



GETTING READY

1. Opener/Closer

What You Need:

- Host
- One kid volunteer from each Small Group
- Paper plates
- Doughnuts for game
- Prize: Doughnuts for winning small group

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room
- High-energy music for the game

Large Group Visuals:

- Theme Slide
- Doughnut Dash Title Slide

Optional Videos (available for purchase through the 252 Media Package):

- Theme Loop Video
- Countdown Video
- Theme Video

What You Do:

- As volunteers come on stage for the game, kids need to be paired off on stage. To start, each pair will need one paper plate with a single doughnut on the plate. Partners will need to be spaced all over the stage to play the game at once. Each round, someone from each pair will be knocked out of the game. You will need a doughnut for each pair for each round of the game. You can reuse the doughnuts.

2. Bible Story

What You Need:

- Communicator
- Bible
- One kid volunteer
- Spatula
- Walking cane
- Playground ball
- Prop box

Large Group Visuals:

- Key Question Slide

What You Do:

- All props need to be placed in the prop box in advance. The prop box can be brought on stage when the communicator enters the stage.

3. Worship

What You Need:

- Every Beat
- Who You Say I Am - long version

Give Love

Bible Story: Give Love (Meet People's Needs) • 1 Peter 4:10-11

Key Question: How can you serve someone today?

Bottom Line: Look for ways to serve others.

Memory Verse: "Jesus sat down and called for the 12 disciples to come to him. Then he said, 'Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last. They must be the servant of everyone.'" *Mark 9:35, (NirV)*

Life App: Service—Lending a hand to help someone else

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: *Theme Slide*

Opener

HOST: "By show of hands, who in here also skipped breakfast this morning? (*Pause for response.*) I ALWAYS regret skipping breakfast! There's nothing worse than spending the morning with your stomach growling! Tell you what . . . I've got a game for all of you . . . and the winner of this game will win breakfast for his or her WHOLE SMALL GROUP! Sound intriguing? In that case, let's get one volunteer from each small group to join me up onstage!"

Host selects one volunteer from each small group and brings him or her to the stage. This game can be played with a large number of kids. If you have a small number of small groups, consider bringing multiple kids from each small group to the stage. Try to have an even number of volunteers on the stage.

"Thanks so much for joining us for this game . . . I like to call DOUGHNUT DASH."

CG: *Doughnut Dash Title Slide*

"The rules are fairly simple: each of you will be paired up in a head-to-head battle. Between each pair I will place a single doughnut on a plate. Your job as a contestant is to be the FIRST to grab the doughnut!"

"However, you can ONLY go for the doughnut when I say 'doughnut.' But that's too easy, so to mix things up a bit, I will ALSO call out different body parts. When I name a body part, you must touch that body part with BOTH hands. For example, if I said, 'HEAD,' you would put both hands on your head. If I said 'KNEES,' you would put your hands on your knees! And when I say, 'DOUGHNUT,' you grab that doughnut."

“During each round, you will all play the game at the same time. The partner who doesn't get the doughnut is eliminated. If you and your partner both happen to grab the doughnut at the same time, tearing it into two pieces, the person with the largest piece wins the round. This game will continue until only one person is left standing. The last person standing will win DOUGHNUTS. FOR. HIS OR HER. ENTIRE. SMALL. GROUP. (*Encourage rambunctious response*) Are there any questions? Great! Let's pair everyone off.”

Host pairs off all of the kids and places a doughnut/plate between each pair. Kids should stay standing on their feet but can squat down low to be closer to the doughnut.

“Let's do a few practice rounds just to make sure we've got it down! [*As time permits, do a couple of practice round*] Alright, I think we're ready for the real deal! We're going live in three . . . two . . . one . . .”

SFX: High-energy game music

Host calls out various body parts—foot, belly, back, nose, etc., eventually calling out DOUGHNUT. After each round, thank the kids who've been eliminated.

“And that's all she wrote! Let's have a big round of applause for our CHAMPION! I'll be delivering your doughnuts to your small group once we finish up here—in the meantime, let's all get on our feet and welcome [*Worship Leader*] to the stage!”

Host helps clean up the mess and exits. Worship Leader enters.

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 and get a high-five! Your group leaders are here almost every week... they're pretty amazing. 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. At the core of who we are as a church, we believe that **JESUS CHANGES EVERYTHING FOR EVERYONE!**”

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

Share any/all announcements.

“One of the things we do each week to help us focus on God is to sing... some of you will know the words to the songs, so we want you to shout and sing them out really loud. If you don't know the

words... they'll be on the screen for you. Feel free to clap, jump, sing and shout along with us! The best part about this is the message of the song and how good God is! Let's all stand up and sing together!"

Worship Leaders enter. Host exits.

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!

Every Beat

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!

Who You Say I Am - long version

WORSHIP LEADER: *PRAY*

Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit.

CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide

INTRODUCTION

COMMUNICATOR: "Hey, everybody! Over there I have a box of mystery items. Anybody want to take a guess as to what's inside? (*Pause for response.*) Nope! There are no doughnuts! Not even close! Do you want to find out, though? Great! First, I need a volunteer from the audience to help me with a little demonstration. Don't worry, it's nothing crazy or difficult, and it has nothing to do with grabbing doughnuts. Sorry! Anybody want to help?"

Communicator selects an outgoing volunteer and brings them to the stage.

"Your task is easy! All you'll need to do is pull a few of items out of that box over there one by one and show them to the rest of the audience. Make sense? Good! Go ahead and pull the first item out of the box, please!"

Volunteer pulls items one at a time. Communicator instructs volunteer to walk the entire length of the stage while item is spoken about. Items can be pulled in any order, just ad-lib according to what is pulled.

"The first item is this fabulous spatula. Show that off to the audience, please! Everyone get a reeeal close look at it. Now, can anyone tell me what sorts of things a spatula can be used for? (*Pause for*

response) Yep, you can use it to flip an omelet, mix cake batter, stir your taco meat . . . you can even use it to scrape alllllll the cookie dough out of the bowl! A spatula serves a huge purpose for cooking. Could you grab the next item for me, please?"

Volunteer returns item to the box and picks up the next object.

"Next up we have a good old-fashioned walking cane! Let everyone get a good look at it! Who can tell me what this is used for? (*Pause for response*) That's correct! It could be used to pull people off the big stage or as a prop in the Christmas play. If you were desperate, it could substitute for a golf club, but its greater purpose is helping people walk! Next item, if you would?"

Volunteer returns item to the box and picks up the next object.

"Thirdly, we have this wonderful playground ball! Hold it out so everyone can take a good look, please! Who can tell me some of the uses for this ball? (*Pause for response*) Kickball, four square, a game of soccer in a pinch . . . all excellent uses! Its purpose is for all kinds of fun and games.

Volunteer returns item to the box and picks up the next object.

TENSION

COMMUNICATOR: "Lastly, we have our excellent volunteer, [*Name of Volunteer*], who has so many great purposes! Please take a walk around the stage. [*Name of Volunteer*] is an incredible stagehand, an awesome friend, and a really, ridiculously good dancer. Want to show everybody? (*Pause for response*.) How about we will give our great volunteer a rowdy applause for his/her help this morning."

Communicator prompts rowdy applause and dismisses volunteer back to his or her seat.

"You know, we didn't have time to name all the great purposes [*Name of volunteer*] serves, but the idea does get me thinking. Here is an interesting thought to chew on: you can look around at all the things you use throughout your day and know exactly what purpose they serve . . . BUT when you take a look at yourself, it can be a little more difficult to figure out what purpose *you* serve. A broom can sweep, and a ball can bounce, but what can *I* do? The short answer . . . a lot more than you might think.

"For the long answer, let's take a second look at some of these props and talk about how you could serve others with them."

TRUTH

COMMUNICATOR: "To do that, let's first look at a guy named Peter. Peter was one of Jesus' first disciples. During his life, Peter saw and experienced firsthand persecution because his belief in Jesus. They lived in a time when someone who believed Jesus Christ was the Son of God who died on the cross to give us a relationship with God could get into a LOT of trouble! They could be arrested if they

refused to bow down to the emperor. Other Jews would harass them until they left town. Their own family members could reject them because of their belief in Jesus, isolating them from their loved ones. Peter and his friends were arrested and beaten. And these followers of Jesus needed some encouragement.”

“Peter had a solution. He wrote letters. As you can imagine, his words would have been a welcome sight with so many people scared and worried.”

“One of the letters he wrote can be found in the New Testament book of 1 Peter. Check out what Peter wrote, (*Open Bible and read 1 Peter 4:10*) ‘*God’s gifts of grace come in many forms. Each of you have received a gift to serve others. You should use it faithfully.*’ Peter was pointing out the fact God has made us all different with different gifts or abilities to help others out. Not only does God give these gifts, but He also expects us to use them for other people. What could this look like in the real world? I’m so glad you asked!”

Communicator pulls out a spatula.

“Let’s do a hypothetical scenario. Say your mom was giving your home a deep clean. She was scrubbing, wiping, vacuuming, and dusting like a beast. As she quickly moved around the house she tripped over the dog and sprained her ankle. It’s nothing serious, of course, but the doctor told her to keep her weight off of it for a few days while it heals. She doesn’t have the mobility necessary to take care of the day-to-day stuff to keep everything that needs to happen at home in order. Now let’s think. Could anyone tell me how you could use this . . . (*gesture to spatula*) . . . to serve your mom?”

Communicator allows several kids to give possible ways to serve using the spatula while mom is unable. Communicator can either resolve the scenario with a solution provided by a kid or complete the scenario with the following text.

“All excellent ideas! Since your mom can’t get up to cook dinner for the family, you could get in there and make some delicious scrambled eggs and toast—with the appropriate supervision from another family member, of course! Let’s try one that’s a little harder . . .”

Communicator puts away spatula and picks up the walking cane.

“You’re at the mall with a few of your friends to shop for shoes, but mostly to hang out. Having a blast, you pause when you notice an older gentleman with a walking cane at the bottom of a set of stairs having a difficult time navigating them. In what ways could you serve this gentleman?”

Communicator allows several kids to give possible ways to serve the man with the walking cane. Communicator can either resolve the scenario with a solution provided by a kid or complete the scenario with the following text.

“For sure! You could definitely offer him a shoulder to lean on to make his way up the stairs or maybe help him locate the nearest elevator or escalator . . . all of those would be excellent ways to show an attitude of service! Let’s try our hand at one more, shall we?”

Communicator puts away walking cane and picks up a playground ball.

“Imagine you’re at school . . . in your favorite class of all time. Anybody want to guess what class I’m talking about? *(Pause for response)* That’s right! RECESS! And you’re having a grand old time! You’re playing . . . *(Point to audience to scream out their favorite activity to play while at recess)*. YES! You are playing THAT activity. Not only are you playing that game, but you are also completely dominating your peers. You glance at your teachers. That’s when you notice the new kid. Last week, she transferred to your school and landed in your class. She doesn’t know anyone, which explains why she was probably sitting with the teachers . . . alone . . . with no friends. How could you use this . . . *(gesture to kickball)* to serve the new kid?”

Communicator allows several kids to give possible ways to serve the new kid while at recess. Communicator can either resolve the scenario with a solution provided by a kid or complete the scenario with the following text.

“You absolutely could invite her to play a friendly game of kickball, gaga ball, dodgeball, nuke ‘em, or whatever you’re playing with your friends! You could also snag two more people and play a game of four-square!”

Communicator puts away playground ball.

APPLICATION

COMMUNICATOR: “Let’s do a really quick recap. A spatula is good for making an omelet. A walking cane can improve one’s mobility. A playground ball makes an excellent kickball. But what can you do? Some of you know exactly how God wired you to help others and use that gift every single day. Others in this room may be thinking you have no special talents to serve others. Regardless of where you stand, the verses Peter wrote applies to you. *(Open Bible and read 1 Peter 4:10) ‘God’s gifts of grace come in many forms. Each of you have received a gift to serve others. You should use it faithfully.’* Peter continues in the next verse. Listen to this. *(Open Bible and read 1 Peter 4:11) ‘If anyone speaks, they should do it as one speaking God’s words. If anyone serves, they should do it with the strength God provides. Then in all things God will be praised through Jesus Christ. Glory and power belong to him for ever and ever. Amen.’”*

“All of this happens when you believe in Jesus. Through the Holy Spirit, God gives us these special gifts—gifts like teaching and wisdom and encouragement. Some of these gifts, we may not even be aware of. Regardless, it is our job to look out for how to serve others and use the gifts God has given us to do it.”

LANDING

COMMUNICATOR: “As we wrap up this morning, think about this.”

CG: Key Question Slide

“How can you serve someone today?” Maybe it’s at lunch today or when your dad works in the garage or when your parents are trying to get everyone to bed. Every day we are given opportunities to use our God-given gifts to serve others. In Small Group, you’ll get the chance to come up with all sorts of ideas for how to serve others. Before you head out, though, let’s pray and ask God to help us notice people who could use some help and give us the courage to serve them with the gifts He’s given.”

Lead group in a prayer related to what they just heard then dismiss them to small group.

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