



GETTING READY

1. Opener/Closer

What You Need:

- Host
- Paper lunch bags; one for each small group
- Letters LGV (printable); one sheet for each small group
- Tape or rope to section off a VIP seating section for the winning group
- Comfy seating for the VIP section (*optional*)
- Craft paper/fishing line Bible timeline and Today's Story Image (*optional*)

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

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

Large Group Visuals:

- Theme Slide
- Honor Slide
- Blank Bottom Line Slide
- Bottom Line Slide
- "Letter Grab" Slide
- Challenge Slides #1-8
- Letters (printable)

2. Bible Story

What You Need:

- Storyteller
- Bible

- Workout clothes for the storyteller to wear

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- Instrumental workout music

Large Group Visuals:

- One Big Story Intro (Video)
- Blank Bottom Line Slide
- Bottom Line Slide

3. Worship

What You Need:

- Through It All
- Let Go

You've Got a Friend

Bible Story: You've Got a Friend (David and Jonathan) • *1 Samuel 18:1-11; 19:1-7; 20:1-42*

Bottom Line: Honor others by putting them first.

Memory Verse: *Love one another deeply. Honor others more than yourselves.* Romans 12:10 (NirV)

Life App: Honor—Letting someone know you see how valuable they really are

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*

Host is on stage, welcoming the kids as they enter.

Opener

HOST: "Hello, friends! My name is [your name], and I want to welcome you to [your environment's name]. We're spending the month here in the Hall of Fame, where it's all about honor.

CG: *Honor Slide*

"Honor is letting someone know you see how valuable they really are.

CG: *Theme Slide*

"Everyone belongs in our Hall of Fame, because everyone matters to God. Everyone is valuable. Everyone you'll ever meet is a VIP—a very important person. We can show honor by treating others like VIPs . . . because that's exactly what they are!

"Are you ready to play our game and see who gets to be the VIP Group of the Week? (*Pause for response.*) Great! Let's play 'Letter Grab'!

CG: *"Letter Grab" Slide*

Hand out the paper bags with letters inside—one bag per group.

"Each group has a bag with a bunch of mixed-up letters inside, including the letters 'V,' 'I,' and 'P.' I'll call out a group challenge that everyone can do. Once your group has completed the challenge, your Leader can draw one letter from the bag—without peeking! Then we'll move on to the next challenge. Once your group completes THAT challenge, your Leader will draw another letter from the bag. The goal is to be the first group to

successfully pick the three letters ‘VIP.’ The first group to do that and then shout ‘VIP’ to me will be the VIP Group of the Week!

“All right—are you ready for your first group challenge? Here it is. *(Pause.)* Do three push-ups!

CG: Challenge Slide #1 (3 push-ups)

SFX: Fun music (keep playing throughout the game)

Guide the groups to complete the challenge and then pick one letter out of their bag. Wait until all groups have completed the challenge before moving on to the next one.

CG: Challenge Slide #2 (group high-five)

CG: Challenge Slide #3 (7 jumping jacks)

CG: Challenge Slide #4 (spin 3 times)

CG: Challenge Slide #5 (freeze for 5 seconds)

CG: Challenge Slide #6 (jump as high as you can)

CG: Challenge Slide #7 (clap 6 times)

CG: Challenge Slide #8 (move your eyes back and forth 3 times)

The first group to spell and shout “VIP” will be the VIP Group of the Week. (This could happen as early as challenge three.) Let them sit in the VIP seating section.

“That was SO fun! You were all amazing! And, this group *(point out the VIP Group of the Week)* was incredible! *(To the winning group)* I hope you enjoy the rest of Large Group from your VIP seats. *(To everyone else)* And remember, if your group didn’t win this week, you’ll have another chance next time.

“In a few minutes [Storyteller’s name] will tell us another amazing story from the Bible. But first, let’s sing and worship God together. Stand up, everyone!”

Host: (Mission Announcements Here)

Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

Worship

WORSHIP LEADER: “

Worship Leaders exit. Storyteller enters, wearing workout clothes.

VIDEO: One Big Story Intro

CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “Hi, everyone! *(Hold up Bible.)* We’re continuing God’s Big Story with another great example of honor. I thought today we could turn today’s story into a workout. What do you think? Can we do it? *(Pause for responses.)* Great!

“Every now and then you’ll hear some music. When that happens, jump up on your feet, and I’ll teach you a workout move. We’ll do that move together, and then when the music stops, we’ll sit back down as quickly and as quietly as we can.

“Let’s practice. Ready?”

SFX: Instrumental workout music—play quickly, then fade out

“There’s the music. Let me see some jumping jacks!

Lead the kids in jumping jacks until the music fades out. Then sit down to model what you want the kids to do.

SFX: Fade out music (after about 15 seconds)

“Great job! I think you’re ready!”

“All right. Let’s get into the story. Last week we talked about a young man named David—the future king of Israel. God had chosen David to be king after King Saul. In fact, David was called ‘a man after God’s own heart.’

“But it would be a while before David would be crowned king. For now, it was still Saul.

“David won a great battle for God’s people by slinging a rock at the giant Goliath.

SFX: Instrumental workout music

“There’s the music! Show me your Goliath toss.

Make a motion like you’re slinging rocks at a giant, like it’s a workout move. Keep going until the music stops.

“We’re throwing! We’re throwing! Now, switch hands! We’ve got this!”

SFX: Fade out music (after about 15 seconds)

“All right! So, as I was saying, David defeated Goliath, and then he served King Saul by doing everything Saul asked him to. David became best friends with Saul’s son, Jonathan.”

I AM SECOND

STORYTELLER: “Jonathan was next in line to be king. He must have known that the people would want David to be king, because David had been so successful in battle. But instead of being jealous, Jonathan put David first. He gave him his robe, belt, sword, bow, and arrows.

SFX: Instrumental workout music

“Okay! Let’s hand over the gifts.

Make a motion like you’re giving something to someone with both hands. Keep going until the music stops.

“Let’s give David a robe. Give David a belt. Give David a sword. Give David a bow. And give David some arrows. Keep it going!”

SFX: Fade out music (after about 20 seconds)

SAUL HUNTS DAVID

STORYTELLER: “David continued to do well leading the army into battle. King Saul got so jealous that he tried to hurt David by throwing a spear at him. Yikes! Later, Saul told Jonathan and his servants to KILL David.

“Jonathan told David to hide while he tried to talk to his father. Saul agreed not to put David to death. But then Saul went back on his word, and he tried to kill David again! This time, Saul sent other men to try to kill him.

“David was supposed to go to a feast with Saul, but he and Jonathan were having trouble knowing if they could trust Saul. So they came up with a plan.

SFX: Instrumental workout music

“All right!

Make a motion like you’re deep in thought—rubbing your chin, alternating hands. Keep going until the music stops.

“We’re thinking. We’re planning. We’ve got to keep David safe! We’re thinking. We’re planning. We’ve got to keep David safe!

SFX: Fade out music (after about 15 seconds)

“Here’s the plan they came up with. David told Jonathan to tell Saul that he had gone home to his family. If Saul said it was okay, then David would be safe. But if Saul was angry, that meant he still wanted to hurt David. Jonathan asked David to promise to always be kind to his family. David loved Jonathan, so he agreed.”

TARGET PRACTICE

STORYTELLER: “Jonathan told David to hide in the field by a stone.

SFX: Instrumental workout music

Make a motion like you’re hiding behind a rock. Keep going until the music stops.

“We’re hiding behind a rock! We’re hiding! We’re hiding! Keep it up!

SFX: Fade out music (after about 15 seconds)

“After the feast, Jonathan would go to the field along with a servant and pretend to practice shooting arrows. If he told the servant: *The arrows are on this side of you. Bring them here (1 Samuel 20:21 NIV)*, that meant David was safe. But if he said: *The arrows are far beyond you (1 Samuel 20:22 NIV)*, then that meant David would have to go far away to be safe from Saul.

“At the feast, Saul noticed that David was missing, but he figured David would return. The next night, he saw that David was STILL missing. Jonathan said David had gone with his family. Saul was angry—and in his anger, he threw a spear at Jonathan! Jonathan went to the field, shot the arrow, and told the servant, *The arrow went far beyond you, didn't it? (1 Samuel 20:37 NIV)*. That was their secret code that meant David would have to go far away.

“Jonathan sent the servant away, and then he went to find David. Listen to what Jonathan said to David.

Open the Bible to 1 Samuel 20:42 (NIV) and read.

“In the name of the LORD we've promised to be friends. We have said, “The LORD is a witness between you and me. He's a witness between your children and my children forever.”

SFX: Instrumental workout music

“All right—one more move! Jonathan was such a good friend to David. Let's high-five with all our buddies!

Start high-fiving kids on the beat. Keep going until the music stops.

“High five! High five! We're best buddies! High five!”

SFX: Fade out music (after about 15 seconds)

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “David left the city to hide, while Jonathan went home to King Saul.

“In the end, Jonathan had kept David safe. He protected David like a good friend, instead of being jealous of him. He was happy that David would get to be the next king—even though that was something Jonathan COULD have wanted for himself.

“Jonathan trusted God. He chose to put his friend first. That's what honor looks like!

CG: Bottom Line Slide

“We [*Bottom Line*] honor others by putting them first.

“It can be tempting to think only about ourselves and what's best for us. But if we're going to [*Basic Truth*] treat others the way we want to be treated, then we've got to put others first.

“Let’s pray.”

CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide

Pray

STORYTELLER: “Dear God, thank You for giving Jonathan the courage to put David first. He honored David instead of thinking about himself. Please help us to think about what others need and then find a way to help them. Help us to *[Bottom Line]* honor others by putting them first. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

Closer

HOST: “Wow! It’s amazing how Jonathan put David first, even though HE was in line to be king.

CG: Today’s Story Image

Optional: Place Today’s Story Image on your timeline.

“Jonathan could have been jealous of David, but instead, he chose to honor David and protect him from harm.

CG: Timeline

“If we look ahead in God’s Big Story, we can see how Jesus did this, too. Jesus showed us how to put others first because He put US first! He gave His life for us on the cross. He showed us in the most powerful way how much we matter to Him. We can have the gift of eternal life when we trust Him as our Savior!

“We can show other people they matter by putting them first. That means putting what THEY want ahead of what WE want . . . or maybe even giving up something we thinking we deserve.

“Remember this.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “Honor others by putting them first.

“Let’s give it a shot! This week, let’s *[Bottom Line]* honor others by putting them first. Hold the door for someone instead of trying to go inside first. Help your neighbor learn how to ride her bike. You could even share your video games with your little brother!

“I’m sure you have some great ideas of how you can put others first. Talk about it in your small groups, and I’ll see you next time!”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

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

CG: Theme Slide