



## GETTING READY

### 1. Welcome/Opener

#### What You Need:

- Host

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

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter the room

#### *Large Group Visuals:*

- "The Hunt" Theme Slide
- Trivia Icons

#### 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.

### 2. Communicator Script

#### What You Need:

- Communicator
- Bible
- Small Group Leader (pre-selected)

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

- Upbeat music to use as kids exit the room

*Large Group Visuals:*

- Key Question Slide
- $3 + 4 = ?$  Slide
- Picture of Ken Jennings
- Video of Ken Jennings
- Three "Icon Story Cards" (scroll, shaking hands, fork in the road street sign)

**What You Do:**

- Download the Key Question and  $3+4=?$  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.
- Ken Jennings video and picture. Ken Jennings was a *Jeopardy!* contestant who has the longest winning streak on the show. Search for a hi-res still image of him. Download it and pull it into your presentation software. Search for a video of Ken Jennings winning a round of *Jeopardy!* There are several to choose. We suggest the one where he runs an extremely difficult category, "Initials to Roman Numerals to Numbers."
- Download the three Icon Story Cards and print them on 11x17 cardstock. You can display these however works best in your environment.
- Preselect a Small Group Leader to answer your question. The Small Group Leader needs to answer, "What is ten minus three?"

### 3. Worship

**What You Need:**

- We Are Royals
- Through It All

# Walk This Way

**Bible Story:** Walk This Way (Jesus Grows in Wisdom) \* *Luke 2:41-52*

**Bottom Line:** If you want to be wise, search for wisdom.

**Key Question:** What does it mean to be wise?

**Memory Verse:** “If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you.”  
*James 1:5a (NirV)*

**Life App:** Wisdom—Finding out what you should do and doing it

**Basic Truth:** I need to make the wise choice.

## **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:** *“The Hunt” 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 can talk about something that happened culturally throughout the week like a big sports game, movie opening, or a viral video on YouTube, etc. NOTE: In many parts of the country August is the first month of the school year. You can talk about summer wrapping up or ask if anyone is excited to head back to school. 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:** “Hey, everyone! I am so pumped for another month here at [Name of Environment]. This month we are on a hunt because wisdom is worth searching for! Let’s get started right away. How many of you like trivia? Man, I love it . . . and I need three contestants to play a game!

*Host chooses three volunteers and brings them on stage.*

“Alright, I know there are some pretty popular trivia games out there. I’ve got a few trivia categories that you might be used to seeing. (*Go through the printed cards and hold them up.*) We’ve got Geography, History, Sports, Entertainment, Arts, and Science.

“In a moment, you will choose a category. Once a category is out of questions, we will remove the card. The person with the most correct answers wins. Got it? Let’s play!”

*Determine the number of rounds you would like to play and go one at a time through the three contestants. Below are the categories and questions. Once a category is out of questions, take the card away.*

*History:*

- \*Pharaoh is the title given to the rulers of what ancient country? Egypt*
- \*What occupation did Neil Armstrong have? Astronaut*
- \*What President delivered the Gettysburg Address? Abraham Lincoln*
- \*What famous ship sank after striking an iceberg? The Titanic*

*Science:*

- \*What sweet food do bees make by using nectar from flowers? Honey*
- \*What type of tree produces acorns? Oak*
- \*What is the top color on a rainbow? Red*
- \*On a farm, a kid is a baby what? Goat*

*Arts:*

- \*In the nursery rhyme, who sat on the wall before having a great fall? Humpty Dumpty*
- \*What fictional detective lived at 221b Baker Street? Sherlock Holmes*
- \*Which instrument is a woodwind: the trumpet, the guitar, or the clarinet? Clarinet*
- \*How many members are featured in the classic music band the Beatles? Four*

*Sports:*

- \*What sport did Wayne Gretzky play? Hockey*
- \*What country held the first Olympic games? Greece*
- \*What state has the most professional sports teams (baseball, football, basketball, hockey)? California -15*
- \*What NBA team has won more championships, the Celtics or the Lakers? Celtics -17, Lakers -16*

*Entertainment:*

- \*What school does Harry Potter attend? Hogwarts*
- \*What is the name of the bear in The Jungle Book? Baloo*
- \*What is the first name of the boy who, along with his grandfather, visits the chocolate factory owned by Willy Wonka? Charlie*
- \*What type of animal is Bullseye in the Toy Story films? Horse*

*Geography:*

- \*What country is home of the kangaroo? Australia*
- \*What Italian city is famous for its leaning tower? Pisa*
- \*What is the nickname for the bell of the clock at the Palace of Westminster in London? Big Ben*
- \*What is the tallest mountain in the world? Mount Everest*

*“(At the end of the game) Man, you guys sure know a lot! Well done! You can head back to your seats. Let’s all stand and worship together!”*

**Worship**

***We Are Royals***

***Through It All***

## COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT

### INTRODUCTION

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Hey, everybody! Great to see you. Man, you guys are trivia champs! Some of those questions had me stumped! Alright, so I have another question for ALL of you. How many of you recognize this guy?”

*CG: Picture of Ken Jennings*

“Not many I’m guessing. Now the picture kind of tips us off a little bit because of what he is holding in his hand. What show do you think he is on? *(Pause for response.)* Back in 2004, Ken Jennings was a contestant on the famous trivia show *Jeopardy*. And when I say he was a contestant, I don’t just mean on one show. Ken Jennings won a record *74 nights in a row!* See, on *Jeopardy*, if you win, you get to come back and defend your victory in the next show, and you stay on the show until someone defeats you . . . and he was on *Jeopardy* for 2.5 months! And in those 74 games, he won over 2.5 million dollars! This guy is a trivia master. You want to see him in action? Check this clip out as he powers his way through a very confusing category . . .”

*CG: Ken Jennings highlight clip*

“Whoa. That guy is not messing around! So if you asked me who I think is one of the smartest people I know, Ken Jennings would probably be one of the first names that comes to my mind.

### TENSION

**COMMUNICATOR:** “But here’s a question for you: if you asked me who is one of the *wisest* people I know of, would I have said the same thing? In other words, is being smart the same thing as being wise?”

“Let me take that further: if I’m good at trivia and know a lot of facts like Ken Jennings . . . or if I’m a really good test-taker and get all A’s without trying too hard . . . does that mean I am a *wise* person? Take a minute and turn and discuss what you think with your group. Are smart and wise the same thing?”

*Students turn and share with their groups.*

### TRUTH

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Okay, we’ll have time to discuss that more in a bit, but let’s get into the Bible today and see what it has to say about wisdom.”

*Communicator sets up three cards so they are on display.*

“Today’s Bible truth comes from the Gospel of Luke, which is one of four stories we have in the Bible of Jesus’ life. Now these stories tell us about the birth of Jesus, and they also tell us a lot about what happened when He was older. But there are very few stories about Jesus as a kid—not that He wasn’t one. It is just that there weren’t many stories written down for us to read. But we do have one from a time when Jesus was twelve years old. This is from Luke chapter two.”

*“(Read directly from Luke 2:41-43, NIV) ‘Every year Jesus’ parents went to Jerusalem for the Passover*

*Feast. When Jesus was 12 years old, they went up to the feast as usual. After the feast was over, his parents left to go back home. The boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. But they were not aware of it.”*

“Okay, there are already a couple things we need to explain here. So, in Jesus’ day and for hundreds of years before that, the Jewish people would travel to Jerusalem (the capital city of Israel) for the three major holiday festivals. Now don’t picture a vacation where you climb in the mini-van and drive off to grandma’s. This was a big deal where the ENTIRE family—parents, grandparents, cousins, and neighbors—would all WALK together, sometimes for days. So picture this massive group of people from Jesus’ family walking to the festival. And afterwards, they turned around and walked home. But what is the problem?” *(Pause for response.)*

“That’s right! On the way back home, they realized that Jesus wasn’t with them! Now, I got left at the grocery store when I was a kid . . . but never in another city! How could this happen?”

*“(Continue reading from Luke 2:44-45, NIV) ‘They thought he was somewhere in their group. So they traveled on for a day. Then they began to look for him among their relatives and friends. They did not find him. So they went back to Jerusalem to look for him.’”*

“Now before we give Mary and Joseph a hard time, this was quite easy to do. They were a large group traveling together, and it was easy to think Jesus was just hanging out with His cousins or something. So once they realized Jesus wasn’t with them, Mary and Joseph headed back to Jerusalem to find Jesus.”

*“(Continue reading from Luke 2:46, NIV) ‘After three days they found him in the temple courtyard. He was sitting with the teachers. He was listening to them and asking them questions.’”*

“Turns out Jesus was hanging out in the Temple, which was the center of the whole city. It was where people went to pray, to offer sacrifices, and to learn from famous rabbis and teachers. So when His parents found Him, Jesus was hanging out with the teachers and asking them questions.”

“Now in our day, we ask questions because we don’t know the answer. What is the tallest mountain in the world? Question. Answer? Mount Everest. Question and answer. We do it all the time. But in Jesus’ day and in the schools where they learned, questions weren’t necessarily a sign that you didn’t know the answer. In fact, questions can actually show just how much you DO know. Let me give you an example.

If I gave you this math problem, what would you say?  $3+4= ?$

**CG:  $3+4= ?$**

*Allow kids to yell out the answer.*

“Good. Seven. That one was pretty easy. I asked you a question and you gave me an answer. That’s the way we often do things. But what if you answered my question with another question? *(Use a small group leader that you have discussed this with ahead of time)*”.

“What if I asked *[name of small group leader]* ‘What’s  $3+4$ ?’ and she responded . . .”



**SMALL GROUP LEADER:** “What is 10-3?”

**COMMUNICATOR:** “So . . . has *[he/she]* answered my question? *(Pause for response.)*”

Absolutely *[he/she]* has! Now some of you say no because you never heard her say seven. You are looking for question and answer. But what did *[he/she]* do? She answered my question with another question, proving that NOT ONLY does *[he/she]* know the answer, but *[he/she]* can take the question even further and introduce *[his/her]* own question! And we could keep going back and forth if we wanted to. What is 21 divided by three? What is the number of days in creation? What is the number of years of famine in Egypt in the time of Joseph? What is Abraham’s age minus the number of sheep David owned? Okay, I made that last one up. You get it, though—answering the question but taking it much further into all sorts of subjects.”

“So when the Bible text says that Jesus was listening to the teachers and ‘asking them questions,’ it doesn’t necessarily mean that He didn’t know the answers. We know this, too, because check out the teachers’ response: *(Continue reading from Luke 2:47 NlrV, emphasis added)* ‘Everyone who heard him was amazed at how much he understood. They also were amazed at his ANSWERS.’”

“Now, we don’t know the questions or the topic that day in the Temple, but I can tell you that the most frequent and the most important conversations they had in Jesus’ day were about the Torah . . . the Bible. So it is pretty safe to say that Jesus was discussing God’s Word with the teachers that day, and they were amazed at His understanding. Jesus demonstrated that He took God’s Word seriously.”

“Well, Mary and Joseph got Jesus, and they took Him back home. But at the end of this passage, there is this cool verse about Jesus growing up. It says, *(continue reading from Luke 2:52, NlrV)* ‘Jesus became wiser and stronger. He also became more and more pleasing to God and to people.’”

“This is such a cool verse because it lets us get a glimpse of HOW Jesus grew. It doesn’t say that Jesus grew smarter . . . what was the word instead? WISER. Jesus grew in wisdom. And as He grew wiser, He pleased God more and more and grew in friendship, too.”

“So at the beginning I asked if smarts . . . intelligence or knowledge . . . are the same thing as wisdom. Knowledge is often about what happens in our head . . . what we know . . . while wisdom involves how we take what we know and live it out. Wisdom is about how we live, and Jesus gave us a perfect model for what wisdom looks like!

*Picking up the three cards.*

“Think about it like this. *(Hold up the Scroll/Bible card.)* In the Temple, Jesus showed that He took God’s Word seriously. He treasured the words of God. But as we can see throughout the rest of His life, Jesus showed that He didn’t just know God’s Word; He was wise and lived it out.”

“*(Hold up the fork in the road card)* Because Jesus knew God’s Word and He took it seriously, He was able to make the wise choice. There were times when He was tempted . . . there were times when He had to do things that were extremely hard to do . . . yet each time, Jesus knew what to do and did it. He made the wise choice.”

“*(Hold up the shaking hands card)* And Luke 2:52 tells us that Jesus became more pleasing to other



people as He got older. For instance, He called His followers not just to love their friends but also to even love their enemies. How could Jesus say this? Because He lived this way. He loved the unpopular and the outcasts. He said that He came to lay down His life for His friends. Jesus treated others the way He wanted to be treated no matter who they were. Jesus didn't just know in His head how His Father wanted Him to live; He was wise and lived that way.

### **APPLICATION**

**COMMUNICATOR:** "We do things here every week to grow in wisdom, too! Just like Jesus did."

*Back to the three icons.*

*(Scroll/Bible)* One of the cool things we get to do here each week is open up God's Word together and learn. We grow in our knowledge of God's Word. But it is not just about learning facts . . . we want you to know God's Word so that you can live out God's Word. So you can grow in wisdom."

*(Fork in the road)* And as we grow in wisdom, we will find when we face temptations or have something extremely difficult to do but we know is the right thing to do, we can make the wise choice!"

*(Shaking hands)* And as we grow in wisdom, we will start to love other people the way that God loves others . . . even those who can be hard to love at times. We will begin to treat others the way we want to be treated!"

### **LANDING**

**COMMUNICATOR:** "As you go to small group today, I want you to wrestle more with this idea of smart vs. wise. Ask yourself this question:

**CG: Key Question Slide**

**"What does it mean to be wise?** I think you'll have a lot of good things to discuss. And then think about these three images and what it means to live them out. Let's pray and ask God to help us grow in wisdom throughout this week. 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.**