



## GETTING READY

### 1. Welcome/Opener

#### What You Need:

- Host
- Two prizes for winning team of two
  - Hersheys bar and 2 liter of coke
- “More or Less” secret prizes they can trade in
- Two signs that say “UNDER” (See “What You Do”)
- Two signs that say “OVER” (See “What You Do”)
- Over/Under Game Cards (See “What You Do”)

#### *Large Group Visuals:*

- More or Less Theme Slide

#### What You Do:

- Download the file labeled “1810\_LG\_Assets\_W1.” Print two copies of the “UNDER” sign and two copies of the “OVER” sign on cardstock. If you are in a large environment, consider handwriting these signs on large sheets of poster board so people can see them from the back of the room. Print out the “Over/Under” game cards on cardstock and cut them into cards. Have these all available on stage for the Host to use during the game.
- **More or Less Game:** Each week this month, the Host will lead a game where the person or people playing win a prize. In “Let’s Make a Deal” fashion, the winner(s) will then have the

option to keep that prize or choose another unknown prize that is either more or less than what he or she won in the first place. Each week, you'll need a prize for the winner and an optional prize for the More or Less game.

## 2. Communicator Script

### What You Need:

- Communicator
- Empty food tray
- Food tray with food on it
- Empty piggy bank
- Full piggy bank
- Newer cell phone
- Flip phone
- Sports ball
- Towel

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

- Key Question Slide

### What You Do:

- Gather the props ahead of time and have them on the stage and ready for the Communicator.

## 3. Worship

### What You Need:

- We are Royals
- Through It all

# That's All Right

**Bible Story:** That's All Right (Paul in Prison) • *Philippians 4:11b-13*

**Bottom Line:** God can help you be okay no matter what.

**Key Question:** What do you do when things don't go your way?

**Memory Verse:** "Then he said to them, 'Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has.'" *Luke 12:15 (NirV)*

**Life App:** Contentment—Deciding to be okay with what you have

**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:** *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 the World Series or a big sports game in your community, a movie opening, or 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 help them feel like they know what's happening.*

### **Opener**

**HOST:** "Hey everyone! Welcome to the month of October, which means a brand-new month of excitement around here at [Name of Environment]. I'm so glad you're here! We have a lot of fun planned, so let's get started!"

**CG:** *Theme Slide*

"This month we're asking the question, 'More or Less?' Now, you might be asking yourself, 'Is that a real question?' Well, let me assure you—it is. 'More or Less?' is the question you'll be asking yourself as we kick off [Name of Environment] each week.

"Here's how it will work. We start with some sort of game or competition where the winner will win a pretty great prize. But it doesn't end there! No, that is where 'More or Less?' comes into play. The winner will have the option of trading in his or her prize for an unknown prize that could be more . . . or less than what the winner got with the original prize. Understand? Great!"

“Now, for today’s game, I need two teams of two! Who wants to play?”

*Host chooses four volunteers and puts them together as two teams of two. Give each team an OVER sign and an UNDER sign.*

“Alright, this first game is called Over/Under, and here is how it is played. In just a second, I’ll give you an official world record category from *The Guinness Book of World Records*. I will then say a number. If you think the number I said is OVER the actual world record, you and your partner will hold up the ‘OVER’ sign. But if you think the number I said is UNDER the actual world record, you will hold up the ‘UNDER’ sign. You will receive one point for every correct answer. The team with the most points after the final round wins.”

“Got it?”

“Alright let’s play!”

*The following are also included as downloadable cards. Play as many rounds as time allows. Here are some questions/answers.*

- *Most straws stuffed in a mouth (hands off): 500 (answer: OVER – the record is 400 straws)*
- *Most forward rolls in one minute: 60 (answer: UNDER – the record is 75)*
- *Clothespins clipped to the face in one minute: 60 – (answer: OVER – the record is 51)*
- *Toilet seats broken by the head in one minute: 27 – (answer: UNDER – the record is 46)*
- *Canned drinks opened in a minute by a parrot: 12 – (answer: UNDER – the record is 35)*
- *Age of the oldest base jumper: 100 – (answer: OVER – the record is 90 years old)*
- *Collection of Star Wars memorabilia: 25,000 items (answer UNDER – the record is 92,240)*
- *Seconds balancing on four fingers: 30 (answer: OVER – the record is 19 seconds)*
- *Seconds to drink 1 liter of lemon juice with a straw: 60 (answer: UNDER – the record is 54 secs)*
- *Knives thrown around a human target in one minute: 60 (answer: UNDER – the record is 102)*

*Declare a winner and reward a prize to each winner.*

**HOST:** “. . . But because this is the MORE or LESS show, you now have the opportunity to trade in your prize for what is inside this mystery box. Now remember—the prize could be MORE, or it could be LESS. What do you want to do . . . would you like to trade your prize or keep it?”

*Winners decide. Reveal what is in the box whether or not they chose to trade or not. Comment accordingly. If the prize they pick happens to be “less” than the prize they already had, don’t make them feel bad for choosing it.*

## **Announcements**

*Use this as an example of what to say. Make it your own and help the kids feel welcomed. Then take a moment to share any/all announcements.*

**HOST:** "I'm so excited to be here with all of you today and get a little crazy! If it's your first time here, I want to welcome you and I would love to have a chance to meet you, get a high five and show you around. Here at Mission, we believe that this is a place for you and you belong here no matter who you are or what you believe. Mission is for YOU!

I have just a few announcements for you all today...

*Share any/all announcements.*

Now let's all stand up, get close, give someone a high five and let's sing and worship together!

*Host exits and Worship Leader enters.*

### **Worship**

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Thank you, *[Name of Host]*. Let's get up and get loud as we sing and dance for who God is and what he's done for us!

***We are Royals***

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "That was amazing! (*Take a moment to say something about the next song*). So let's give everything we have and worship God together!

***Through It All***

*Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit.*

## COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT

### INTRODUCTION

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Hey everybody! Good you see you all here today!”

*Tell a personal story similar to the following story or set up the following as a hypothetical (“Imagine if . . .”).*

“I have a question to start us off. Have you ever had a time where something didn’t go your way? Like, no matter how much you planned and tried, nothing seemed to work out in your favor? Maybe something like this. See, there was this one vacation my family went on when I was a kid. My parents had planned the spring break trip of a lifetime to Disney World! Some of you may be thinking that you go to Disney World all of the time, but this was HUGE for us. We had never been, and this was finally THE year. But when we got to the airport, our flight had been delayed—so delayed that we missed our connecting flight to Florida! We ended up having to rent this tiny car and drive the rest of the way. But it doesn’t stop there. When we got to our hotel, the pool was closed for renovations. Our first day in the parks the lines were so long that we hardly got to ride any rides. And on one ride, when we had already waited an hour, they shut the ride down because somebody had gotten sick! And on top of that, it rained . . . it poured. Every. Single. Day.”

“When we were planning our trip, this was NOT how it was supposed to go. I can tell you THAT!”

### TENSION

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Have you ever experienced something like this? I bet many of you have. And because almost all of us can relate to a situation like that, here’s a follow-up question: when things don’t go your way, how do you react to it? I mean if I’m being honest, I didn’t react the best on our soggy Disney vacation. But who wouldn’t react like that, right? Everything you planned was ruined, nothing went the way you wanted, and life during that time was downright miserable. But I wonder . . . is there another way we can respond? That’s a big question. And with big questions, we need big answers. And the first place we should look is God’s Word, the Bible.”

### TRUTH

**COMMUNICATOR:** “If you’ve been in church a while, you might remember a guy named Paul. We talk about him a lot. Paul lived about two thousand years ago around the time of Jesus. God used him to tell all sorts of people about Jesus and help them start churches. From time to time, he’d write letters to these churches to help them understand more about what it means to follow Jesus. He wrote one of these letters to Christians in a place called Philippi. The letter is now part of the New Testament and is called the Book of Philippians—which is what you were called if you live in Philippi. Makes sense, right? Now, check out what Paul says . . .”

*Open the Bible to Philippians 4:11b-13 (NirV) and read.*

*“I have learned to be content no matter what happens to me. I know what it’s like not to have what I need. I also know what it’s like to have more than I need. I have learned the secret of being content no matter what happens. I am content whether I am well fed or hungry. I am content whether I have more*

*than enough or not enough. I can do all this by the power of Christ. He gives me strength.”*

*“(Dramatic) Seriously?! Who is this guy, right? Who is this guy to tell US to be content no matter what happens? I bet this guy has never seen a day of hardship in his life! Probably writing these words from a beach chair, soaking his feet in the warm Mediterranean Sea and drinking a cold lemonade with an umbrella in it!”*

*Pause for a moment and then change tone.*

“Well, we might be able to say those things if they were all true, but if we dig a bit more into Paul’s life, you might be surprised when you find out where he’s writing this letter. But before we get to that, let’s take a look at Paul’s life. See, Paul wasn’t always a follower of Jesus. In fact, he was actually AGAINST Jesus. See, Paul was a devoted Jewish man, a member of a religious group called the Pharisees. He thought Jesus was a liar, and because of this, he thought all of his followers were, well, wrong. Paul made it his personal mission to stop the spread of Jesus’ message. He even went as far as to have followers of Jesus dragged from their homes and thrown into prison.”

“But Jesus spoke to Paul on the road one day, and Paul’s life was completely turned upside down. That day he became a follower of Jesus, but that wasn’t it for Paul. Jesus had a special mission for Paul. He wanted Paul to lead the charge and spread the message of Jesus to the countries where people had never heard.”

“Now you might think that just because Jesus called Paul and gave him this mission everything would have been pretty easy. But that is definitely not the case. Paul’s journeys were not easy. In fact, life for him was harder as a follower of Jesus than before. If you don’t believe me, listen to Paul’s own words as he recounts his struggles in another letter he wrote to Christians in Corinth, now called the Book of 2 Corinthians. Check this out! *(Reference: 2 Corinthians 11:24-26, NIV)*

*“Five times the Jews gave me 39 strokes with a whip . . .*

*“ . . . Three times I was beaten with sticks. Once they tried to kill me by throwing stones at me. Three times I was shipwrecked.*

*“ . . . I spent a night and a day in the open sea. I have had to keep on the move. I have been in danger from rivers. I have been in danger from robbers. I have been in danger from my fellow Jews and in danger from Gentiles. I have been in danger in the city, in the country, and at sea. I have been in danger from people who pretended they were believers.”*

“Now if this weren’t enough, one day Paul was arrested, and it’s true! He hadn’t done anything wrong, but the people in charge arrested him because they didn’t like how he was telling everyone about Jesus. They made him stay in a house in chains like a prisoner.”

“It was from this house prison that Paul wrote the words I read at the start. Let me read them again. *(Read directly from Philippians 4:11b-13) ‘I have learned to be content no matter what happens to me. I know what it’s like not to have what I need. I also know what it’s like to have more than I need. I have*

*learned the secret of being content no matter what happens. I am content whether I am well fed or hungry. I am content whether I have more than enough or not enough. I can do all this by the power of Christ. He gives me strength, (NIV).'*

“Do you see what Paul is saying? His contentment is not based on his circumstances. He says there are times I’ve been well fed . . .”

*Hold up tray with food on it.*

“. . .And there have been times when I’ve been hungry.”

*Hold up empty tray.*

“There have been times when I have had more than enough . . .”

*Shake full piggy bank*

“. . . And there have been times when I haven’t had enough.”

*Turn over empty piggy bank.*

### **APPLICATION**

**COMMUNICATOR:** “I wonder what it would be for us. I have learned to be content with the latest technology . . .”

*Hold up newer cell phone.*

“. . . Or without the latest technology”

*Hold up flip phone.*

“I have learned to be content with the starting spot on my sports team . . .”

*Hold up a sports ball.*

“. . . Or watching the game from the bench.”

*Hold up a towel.*

“I’m sure you can think of others, too. That’s tough, right? So what’s Paul’s secret? How could he be content in any situation . . . in beatings and shipwrecks, even prison? Well, he wrote, ‘I can do all this by the power of Christ. He gives me strength.’ You see? When you put your faith in Jesus, He doesn’t fix every problem and just give us what we want all the time. But He can give you the strength you need to be content in all situations.”



## LANDING

**COMMUNICATOR:** “As you go to small group today, think about this question:

**CG: Key Question Slide**

**“What do you do when things don't go your way?”** Not what do you wish you did or what do you think you did, but really think about it. What's your go-to attitude when life doesn't go your way? Talk about some of your own stories of times when things did not go as expected. You'll get to talk about it with your Small Group, too. Before you head there, though, 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.**

**CG: Theme Slide**

**Optional CG (Media Package): Theme Loop Video**