



## GETTING READY

### 1. Welcome/Opener

#### What You Need:

- Host
- Small Group Leaders
- Aluminum foil
- One helmet per small group leader volunteer
- One net per small group leader volunteer
- Balls (ex: ball pit balls or stress balls)
- Table

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

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter the room
- Upbeat music to use during the game

#### *Large Group Visuals:*

- Theme Slide

## 2. Communicator Script

### What You Need:

- Communicator
- Bible
- Clothesline
- 39 pieces of blue cardstock
- 27 pieces of red cardstock
- 66 Clothespins
- Tape
- Bible story cut outs (*printable*)

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

- Upbeat music to use as kids exit the room

### *Large Group Visuals:*

- One Big Story Intro Video
- Blank Key Question Slide
- Key Question Slide
- Bible story cut outs (*printable*)

## 3. Worship

### What You Need:

- We are Royals
- Who You Say I Am

# I'll Remember

**Bible Story:** I'll Remember (What is the Bible) • *Psalm 119:105*

**Key Question:** Why is the Bible important?

**Bottom Line:** When you learn about God, it's easier to follow Him.

**Memory Verse:** *The way we show our love is to obey God's commands. He commands you to lead a life of love. That's what you have heard from the beginning.* 2 John 6, NIV

**Life App:** Obedience—Trusting who is in charge by doing what you're asked to do

**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

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

**Optional Video (Media Package):** Countdown

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

*Host enters.*

### **Welcome**

*Host has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to [Name of Environment]. Host is relatable and inviting. Host discusses recent/upcoming events: Summer X Games, World Police and Fire Games, US Open, National Ice Cream Sandwich Day, Campfire Day, National Watermelon Day, Friendship Day, movie opening (*Artemis Fowl*, *The Angry Birds Movie 2*, *Playmobil*), 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 make them feel like they know what's happening. The stage should be prepared for the game as kids walk into the large group room.*

### **Opener**

**HOST:** "Greetings and welcome all galactic geeks and cosmic freaks to [Name of Environment], the biggest party on this side of the Milky Way! This past week, I've been doing some "out of this world" thinking, and I've concluded everything beyond planet earth is a lot different than this room. Humor me for a second while I explain."

"Did you know space is completely silent? A word NEVER used to describe [Name of Environment]. Or how about this? The hottest planet, Venus, gets as hot as 864 degrees Fahrenheit. Although this

place is lit, we aren't THAT lit! On top of that, did you know that a full NASA space suit costs a whopping 12 million dollars. My Old Navy (*or other brand you might wear*) shirts can't compete with expensive taste like that."

"But just because [*Name of Environment*] is very different than everything beyond our stratosphere, it doesn't mean we can't have some space-themed fun. In our audience today we have several beloved Small Group Leaders who had dreams long, long ago to become astronauts. They sat around in their diapers dreaming of rocketing into a much more silent world wearing an incredibly expensive outfit. But life happened, and now they are sitting in a space much . . . well . . . noisier and in clothes . . . much cheaper. This morning I want to give these Small Group Leaders the chance to live out their astronaut dreams on this stage in a game we like to call (*pause*) FOIL COVERED SPACE PERSON!"

*Host calls up small group leaders to participate in the game. Depending on the environment, host can call up a couple small group leaders or all small group leaders. Every participating small group leader on stage will need a line of kids passing them their props and supplies from the back of the room.*

**HOST:** "Thanks so much for joining me on this stage. This will be an opportunity like none other, as you'll be competing in a relay of galactic proportions. We want to see who can be the first small group leader to be a FOIL-COVERED SPACE PERSON. The game is simple. The audience will pass all the necessary items from the very back of the room to individual Small Group Leaders on the stage. As the props make it to the stage, our contestants will put them on as quickly as possible."

"First, the audience will pass up aluminum foil. Each Small Group Leader must cover most of his or her arms, legs, and torsos with foil! Next, the audience will pass up a helmet. Each small group leader must put the helmet on his or her head. Then the gloves and boots, etc. Finally, you'll pass a net to each Small Group Leader to hold. Once your Small Group Leader has his or her net, you will toss space debris—A.K.A. a ball—from the back of the room. The first Small Group Leader to catch a ball in his or her net will become the greatest FOIL-COVERED SPACE PERSON of all time! Any questions? Great! Let's play!"

**SFX:** *High-energy game music*

*Let chaos ensue. Kids should not pass up the next prop until the small group leader on stage has received it. If using foil, kids must wait until the small group leader is completely wrapped up in foil before passing up the next prop.*

**HOST:** "Wow! That was amazing! Let's give it up for all our volunteers! You all look . . . SPACE-TACULAR! However, there can only be one greatest FOIL COVERED SPACE PERSON of all time! Go crazy for our winner! (*pause for response*)

## 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 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!

### 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!”

### Who You Say I Am

**WORSHIP LEADER:** *PRAY*

*Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit.*

### CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide

*Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit.*

## COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT

### INTRODUCTION

*VIDEO: One Big Story Intro*

*CG: Blank Key Question Slide*

*Communicator tells a story about a time they or someone they know first realized the importance of the Bible. Communicator can use the following example or use it for inspiration.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** “When I was about your age, knee-high to a lunar rover, I had a buddy named Lance. He was the cool friend who was always in the know with all the latest gaming gear and social happenings around town. One day, Lance came to me with a proposition: his parents were sending him off to a week-long camp, and he wanted me to come along as his buddy!”

“Did I know what kind of camp? Nope! Did I know where the camp was located? Nope! Did I even care? Nope! All I knew was cool Lance was going, and I wanted to tag along. When we arrived to camp, I learned it was a Christian camp where you go to not only have fun but also to learn about God. I had never been to a Christian camp before, but that didn’t scare me too much because my buddy, Lance, was with me.”

“At camp, we did all the typical camp activities. We made s’mores, we played tug of war, and we swam in the lake . . . it was a Grand Old Time. However, there was one part of camp that confused me a bit. The counselors kept making reference to this one book. During rec time . . . they talked about the book. Before lunch . . . they talked about the book. During team activities . . . they talked about the book. First thing in the morning, last thing before bed, they talked about this book! Lance knew about the book and even brought his own copy. There was hardly a point during the day when they WEREN’T talking about this book, and it wasn’t long before I found myself asking, “Okay . . . what IS the BIG DEAL with this book they were calling the Bible?”

### TENSION

**COMMUNICATOR:** “This was my first introduction to the Bible. Prior to this camp, my understanding of the Bible was very limited. I’d heard people like my grandmother say the Bible was important, but just because my grandmother valued it didn’t mean I did, too. But my perspective started to change while I was at camp. The leaders and even my friend kept implying this book—the Bible—was incredibly important. They didn’t just talk about its significance; they also showed its significance. They used what is written in the Bible to help answer really big questions. But it never really made

sense to me. I did not place the same importance on the Bible as everyone else, mostly because it was something new to me that I didn't fully understand.”

“As I describe my experience with the Bible, I can't help but wonder if there are others of you who have also wondered what makes the Bible such a big deal. The stories are thousands of years old. The main characters lived a life very different from what we see today with no space ships or even aluminum foil. On top of that, the sentences, or verses, aren't always easy to understand.”

“You may even be wondering if the Bible is still relevant or even useful because of how old it is. If that's you, I am so glad you're here today because we are kicking off this month by exploring the significance of this book and how it can help us journey through life.”

## TRUTH

*At this point, the stage (or wall close to the stage) should get ready with a clothesline with 66 sheets of cardstock hanging from it, labeled with the books of the Bible. Thirty-nine of these should be blue (for the Old Testament) and 27 should be red (for the New Testament). As the speaker goes through the various stories, he/she will add a cut out or die cut illustrating an important symbol from that story.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** “If you could all humor me for just a few minutes, let's imagine this clothesline represents the Bible. You'll notice we have 66 pieces of paper attached to the clothesline. Each piece of paper represents a different book of the Bible. Collectively, these books fit together to form God's One Big Story. This story tells how God made us and loves us so much that He made a way to rescue us even though we don't deserve it.”

“Each book is different from the next, and many of the books were written by different authors. But every book was inspired by God. The Bible is split into two big parts—the Old Testament . . . (*gesture to blue pages*) . . . and the New Testament (*gesture to red pages*). Let's talk about the Old Testament first, a section filled with stories of adventure, heartbreak, words of wisdom, poetry, love, and more.”

*Communicator moves to the Old Testament side.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** “At the very, very beginning of the Old Testament . . . there's nothing but God. But then . . . God decides to create. Using His voice, God creates earth and everything within the planet and everything beyond the planet.”

*Communicator puts a cut out of Earth on the Genesis card.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** "And on the earth, God made people in His image—starting with Adam and Eve. We'll talk a little more about those two next week, but for now I'll say this: from the beginning, God's people were far from perfect, but God still loved them."

*Communicator puts a cut out of an apple on the*

*Genesis card.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** "In fact, throughout the entire Bible, you can notice a theme. Time and time again, God's people turned their backs on Him and got into trouble. But time and time again, God comes to their rescue. He NEVER leaves them. Like in the second book called Exodus. God's people turned away from Him, and as a result, they had to wander in the desert for many, many years. But God still loved them and sent them food along the way."

*Communicator puts a cut out of a bird on the Exodus*

*card.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** "You can find stories of heroism, like the one you can read in the book of 1 Samuel. We find a story of a young man, probably not too much older than many of you. His name was David, and he challenged a 9-foot-tall professional soldier to a duel. God gave him the confidence and skill to defeat the giant with a stone and slingshot."

*Communicator puts a cut out of a rock on 1 Samuel*

*card.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** "In other parts of the Old Testament, God speaks through prophets. Through one prophet named Isaiah, God promised that a Savior would come to rescue not only the Israelites but the entire world."

*Communicator puts a cut out of a scroll on the Isaiah*

*card.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** "You can also find stories of unwavering faith. Over in the book of Daniel, we read about . . . Daniel! He was a guy who worshiped the one true God. Even though there was a law commanding that people worship the king instead of God or else be thrown into the lion's den, Daniel took his chances with the lion's den. Daniel knew God would be faithful. And He was! God rescued Daniel from the lions in the den."

*Communicator puts a cut out picture of a lion on*

*Daniel.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** "At the end of the Old Testament (*referencing*), there is a stretch of time we have silence. For hundreds of years, we don't have a single recorded word from God. But then . . . as we



jump to the New Testament, God shows up again. He sends angels to an ordinary young woman named Mary. She learns she's pregnant with the Son of God who will be named Jesus."

*Communicator puts a cut out of a star on Matthew.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** "The New Testament is made up of 27 books. The writers of the New Testament books tell the story of Jesus and what happens as His followers spread His message throughout the world. (*Referencing*) The first four books of the New Testament are also known as the Gospels. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John were written by men named . . . you guessed it . . . Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John! Two of these men, Matthew and John, were Jesus' disciples. The other two, Mark and Luke, were very close to Jesus' disciples and did their research when it came to the stories from Jesus' life they wanted to share. The Gospels give us a glimpse into what happened while Jesus lived on earth."

*Communicator puts a cut out of a young boy on Luke.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** "We learn about Jesus' power—like the time the woman was healed as she reached out and simply touched Jesus' robe."

*Communicator puts a cut out of a jacket on Luke.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** "We read about Jesus' death at the hands of religious leaders. This was why Jesus came in the first place. His death pays for our sins and makes it possible for us to have a forever relationship with God! But then we learn that Jesus didn't stay dead but defeated death and came back to life!"

*Communicator puts a cut out of a cross on John.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** "From that point forward, the rest of the New Testament is all about Jesus' followers telling others about Jesus, no matter the cost! They shared with others, even if it meant going to jail or worse. We find letters from a man named Paul, who had a radical change of heart when he encountered Jesus. He helped start churches and wrote them letters that helped them understand how they can work together to share God's love with others."

*Communicator puts a cut out of a "X" on Acts.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** "In the final book of the Bible, down here in Revelations, we get a glimpse at what it will be like when Jesus returns someday and God makes everything right again—forever!"

*Communicator puts a cut out of a horse on*

*Revelations.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Clearly, the Bible is full of great information. But here’s the best part of the Bible—you’re in it! (*Point to the audience*) You and you and you and you! Now, you might not be named specifically in the Bible. But we can all follow Jesus just like those first believers in the early church. All of us have the same mission Jesus gave His disciples to love others and tell them all about Jesus. It is a huge job. But when we make a decision to follow Jesus for the rest of our lives, God sends the Holy Spirit to help us.”

## APPLICATION

**COMMUNICATOR:** “As you think about this book (*holding up Bible*), we want you to remember it’s not JUST a book. It’s THE story of God written down. All of our small group leaders and I want you to know that these are the words and stories and moments from history that God wants us to know for ourselves. These words are meant to be read, noticed, and used to help us grow in our relationships with God. Inside this book, we learn that God is powerful enough to make the entire universe. He is smart enough to help you with anything. But we also learn that this all-powerful, all-knowing God loves you more than anything. And the Bible is one of the best places to learn about God’s love and how that can change . . . well, everything!”

“Thousands of years ago, David—yep, that same David who defeated the giant—wrote songs, many of which we can still read in the Book of Psalms. Listen to how he describes how God’s Word can help us. He says, (*Read directly from Psalm 119:105*) ‘Your word is like a lamp that shows me the way. It is a like a light that guides me.’”

“The Bible can guide for us as we face the uncertainty of life. And ultimately the Bible is the story of Jesus. The proof of God’s love is the fact He sent His Son, Jesus, to earth to live a perfect life. When Jesus died on the cross, He did it because of His love for us. After three days, Jesus defeated death and came back to life! When we believe in Jesus, we receive life that lasts forever. The Bible lights the path that leads to Jesus!”

“All told . . . there’s a lot of stuff we can discover in the Bible! We want to challenge all of you to read it. Whether you read from your own Bible, a friend’s Bible, your grandmother’s Bible, or a Bible app, it is important to find time to read it. If you can, try to read from God’s Word every day. Don’t know where to start? Try those first four books of the New Testament, the Gospels, that help us know more about Jesus. Even if it is a short amount, reading the Bible can become a habit. And this daily routine can help you know God. And any time you’re not quite sure what you’re reading, be sure to ask your parents or leaders at church the questions you have about the Bible. They’d love to help you work through all of those.”

## LANDING

**COMMUNICATOR:** “For many in this room who grew up coming to church, you’ve likely heard it’s important to read your Bible. Maybe you can even rattle off all kinds of facts and stories found within

it. If that's you, keep reading! You can always learn something new about God or yourself by reading from the Bible. For the rest of you, you're in good company. No one will ever know all there is to know about God. But the Bible is a great place to start."

**CG: Key Question Slide**

**COMMUNICATOR:** "As you head out today, we have question for all of you to think about: **Why is the Bible important?** How does this book written thousands of years ago still play a role in people's lives? Why do they continue to read it and talk about it? But it's ok if you're not sure how to answer those questions. You'll get a chance to talk more about them in Small Group, but before you head there, let's pray and thank God for inspiring all of those people to write down."

*Communicator leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard. Communicator dismisses kids to Small Group.*

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

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