



GETTING READY

1. Welcome/Opener

What You Need:

- Host
- Three Small Group Leaders
- Paper Signs #1, #2, #3

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter the room

Large Group Visuals (downloadable from the website):

- Theme Slide

What You Do:

- Preselect three Small Group Leaders for a game of two truths and a lie. They should think of two things about themselves that are true but that others may have a hard time believing. They should also think of one thing about themselves that is a lie.
- Make paper signs with a #1, #2, and #3 written or printed on them. Tape them to a wall where there is enough room for the kids to stand by the number sign.

2. Communicator Script

What You Need:

- Communicator
- Bible

- Host as Joseph (Bible costume, young wig with no beard, colorful coat)
- Several bundles of grain
- Picnic basket with snacks inside
- Handcuffs

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- **Upbeat music to use as kids exit the room**

Large Group Visuals:

- One Big Story Intro (Video)
- Key Question Slide

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.
- The One Big Story Intro Video is available with the monthly download. You can find it in the "Prelude" folder under "Monthly Planning."
- Choose three leaders/volunteers to give presents to. Prep them ahead of time that the gifts will not be good gifts.

3. Worship

What You Need:

- Every Beat
- Through It All

Bad Day

Bible Story: Bad Day (Joseph Sold by His Brothers) • *Genesis 37, 39:1-2*

Bottom Line: When you think you're alone, you can trust God is with you.

Key Question: What does it look like to trust God?

Memory Verse: *Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5, NIV*

Life App: Trust—Putting your confidence in someone you can depend on

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 can talk about something that happened culturally throughout the week like holidays (Labor Day, Cheese Pizza Day, National Cheeseburger Day, Elephant Appreciation Day, Hobbit Day, etc.), a big sports game (College Football and NFL seasons start, MLB regular season is finishing up), movie opening, 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.

Opener

HOST: "Hey everyone! Great to see you here today! Question for you: have you ever heard somebody tell you a story and like HALF-way through the story you are thinking, 'There's NO WAY this actually happened'? You could call them out on it but if you're wrong, then it is a bit awkward. Well, today we're inviting you to call someone out on their lie. Let me invite my three Small Group Leader volunteers up on stage. Give it up for them!"

Pre-selected small group leaders come up on stage.

HOST: "Alright, so each of these leaders will tell you three things about themselves. Two of the statements are absolutely true. You can trust them that it really happened. One of the statements, though, is completely made up. It's up to you to decide which one is the lie. Then when I ask, you will go and stand next to the #1, the #2, or the #3 sign taped on the wall to show everyone which one you think is the lie. Got it? Let's do it?"

Go through each small group leader, interview style. After each, designate each statement as #1, #2, or #3 and then have all of the kids go stand next to the sign they think is the lie. Announce the lie and move on to the next leader.

HOST: “(After the game) That was great. I learned a lot about your leaders today . . . and most of it was true! Now let’s stand and worship together!”

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: “Yeah, get up on your feet! I have been looking forward to this moment all week. Let’s hold nothing back as we sing and praise God today. Let’s give Him our very best today in worship. Here we go!

Communicator enters Worship Leaders exit.

COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT

INTRODUCTION

VIDEO: One Big Story Intro

COMMUNICATOR: “Hey! Good to see you all. September is already off to a great start!”

The following is an example of a personal story like one the Communicator can share from his or her own life. You could also use this as an “Imagine that” scenario to create a story.

“You might not know this, but when I was a kid, I was a boy scout. Any scouts in the room? Awesome! So some of you know that boy scouts work to earn merit badges. I earned all sorts of merit badges for canoeing, learning how to read maps and get myself around, and even basket-weaving! But one year when I was at camp, I set out to earn one of the harder merit badges—wilderness survival. This merit badge involved starting campfires without matches, identifying dangerous plants in the woods, and—the most intense of them all—going out deep into the woods, building a shelter with what you can find, and sleeping in it for one whole night!”

“Now I will tell you, building the shelter was fun. I went with the log cabin style with a nice thatch leaf roof. But that night when I laid down to sleep in the shelter I made, it was quiet. I mean REALLY quiet. So quiet that I could hear every creak and crack of the branches above me and the leaves rustling and crunching around me. I hardly

slept at all that night, letting my imagination run away, thinking every noise I heard was a bear coming to have a late-night snack. I was also alone. REALLY alone—in the middle of the woods with no one else around! I was scared and lonely. I couldn't wait for the night to be over. Thankfully, I ended up with that merit badge in the end!"

TENSION

COMMUNICATOR: "Has that ever happened to you? Okay, so maybe not the whole homemade shelter in the woods, but have you ever felt alone . . . like . . . really alone? You don't even have to be physically alone, either. It could be that you're in a room full of people, but with whatever is happening in your life, you feel like there's no one who understands and you feel all alone. You don't need to raise your hands, but when you're feeling that lonely and alone, you may start to wonder if even God is still there. If you've ever felt like that, let me tell you something. You're not alone. Lots of people have felt that way about God before—including many people we read about in the Bible. Thankfully, their stories were recorded for us, and we get to learn from how they experienced God."

TRUTH

COMMUNICATOR: "You might remember from the last few weeks that God had made a promise to a man named Abraham. God said that He would bless Abraham and make a nation out of his family. Eventually Abraham had a son named Isaac, who then had a son named Jacob, who we talked about last week. In each generation, God continued to pass down His promise to build this family into a great nation and to give them a land to call their own. Jacob went on to have TWELVE sons—including one named Joseph. That is where our story begins today."

"Ladies and gentlemen . . . Joseph!"

Host comes out dressed like Joseph.

HOST: "Hey everybody! I'm Joseph, but my friends call me Joe. *(To Communicator)* You can call me Joseph."

COMMUNICATOR: "Okay then. Well, thanks for being here. We were hoping you could help us retell some of your story and what you went through. You up for that?"

HOST: "You mean retrace some of the most painful memories from my past? *(Pause)* Yeah, sure, why not?"

COMMUNICATOR: "Alright, let's get a few kids up here to help us out. We need a few kids to represent your brothers and somebody to play you . . ."

HOST: "So clearly somebody very handsome, got it."

Host chooses several volunteers. He takes off his colored coat and puts it on the "Joseph" character and puts several other robes on the brothers (doesn't need to be eleven kids . . . just a few is fine to represent them).

As the story is told, the Host will interact with the kids and move them around, position them, etc.

COMMUNICATOR: “Okay I think we are ready. As we mentioned earlier, Jacob had twelve sons, the youngest of whom was Joseph. One day, Joseph was taking care of the flocks with some of his brothers, and well, *(whispering as to not let Joseph hear)* Joseph could be a little bit of a tattletale. He came back to his father and told him what his brothers were doing wrong.”

HOST: “I heard that . . . and I’m proud of it. What they were doing was simply unacceptable. Somebody needed to hear about.”

COMMUNICATOR: “Anyway, as you can see, there was a little tension between the brothers. And Jacob certainly did not help things. Listen to this—*(Read directly from Genesis 37:3a)* ‘Jacob loved Joseph more than any of his other sons.’ Dad was playing favorites! Now you might say—well, maybe his brothers didn’t know. Oh, they knew.”

HOST: “I think they were WELL aware *(Walks over and touches the colorful coat on volunteer)*.”

COMMUNICATOR: “Exactly. You see, because Jacob loved Joseph more than his other sons, he made Joseph a beautiful robe. Every time his brothers saw that robe, they were reminded that Joseph was the favorite. *(Read directly from Genesis 37:4b)* ‘So they hated Joseph. They couldn’t even speak one kind word to him.’”

Host has brothers whisper and shake their fingers at Joseph.

COMMUNICATOR: “Wow, and you thought you and your siblings had problems. Anyhow, one day, Joseph shared something with his brothers that made things even worse . . .”

HOST: “The flu?”

COMMUNICATOR: “Not exactly. Remember the dream?”

HOST: “Oh yeah. The dream.”

Host hands bundles of grain to the volunteers and arranges them to act out the dream.

COMMUNICATOR: “*(Read directly from Genesis 37:5-7 NIV)* ‘Joseph had a dream. When he told it to his brothers, they hated him even more. He said to them, “Listen to the dream I had. We were tying up bundles of grain out in the field. Suddenly my bundle stood up straight. Your bundles gathered around my bundle and bowed down to it.’””

“As you can imagine, this did not go over so well with his brothers. *(Read directly from Genesis 37:8)* “Do you plan to be king over us? Will you really rule over us?”” And they hated him even more because of his dream.”

HOST: “But that’s not all! I had another dream in which the sun and moon and 11 stars were bowing down to me. Dad wasn’t so happy hearing this one.”

COMMUNICATOR: “That’s because the dream seemed to be saying that even his mom and dad would end up bowing to him as well. I’ll say it again: tense!”

“Let’s continue! One day, Joseph’s brothers had gone to take care of their father’s flocks in a neighboring town . . .”

Host moves brothers to one side of stage and Joseph to the other.

“Jacob told Joseph to go meet up with his brothers and “check-up” on them, and then come back with a report. Joseph was more than willing to spy on his brothers. Eventually when Joseph found his brothers, they saw him approaching in the distance and had an idea.”

“(Read directly from Genesis 37:19-20 Nlrv) “Here comes that dreamer!” they said to one another. “Come. Let’s kill him. Let’s throw him into one of these empty wells. Let’s say that a wild animal ate him up. Then we’ll see whether his dreams will come true.””

“Wow . . . that escalated quickly. Kill him?! Oh my.”

“One of the brothers, Reuben, heard the plan and tried to save Joseph. He said *(Read directly from Genesis 37:22 Nlrv) “Don’t spill any of his blood. Throw him into this empty well here in the desert. But don’t harm him yourselves.” Reuben said that to save Joseph from them. He was hoping he could take him back to his father.””*

HOST: “That’s a good brother right there. Pretty sure that’s why there’s a sandwich named after him.”

COMMUNICATOR: *“(Ignoring him) So . . . just as planned, along came Joseph, wearing that beautiful robe. The brothers ripped off the robe and threw Joseph into an empty well.”*

Host helps kids act out the scene.

COMMUNICATOR: “And you’ll never believe what the brothers did after throwing their brother into that well and leaving him for dead. *(Read from Genesis 37:25a Nlrv) ‘Then they sat down to eat their meal.’”*

Host hands the volunteers a picnic basket with snacks.

COMMUNICATOR: “Throwing someone into a well and leaving them for dead must really work up the appetite!”

“As they were eating, they saw some Ishmaelite traders headed to Egypt. One of the brothers had an idea. *(Read directly from Genesis 37:26-27a Nlrv) “What will we gain if we kill our brother and try to cover up what we’ve done? Come. Let’s sell him to these traders.””*

“So generous, right?”

Host gives handcuffs to the volunteers and helps them lead Joseph offstage.

“Give it up for our volunteers!”

“Now, selling their brother was certainly a terrible move, but what happened next may be even worse. The brothers took that beautiful robe they had ripped off Joseph—the one that reminded them of how Joseph was the favorite—and they dipped it in goat’s blood and brought it back to their dad.

“(Read directly from Genesis 37:33) ‘Jacob recognized it. He said, “It’s my son’s robe! A wild animal has eaten him up. Joseph must have been torn to pieces.””

“And Jacob mourned the loss of his son deeply while the brothers kept their secret. Meanwhile, the traders arrived in Egypt and sold Joseph to Potiphar, who was one of Pharaoh’s officials.”

“Joseph was probably scared. He was far away from home in a strange land. He had been betrayed by his brothers. He was completely alone . . . or so it seemed. Joseph’s story was not over. And he was not alone. Check this out. *(Read directly from Gen 39:2) ‘The Lord was with Joseph. He gave him great success. Joseph lived in Potiphar’s house.’*”

“Even when Joseph is at the bottom, we’re reminded that even in Egypt, God was with Joseph. So when Joseph should have felt most alone, he was actually not alone at all.”

APPLICATION

COMMUNICATOR: “God was with Joseph at home. He was with Joseph in the well. And God was with Joseph in Egypt. And here’s something you may not realize—God is with you, too. But if you’re like me, you may have to remind yourself that God is with you. There’s something we can do. It’s something that Jesus did. A lot of times when Jesus was alone, He prayed. When He was sad or exhausted or if He just wanted to spend time with God, Jesus prayed.”

“So the next time you find yourself in a situation where you feel alone—like when you’re walking into a new school or trying out for a new team and you don’t know a single person. Pray and ask God to remind you that He is with you. Or maybe you are trying out for a sports team and you are really nervous because you don’t know anyone else. Pray and ask God to remind you that He is with you. If you are a follower of Jesus, you are never truly alone! Now that is a pretty amazing promise.

LANDING

COMMUNICATOR: “Today as you go to groups, think about this question . . .”

CG: Key Question Slide

“What does it look like to trust God? Think about those times when you feel like you are most alone . . . how can you trust God in those moments? And don’t worry—if you’re having a hard time answering that question, you’ll talk more about it in Small Group. But let’s pray before we head out.”

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.

Optional Video (Media Package): Theme Loop