- Bible
- Toy sword (from June Week 2)

Large Group Visuals (downloadable from the website):

- Confidence Slide
- Bottom Line Slide

What You Do:

- Make sure the Storyteller is familiar with the way we told the stories of Gideon (June Week 2); Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (July Week 1); and Peter (July Week 3). In particular, the Storyteller will need to know how to sing the opera line and create the wind and waves sound effects like the kids will remember from before.
- Pre-select a Small Group Leader. Explain the illustration and make sure the Leader can do it confidently. Ask him to choose a kid from his group (of the same gender) that he knows well to come up with him when prompted.

3. Worship
Every Beat
Through It All

Something to Believe In

Bible Story: Something to Believe In (Nothing Can Separate Us from God's Love) • *Romans* 8:38-39

Bottom Line: Live like you believe what God says is true.

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.

Opener

HOST: "Hey, everyone! I'm so glad you're here. I'm feeling extreme, because today is the last day of AMPED. We've been talking all summer about what it means to live fully alive. That means living with confidence!

CG: Confidence Slide

"**Confidence is living like you believe what God says is true.** When we live with confidence, it changes how we act. We [**Basic Truth**] **make wise choices** and [**Basic Truth**] **treat others the way we want to be treated** because we believe what God says is true.

"I've got a game for our grand finale today that will take extreme confidence. It's our very own 'Extreme Ninja Obstacle Course'! (*Point to the course.*) You might remember some of these things from our past AMPED games this summer.

"Let me get two of you who are confident enough to take on this course! There are cookies involved, so I need to make sure you don't have any allergies, too.

Choose two kid contestants to come on stage.

"I also need a Small Group Leader to time our competitors."

Choose a Small Group Leader or other adult volunteer and give her the timer (or she can use the timer on her phone). Have her stand on the X on stage.

Note: Adjust these instructions depending on which items from previous weeks you're including in the course.

(To contestants) “One at a time, you’ll each take a turn racing through our course. First, race down our Balance Beam to the Extreme. If you lose your footing and fall off, just hop back up on the beam and keep going. Next, you’ll choose a squirt gun and squirt at the ping-pong ball, forcing it to fall off the stool. Then, sit on the scooter with your feet crossed. Use your hands to scoot down the track, knocking over the bowling pins at the end. Jump off the scooter, head over to the cookies, and eat one cookie. Once you’ve completely eaten your cookie, you’ll brush your teeth—remembering to rinse and spit! Then race back to [adult volunteer’s name] and tag her hand to stop the timer.

“[Adult volunteer’s name] will keep time, and whoever makes it through the course the fastest wins.

Choose one of the contestants to go first. Help her put on the bicycle helmet, safety pads, and gloves. Have her stand at the starting line.

“On your mark, get set, . . . wait a minute. I almost forgot!

Retrieve the stadium horn (vuvuzela) from backstage.

“Now we’re ready. *(To contestant)* When it’s time for you to go, I’ll blow this extreme horn! *(To audience)* Everyone, cheer him on to boost his confidence. *(To contestant)* On your mark, get set, . . .

Blow the stadium horn, and the adult volunteer should start the timer.

SFX: High-energy music

Encourage the audience to cheer for the contestant. Walk along with the contestant as she races, reminding her what to do next and commenting for the crowd. When she finishes, congratulate her and announce her time. Collect the safety gear.

(To second contestant) “[Contestant’s name], that’s a hard time to beat. Do you have the confidence to take on this challenge? Let’s find out.

Ask the adult volunteer keeping time to help the contestant put on the bicycle helmet, safety pads, and gloves while you re-set the course. Have the contestant stand at the starting line.

“On your mark, get set, . . .

Blow the stadium horn, and the adult volunteer should start the timer.

SFX: *High-energy music*

Encourage the audience to cheer for the contestant. Walk along with the contestant as he races, reminding him what to do next and commenting for the crowd. When he finishes, congratulate him and announce his time.

“Both contestants did a great job. Our winner today is *[contestant’s name]*!”

Collect the timer from the adult volunteer and the safety gear from the kid contestant. Dismiss all the volunteers to their seats.

“It took a lot of confidence to take on that extreme obstacle course. Our contestants didn’t just TALK about confidence—they lived it out! And after that game, I’m AMPED to sing praises to God with you!”

Worship Leaders enter. Host goes into the audience to sing with the kids.

Worship

WORSHIP LEADER: “Wow, you all are in the zone! I love that. Yes, let’s stand and sing together. I have been soaking up all the good stuff we’ve been learning this summer. I’m ready to live loud and show God’s love to the world. Come on—let’s sing!”

SFX: *“Live Loud” / track 6 from At the Top Of My Lungs*

WORSHIP LEADER: “Yeah, that sounded so good! High fives. *(Give some high-fives.)* Before we continue in worship, check this out.”

Optional CG: *Live Loud video from Get Reel 2.0 DVD*

WORSHIP LEADER: “I love what it says in Psalm 104:33: *‘I will sing to the Lord all my life. I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.’* Let’s give all we are, all of our days, to lifting up the name of Jesus. Let’s live what we believe and lift Him higher. Sing it loud!”

SFX: *“Lift You Higher” / track 13 from At the Top Of My Lungs*

Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “It’s been a great summer here at *[your environment’s name]*! Whether you’ve been here for all of it or just part of it, hopefully by now you’ve all learned what it means to have confidence.

CG: *Confidence Slide*

“Remember, **confidence is living like you believe what God says is true.** We’ve heard some extreme true stories from the Bible (*hold up Bible*) about people who trusted God and lived with confidence.”

BIBLE STORY EXAMPLES

STORYTELLER: “Like Gideon! Gideon felt like he was the least important person from the least important family in Israel. But God chose Gideon to rescue His people. (*Hold up the toy sword.*) Gideon trusted that God would come through for him and his small army. Remember? They blew their trumpets, broke their jars, and shouted, and their enemies ran away!

“We also talked about three brave men who stood up for what they believed: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. They were so confident in God that they refused to bow down and worship the king’s statue even though it meant they’d be thrown into the fiery furnace.

“Remember this? (*Singing operatically to the tune of ‘La donna è mobile’—like in the July Week 1 script*) ‘The blazing furnace! For . . . those . . . who . . . DON’T bow down!’

“But God sent an angel to protect them, and the fire didn’t even burn them!

“And let’s not forget about Jesus’ friend Peter. Peter was in a boat with the other disciples. The wind was blowing and the waves were crashing. Do you remember how we made those sounds together? First, we had the wind (*kids make wind sounds*) and then the waves (*kids make wave sounds*). The disciples thought they saw a ghost, but really it was Jesus walking on the water! Jesus invited Peter to come out of the boat, and Peter confidently walked on the water toward Jesus. He also learned what happened when he took his eyes off Jesus. Do you remember? (*Pause for response.*) Right, he started to sink.

“Those are just some of the amazing stories we’ve heard this summer. The Bible is full of examples of people who had confidence in God even when it was difficult. We can look back because WE know the whole story, but they didn’t know how things would turn out at the time. They had to trust! They had to believe what they knew was true about God. That’s why they had confidence.

“The same thing is true for us. We can be confident because we know what’s true about God. We can see how He came through for people like Gideon, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, and Peter.”

TRUSTING WHEN IT’S EASY

STORYTELLER: “Let me show you what I mean. I need one of you and your Small Group Leader to come on stage.

Call the pre-selected Leader and one of his kids to the stage (choose a kid and Leader of the same gender).

“This is [*Leader’s name*] and his friend [*kid’s name*]. Let me tell you something really cool about [*Leader’s name*]. He’s chosen to spend time with [*kid’s name*] and all the rest of you in his group. That’s what your Leaders do. They’re here for YOU. Your Leader has decided to be someone you can trust as you grow and learn about God. I think that’s a pretty big deal. Don’t you?

(*To kid volunteer*) “[*Kid’s name*], what’s your favorite thing about [*Leader’s name*]? (*Pause for*

response.) Do you think [Leader's name] cares about you? You bet he does! If [Leader's name] said he would do something, would you believe him? (Pause for response.) Of course! It sounds like you trust him a lot. Let's put your trust in action.

Position the kid and Leader so they're facing each other, about an arm's width apart.

(To kid volunteer) "[Kid's name], when I say, 'Go,' I want you to fall forward toward [Leader's name]. Don't move your feet and don't bend your knees. Keep them right where they are and just fall forward. [Leader's name] is going to catch you, okay? (To Leader) [Leader's name], do you promise to catch him? (Pause for response.)

(To kid volunteer) "Cross your arms in front of you like this.

Demonstrate crossing your arms in front of you with your hands on your shoulders.

(To kid volunteer) "Ready? (To audience) Let's count him down. Three, two, one, go!

Let the kid fall into his Leader's arms. If he moves his feet to catch himself, ask him to try again without moving his feet.

"Awesome! You really trusted that he would catch you."

TRUSTING WHEN IT'S HARD

STORYTELLER: (To kid volunteer) "I've got a question, though. What if you couldn't see [Leader's name]? Would you still be able to trust that he would catch you? What if we did this backward?"

Move the Leader behind the kid.

(To kid volunteer) "This is a little harder, right, [kid's name]? Do you think you can do it? Do you trust that [Leader's name] is back there to catch you? Let's see!

Stand in front of the kid volunteer during the remainder of the illustration, just in case he gets confused and falls the wrong direction.

(To kid volunteer) "You can cross your arms in front of you like before. Remember, keep your feet in place, and you're going to fall back toward [Leader's name].

"Ready? Three, two, one, go!

Let the kid fall into his Leader's arms. If he moves his feet to catch himself, ask him to try again without moving his feet.

If the kid volunteer is too scared to do it, don't force him.

Call on another volunteer (ideally from the same Leader's group) who's willing to do it.

(To kid volunteer) "Great job! It was a lot harder to fall backward when you couldn't see [Leader's name], right? But you did it because you trusted him when he said he'd catch you.

"Let's give [kid's name] and [Leader's name] a hand. Thanks for your help!"

Dismiss the volunteers to their seats.

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "[Kid's name] had confidence in [Leader's name], because he knew [Leader's name] would be there for him. We can trust God the same way when things are good and when they're not so good.

"Sometimes tough things happen in life, and we don't understand. When that happens, we need to remember what's true about God. We can have confidence that He's there with us and that He loves us. We can trust that He has a bigger plan even if we can't see it.

"Listen to what Paul wrote in his letter to the Romans.

Open the Bible to Romans 8:38-39 and read.

"I am absolutely sure that not even death or life can separate us from God's love. Not even angels or demons, the present or the future, or any powers can separate us. Not even the highest places or the lowest, or anything else in all creation can separate us. Nothing at all can ever separate us from God's love. That's because of what Christ Jesus our Lord has done (NirV).

"God is always there for you. NOTHING can separate you from His love. **[Basic Truth] You can trust Him no matter what!** That's why you can live with confidence even when it isn't easy.

"Each day, here's what you and I need to do.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] "Live like you believe what God says is true.

"No matter how you might feel or what you might face, you can be sure that God is with you. You can be confident knowing that nothing can separate you from His love. Let's pray."

Pray

STORYTELLER: "God, thank You for always being there for us. Help us to remember that nothing can separate us from Your love. We pray this truth helps us to live with confidence this week at home and at school. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name, amen."

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

Closer

HOST: “When Jesus died on the cross for our sins, He made it possible for us to have a relationship with God. Now, with the Spirit living inside us, we can live out everything we’ve learned. I want to live every day like I believe what God says is true! I want to have confidence knowing that nothing can separate me from Jesus.

“Let’s take another look at our Bottom Line for today.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “Live like you believe what God says is true.

“If I’m going to live like I believe what God says is true, I need to know what God says. One way I can do that is by reading my Bible. When I read the Bible, I learn more about God, and I learn to trust Him more. When I read all the stories where God comes through for His people, it shows me that I can trust Him too!

“Praying also reminds me that nothing can separate me from God’s love. You can pray anywhere! You can pray when you’re at home helping your dad in the kitchen, or when you’re sitting by yourself in your room. You can pray when you’re practicing for a game or just hanging out with your friends. God is always with us, so we can talk to Him anytime we want!

“Nothing can separate us from God. When we **[Bottom Line] live like we believe what God says is true**, we can live with confidence. If you need help with that means, be sure to talk with your Small Group Leader. And speaking of Small Group, you’re about to head there, where you’ll have fun talking more about how you can **[Bottom Line] live like you believe what God says is true** every day. Have fun, and we’ll see you next time!”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

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