



## GETTING READY

### 1. Opener/Closer

#### What You Need:

- Host
- Four kid volunteers (two male and two female)
- Two Small Group Leaders
- Two trays
- Two baskets
- Two chairs
- Two bibs
- Bread
- Cheese
- Sandwich meat—Pickle and Pimento Loaf
- Iceberg lettuce leaves
- Tomato slices
- Sandwich-cut pickles
- *Optional:* latex-free gloves for kids handling the food

#### *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
- Sandwich Stacker Title Slide

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

- Theme Loop Video
- Countdown Video
- Theme Video
- Life App Video

- Theme TransBack Video

### **What You Do:**

- Fill two baskets with the following ingredients for sandwiches: bread, cheese, sandwich meat, iceberg lettuce leaves, tomato slices, and sandwich-cut pickles. Make sure the ingredients are easy to access so they can be tossed.

## **2. Bible Story**

### **What You Need:**

- Communicator
- Stagehand
- Bible
- Two easels (in Kenny's office)
- Two Large dry erase boards (in Kenny's office)
- Markers

### *Large Group Visuals:*

- Key Question Slide

### **What You Do:**

- As the Communicator is coming on stage, a stagehand can help quickly set up all four easels across the back of the stage. On each easel, place one large notepad. If easels are not an option, call up four responsible student leaders (or Small Group Leaders) who can hold the easels without being a distraction.

## **3. Worship**

### **What You Need:**

- Alive Again
- Real Love

# Give a Little Bit

**Bible Story:** Give a Little Bit (Feeding 5,000) • *John 6:1-13*

**Key Question:** What do you have that you can use to serve others?

**Bottom Line:** Use what you have 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:** “I’ve long felt that waiters and waitresses are the unsung heroes of society. All day long they patiently serve a variety of people, bringing delicious food, drinks, and deserts directly to our tables so we don’t have get them ourselves. Our game this morning pays tribute to these unsung champions—a game I like to call ‘Sandwich Stacker.’”

**CG:** *Sandwich Stacker Title Slide*

“I need SIX volunteers: two guys, two girls, and two Small Group Leaders.”

*Host selects volunteers and brings them to the stage. Host introduces them to the rest of the group.*

“Kids, today you’ll be showing a spirit of service to your Small Group Leaders by preparing them . . . a delicious sandwich. That’s right, leaders, there will be no requisite Small Group Leader hazing today—you’ll simply be eating a sandwich. The CATCH, however, is that this sandwich preparation is going to be a two-person job: one of the student volunteers will be standing onstage with a tray, ready to craft this delicious sandwich. His or her partner will be on the other side of the stage, delivering the ingredients through the air. That’s right: one of you will be THROWING the sandwich ingredients onstage to your partner’s tray, and the other will be CATCHING the thrown food with a tray in order to make the sandwich for their Small Group Leader. Each sandwich MUST have a slice of bread on the bottom AND the top, at least ONE slice of pimento loaf, ONE piece of cheese, ONE leaf of lettuce, ONE tomato, and ONE pickle.”

“Volunteers are only allowed to catch the thrown food with their trays . . . not their hands. The first team to successfully complete their sandwich AND have their Small Group Leader eat the WHOLE

thing—OK at least HALF—is the WINNER! To make this more fun, let’s have the boys compete against the girls. And I already know what our Small Group Leaders are thinking, and the answer is YES! It is safe to eat this food because these kids have all washed their hands . . . (Pause) yesterday. Small Group Leaders, prepare thy stomachs! Volunteers, let’s get into positions.”

*Host moves one girl and one boy offstage with their baskets of food. Host positions one girl and one boy onstage, each holding a tray to catch food. Small Group Leaders sit in the chairs eagerly waiting their sandwiches. Host places bibs on Small Group Leaders for kicks.*

“Any questions? Great. Then let the sandwich stacking BEGIN! Three . . . two . . . one . . . GO!”

**SFX: High-energy game music**

*The game starts with kids tossing food onto their friends’ trays. The first team to have their sandwich stacked can pass their sandwich to their SGL to eat. First one to finish their sandwich wins. Another options is to have your SGLs simply take one bite of the sandwich instead of eating the whole thing.*

“And that’s a sandwich-stacking wrap! Let’s have a big round of applause for all of our contestants and a second even BIGGER round of applause for our winners! Well done! Now, let’s get everyone on our feet and give a big, hearty [name of environment] welcome to [Name of Worship Leader]!”

*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!

### **Alive Again**

**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!

### **Real Love**

**WORSHIP LEADER:** *PRAY*

*Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit.*

### **CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide**

## **INTRODUCTION**

*Stage should have two easels with markers and large dry erase boards.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Hey everybody! By show of hands, tell me how many of you are familiar with the organization called Compassion International? (*Pause for response*) A few of you, great! For those of you unfamiliar, it is an amazing organization whose mission is to release children from poverty in Jesus’ name. They are working on continents like Africa, South America, and Asia to help the spiritual, physical, social, and economic needs of kids.”

“The mission of Compassion International is huge. They work throughout the world to address the global poverty problem, which is completely overwhelming. Those who live in poverty face hunger, disease, child labor, hopelessness, and so much more. Around the world, around three billion people live on less than \$2.50 a day. Individuals are expected to pay rent, buy food, and support their families every day on less money than your parents pay for your school lunch. Worldwide 600 million children live in extreme poverty, which is almost twice the population of the entire United States. This organization is working to address this massive problem.”

“Although global poverty has not been solved, Compassion International has worked tirelessly for over 65 years. A big part of Compassion is their child sponsorship program. Because of this program, kids have access to medical checkups, food, health/hygiene training, mentoring, and educational assistance, and they hear all about Jesus. And check this out: over 1.8 million children have been sponsored or supported through this program! Isn’t that amazing?!”

“I don’t know about you, but the impact of Compassion International in this world gets me really excited! At the same time, can I be honest for a minute? The mission of Compassion International is so big that sometimes I find it overwhelming.”

### TENSION

**COMMUNICATOR:** “If I were responsible for delivering kids from poverty all over the globe, I wouldn’t know where to start and would likely be curled up on the floor sucking my thumb. The SHEER MAGNITUDE of all the children in the world who need help is kind of scary. How could I make an impact on such a huge need? Where would I get the resources needed to help not only kids but also their families?”

“For me, this reaction is nothing new. This is often what I think about when I see a big need. But I imagine this might be your reaction as well. When we see homelessness in our city or kids with no friends or streets with dangerous reputations, we often do not respond with urgency to help. Rather, we tend to . . . well . . . do nothing because we don’t know where to start or how to help.”

“I’m so excited you are here today because we are going to feast on an awesome true story. In the book of John, there was another young man who was faced with a ginormous food shortage problem. However, instead of doing nothing, he took action to help.”

### TRUTH

*Easel #1 left side: Communicator draws large cross on the first easel, representing Jesus.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** “At the time of this story, Jesus was at the height of his time doing ministry on earth. There was something magnetic about Jesus that people wanted to see. He taught amazing things that people had never heard. He made impossible things possible. It didn’t matter where Jesus was going. He always had a crowd of people following Him around.”

“This is exactly what’s happening in our story. After teaching and miraculously healing sick people, Jesus crossed the Sea of Galilee. With His disciples, Jesus went up to a mountainside where they sat down. While they rested, they notice the large crowd approaching.”

*Easel #1 right side: Move to second easel and draw a bunch of circles or maybe smiley faces to represent a large crowd.*

“The crowd was over 5,000 people. By the time they arrived, it was about time to eat. However, there

were no restaurants or grocery stores around to feed all the people. Clearly, this is a big, massive need! This would be the time I'd start sucking on my thumb in an overwhelmed panic. Fortunately for Jesus, this was not His reaction (*Reference easel #1*). In fact, John tells us that Jesus knew exactly how He was going to feed the crowd, but He leaned over to Philip before He delivered His plan. He asks, (*Open Bible and read John 6:5b*), “*where can we buy bread for these people to eat?*”

“Philip recognized that feeding such a large number of people would be no small task. As he quickly did the math in his head, Philip noted it would cost more than eight months’ pay for each person to have a small bite of bread. In other words, this was an impossible task, especially on such short notice. This was when Andrew approached with a small boy.”

*Easel #2 left side: Move to third easel and draw a boy.  
Could be a stick figure, smiley face, or tornado man.*

“Andrew found the kid in the crowd carrying a lunch box. Inside the box, the boy had five small loaves of bread and two small fish.”

*Easel #2 right side: Move to fourth easel and draw five loaves of bread and two fish.*

“No doubt that Philip would have laughed at the notion of using a lunch box from a young boy to feed the crowd, and even Andrew questioned how far the food would go in such a large crowd. Regardless, Jesus knew exactly what to do.”

“Jesus (*Reference easel #1*) directed His disciples to have everyone in the crowd (*Reference easel #2*) to sit down. Then Jesus gave thanks. Jesus picked up the bread and fish (*Reference easel #4*), and He began passing it to those who were seated. The disciples watched in amazement as each person took bread and fish and passed it on . . . and on . . . and on. With only what the boy gave (*Reference easel #3*), Jesus gave the people as much as they wanted.”

“Once everyone had his or her fill, the disciples picked up the leftover pieces. And this next part is just amazing. Check out what John tells us, (*Open Bible and read John 6:13*) ‘*So they gathered what was left over from the five barley loaves. They filled 12 baskets with the pieces left by those who had eaten.*”

## **APPLICATION**

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Isn’t that wild? One thing I love about this story is the boy. The boy gave what he had, and Jesus used it to perform an amazing miracle. Nobody asked the boy to find 5,000 loads of bread and fish. Nobody expected this lunch to feed 5,000 . . . except Jesus.”

“Sometimes serving people comes easy. Other times, it takes some thought. When you see a big need, it may look like an impossible situation, but when that happens, we want you to remember what happened when one small boy gave Jesus his lunch. Jesus used it to make an impact.”

“Impossible. Big. Huge. Massive. These words and the scenes they describe shouldn’t intimidate you

from helping. Rather, think about what you have or what you can do to help! When the city park looks completely trashed, there is something you can do. When the food bank says they need more canned goods, there is something you can do. When you have mastered a subject like math and you see others struggling, there is something you can do. No matter how small it appears, offer what you have and see what God does with it.”

### **LANDING**

**COMMUNICATOR:** “It could be time, money, friendship, or influence. Think about this as you head to Small Group:

**CG: Key Question Slide**

“**What do you have that you can use to serve others?** Big or small, God can use what we have to help point other people to Jesus. We just have to make the wise choice and offer what we have when the time comes. You’ll talk more about it in Small Group, but before you head there, let’s pray and ask God to help us see what we have that can be used for Him.”

*Communicator leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard then dismisses them to small group.*

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