



GETTING READY

1. Welcome/Opener

What You Need:

- Host
- Three Small Groups
- Two boxes
- Slips of dance options
- Slips of music options
- Table
- Communicator and Worship Leader (or two Small Group Leaders)

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

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

Large Group Visuals:

- Theme 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.
- Download music from a resource such as iTunes® and have it ready to play.
- Place both boxes on the table at center stage. In box #1, place all the slips of paper with different dance styles inside. In box #2, place all the slips of paper with different music styles inside.
- Create slips of paper for box #1 for groups to select their dance styles. Dance styles could include: ballroom, disco, freestyle, swing, country, pop & lock, Latin, slow, chicken, conga line, line dance, square dance, breakdancing, moonwalk, ballet, macarena, waltz, Fortnite dances.
- Create slips of paper for box #2 for groups to select their music style. Simply write one music style on each slip of paper. Music styles could include: blues, country, Caribbean, hip hop, Latin, jazz, rock, pop, classical, techno, showtunes, oldies.

- Preselect various songs to match the various music styles inside box #2. Prepare your sound tech to play the correct song for each small group.

2. Communicator Script

What You Need:

- Communicator
- Bible
- 15 Volunteers
- Prop box containing:
 - Stuffed lamb
 - Shrub
 - Walking stick
 - Pharaoh headdress
 - Brick
 - Vial of red liquid
 - Frog
 - Two Insect terrariums
 - Stuffed cow
 - Band-aids
 - Sonic ice
 - Grasshopper
 - Blindfold

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.
- Collect listed props and place them in the prop box. Put the box on stage for the Communicator.

3. Worship

What You Need:

- Every Beat
- Through It All

Ready or Now

Bible Story: Ready or Now (Moses and the Burning Bush / The 10 Plagues) • *Exodus 3-6:12; 7-12:42*

Key Question: What have you had to do that you didn't feel ready for?

Bottom Line: You can do what you should, even when you don't feel ready.

Memory Verse: *Be strong and brave. Do not be afraid. Do not lose hope. I am the Lord your God. I will be with you everywhere you go.* Joshua 1:9b, NIV

Life App: Courage—Being brave enough to do what you should do, even when you're afraid.

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: *Talent Show Theme Slide*

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: NBA season starting, NHL season starting, MLB World Series, World Gymnastics Championships, National Moldy Cheese Day, National Bring Your Teddy Bear to Work/School Day, National Stop Bullying Day, Pastor Appreciation Day, Columbus/Native American Day, movie openings, 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 artists, dancers, singers, movers, and shakers! Welcome to [Name of Environment], where we are surrounded by a TRULY LUDICROUS amount of talent. Think with me for a moment: what is YOUR talent? Are you a home run specialist, a paint-by-numbers machine, jazz dancer, piano player, three-point sinking expert, or . . . something else?"

"Whether we're playing our hearts out at the big concert, giving our all at the final game of the season, or dancing the night away at the recital, sometimes we must summon the courage and brave the stage to show our talents. And as some of you have already guessed . . . today, too, is one of those days. Oh yes! Ladies and gents, boys and girls, today we have a fantastic game that will pit THREE ENTIRE SMALL GROUPS head-to-head-to-head to demonstrate their ability to . . . (spirit fingers) DANCE."

"We call this game BRAVE THE BOOGIE. Steel your nerves, small groups—it may be a scary task to perform in front of peers with little to no rehearsal. (Pause) BUT it's wildly entertaining to watch!"

Host selects three small groups who would have no problem looking absolutely ridiculous on stage. Host brings up their small group leaders to the stage while the small groups await instructions off stage.

HOST: “Here’s how this game works. Each Small Group Leader will blindly select three pieces of paper from this first box. On each piece of paper will be a different type of dance. Each dance will need to be incorporated into their dance routine. It could be hip hop, ballet, jazz, ballroom, country line dance, and the list goes on and on.”

“Some of you may be wondering what song they’ll be dancing to because the music can really make or break a routine. Our Small Group Leaders must also draw one piece of paper from the second box. This piece of paper will tell us the type of music for your Small Group.”

“Each Small Group will have 30 seconds to perform their dance routine. And don’t worry, we’ll give your group a few minutes to get a plan together in the back of the room. While they work through their plan, *[Name of Worship Leader]*, *[Name of Communicator]*, and I will demonstrate how this should work.”

Host allows the selected Small Group Leaders to draw three types of dances from the first box and the type of music. Host sends groups to the back of the room to practice or get a plan together. At the same time, Worship Leader and Communicator join Host on stage. If they are unavailable, select a couple small group leaders who would not be afraid to BRAVE THE BOOGIE without practice. Select three dances and song for demo and look absolutely ridiculous for 30 seconds.

SFX: Upbeat dance music

HOST: “Wow! We are absolutely incredible dancers! And to think we’re merely the opening act for these folks in the back of the room! Let’s get our first small group on the stage right now!”

Host reads each groups three dances and their type of music. Host is always impressed and dismisses each group after each routine. Host repeats this until each group has had a chance to perform.

SFX: Upbeat dance music

HOST: “Who would have thought there was THAT much rhythmic talent in this room?! You all were INCREDIBLE! No doubt, some of you were afraid, but that didn’t stop you from getting the job done. I feel inspired! Let’s have an enthusiastic 15-second dance party to celebrate what we just saw on this BRAVE THE BOOGIE stage!”

SFX: Upbeat dance music

Host and the entire audience dances crazy for 15 seconds. Host signals to the audio when to kill the music.

HOST: “PHEW! That was a fantastic celebration for some fantastic small groups who braved the stage. I need to go backstage and catch my breath, but in the meantime, why don’t we all give it up for *[Name of Worship Leader]*.”

Host dances off the stage while Worship Leader enters.

Worship

WORSHIP LEADER: “It’s so awesome to see all of you. Everybody get up on your feet! Let’s choose right now to give all that we are—every beat of our hearts—in worship today.

COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT

INTRODUCTION

VIDEO: *One Big Story Intro*

COMMUNICATOR: “Hey, hey! How many of you like being PREPARED for something you’re supposed to do? (*Pause for response.*) This might sound like an odd question right now, but just think with me for a second. If you had to play baseball with your Little League team, you’d want to show up with your bat and your glove and your cleats, right? (*Pause for response.*) If you were invited to your friend’s birthday party, you’d want to have their birthday present all wrapped and ready to go, right? (*Pause for response.*) How many of you have ever been in a situation where you DIDN’T feel prepared for what you were supposed to do? (*Pause for response.*)”

Communicator shares a personal story about a time he or she felt unprepared or uses the following example.

“When I was just a little older than you guys, I had a leading role in a play my school was putting on. This wasn’t my first leading role—I had played big parts in other productions at my school. This, however, was my first MUSICAL. You all know how a musical works, right? You not only need to act on stage . . . but you also have to be able to SING on stage. At best, you could call my singing skill ‘rusty.’ At worst, you could call them ‘similar to an asthmatic bullfrog.’ Even still, I practiced and practiced as hard as I could, yet even all the way up to opening night I still didn’t feel READY.”

“Even on opening night, I pleaded with my director to let me lip-sync my part, but she shook her head and pushed me out onstage. The music swelled and the critical point where I was expected to sing came . . . and do you know what happened? (*Pause for response.*) It went . . . okay. Sure, it wasn’t fantastic, but it certainly wasn’t the disaster I expected. And because it went okay, the next night we did the show I was less nervous, and I did a little better than before. And with each show, I felt a little more ready and performed a little bit better!”

TENSION

COMMUNICATOR: “I’m of the opinion that being thrust on the main stage to sing in a musical when you feel unprepared is not ideal—to say the least! Seriously! It was one of the most difficult situations I’ve had to face, and I had to work through it in front of a live audience! Stress, anxiety, nervousness, and sweaty pits were just some of what I felt walking out on stage in front of the audience.”

“And you know what else? I know I’m not alone. Most of you in this room would prefer to prepare for the situations of life. Nobody wants to sing in a musical when you don’t feel ready. No one wants a pop quiz when you don’t know the material. And I don’t know anybody who gets excited over a big speech they haven’t written and rehearsed in advance.”

“In life, these surprise situations will happen whether we are prepared or not. So how do *you* react to these situations when they happen? What do you do when you don’t feel ready for something you’ve been asked to do? Do you refuse? Do you run the other direction? Do you curl up in the fetal position and ask to be left alone? Do you look normal on the outside but have a complete meltdown on the inside? And even if you tend to react a certain way, how *should* you react?”

“Good question! You know, I love a good question. Without questions, we don’t get to explore the things we don’t know or understand—especially when it comes to the things we find in the Bible. That’s just one of the reasons why I’m glad you’re all here today. We get to discover some big answers to big questions we might have about faith.”

TRUTH

“To answer our questions about courage in the face of being unprepared, we head to the beginning of the Old Testament during a time when God’s people were slaves in Egypt. Last week, we talked about a baby, named Moses, who floated down the Nile River in a basket. Then what happened? *(Pause for response.)* Right! Pharaoh’s daughter rescued Moses, and he grew up in Pharaoh’s palace. One day, he watched the mistreatment of his people at the hands of an Egyptian. In a quick decision, Moses retaliated against the Egyptian and killed him. To save his own skin, Moses fled far away to a town called Midian. He was certain his time in Egypt had come to an end.”

Communicator reaches into box and pulls out a stuffed lamb.

Communicator calls up a kid to hold the lamb on stage.

“In Midian, Moses met his wife, Zipporah, and began tending her father’s sheep. It wasn’t glamorous, but they were content in the desert. In the extreme conditions of the desert, it was important to move your flock around to receive adequate water and food. On one particular day, Moses moved the sheep to the far side of the desert to Mount Horeb. As he approached the mountain, however, Moses saw something that REALLY surprised him . . . a burning bush.”

Communicator reaches into box and pulls out a shrub/branch/small plant.

Communicator calls up a kid to hold the lamb on stage.

“It’s important to note the bush that Moses saw was a lot more *(pause)* on fire than what you see on stage today. But our insurance company has asked everyone in the audience to just IMAGINE the fire. This wasn’t a normal fire that consumes the leaves and stems, though. Rather, the fire did not burn up the bush.”

“As Moses curiously approached, a voice called out to him through the bush. It was God! Listen to what God said, *(Read directly from Exodus 3:5) ‘Do not come any closer,’ God said, ‘Take off your sandals. The place you are standing on is holy ground,’ (NirV)*. I don’t know about you, but if I were Moses, I might be a little nervous—maybe even scared. But Moses did what God asked. Then God told Moses about his plan to rescue all of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and move them to a land flowing with milk and honey. No doubt, this was ambitious. Pharaoh would not easily give up his slaves who were literally building his empire through hard labor. As God continued, He explained that Moses would be the chief negotiator with Pharaoh and free the people! God told him to drop everything and go back to Egypt and lead the Israelites out of slavery!”

“This was a BIG job. Check out Moses’ reaction. *(Read directly from Exodus 4:13) ‘“Lord, please send someone else to do it,”’ (NirV)*. Can you believe that? Moses didn’t want to go! He doubted the Israelites would believe him. He doubted his ability to speak and clearly communicate. In other words, Moses felt completely unprepared for the job. However, God insisted He would go, but that Moses would also have the help of his brother, Aaron, to convince Pharaoh to let the Israelites go.”

Communicator reaches into box and pulls out a walking stick.

Communicator calls up a kid to hold the stick on stage.

“With his stick in hand and his brother, Aaron, at his side, Moses traveled to Egypt to first speak with the elders of the Israelites and tell them of the plan. Just as God promised, the Israelites believed them.”

“Next, Moses and Aaron went to the palace, the same place where Moses had grown up, to meet with Pharaoh.”

“Pharaoh was a powerful king who oversaw a HUGE amount of people and a HUGE amount of land. And in order to build his great cities and pyramids, the Pharaoh had enslaved the Israelites and others to do the hard work. So when Moses showed up and demanded that Pharaoh let all the slaves go free . . .”

Communicator reaches into box and pulls out a brick. Communicator calls up a kid to hold the brick on stage.

“Instead of giving them freedom, Pharaoh gave the Israelites orders to work even harder. Imagine how mad the Israelites would have been at Moses for causing this. Frustrated at the additional hardship, Moses cried out to God. In response, God says, *(Read directly from Exodus 6:1) “Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh. Because of my powerful hand, he will let the people of Israel go. Because of my mighty hand, he will drive them out of his country,”* (NIV). The Lord told Moses and Aaron to return to Pharaoh.”

“Even though God performed miraculous signs through Moses and Aaron in front of Pharaoh, the king wouldn’t listen! So the next morning, Aaron and Moses met Pharaoh down at the Nile River.”

Communicator reaches into box and pulls out a vial of red liquid. Communicator calls up a kid to hold the vial on stage.

“God had Moses instruct Aaron to reach out his staff and touch the water. It turned the waters of the Nile River to blood, killing all the fish and making the water undrinkable. However, this wasn’t enough to convince Pharaoh.”

Communicator reaches into box and pulls out a frog. Communicator calls up a kid to hold the frog on stage.

“Again and again, Moses and Aaron instructed Pharaoh to let God’s people go! Over and over, Pharaoh made empty promises to release the Israelites only to go back on his word. So God told Moses to have Aaron reach out his staff to send a plague of frogs throughout Egypt. Frogs covered ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING. They were in peoples’ houses, in the river, in the streets . . . there were TOO MANY FROGS. But Pharaoh was still unconvinced, so God brought along . . .”

Communicator reaches into box and pulls out an empty insect terrarium. Communicator calls up a kid to hold the terrarium on stage.

“FLIES. Just like the frogs, God covered the land in flies. Can you count how many flies are in that terrarium for me? *(Pause for response.)* Wait, there aren’t ANY in there? Well that’s not good . . . oh well, we’ll worry about that later. This was not the case in Egypt! Regardless, when Pharaoh’s heart was still not changed, God kept the plagues coming.”

Communicator reaches into box and pulls out another insect terrarium (gnats), stuffed cow (livestock), box of bandaids (boils), cup of Sonic ice (hail), grasshopper toy (locusts), and blindfold (darkness). Communicator calls up a kid to hold each object and one volunteer to wear the blindfold over his or her eyes.

“Dead livestock! Sores all over the skin of the people and their animals! Huge, heavy hailstones destroying crops! Locusts finished off what was left of the crops! THREE SOLID DAYS of total darkness! After all of these horrors and

tragedies on his kingdom, Pharaoh STILL would not let the Israelites go! So God had one more plague. The worst plague of them all: The plague on the firstborn."

"Every firstborn son of every Egyptian family . . . died. This included the firstborn son of the Pharaoh. Israelite families were saved by painting the blood of a lamb over their door frames . . . just as God had told them to do."

"This was the final straw for Pharaoh. With sadness and anger, he told the Israelites to go. The Egyptians were so eager to see the Israelites leave they even gave them silver and gold and clothes to take on their exit. So finally, in the middle of the night, the Israelites fled Egypt toward a new home . . . a promised land."

APPLICATION

COMMUNICATOR: "Many of us have heard stories of Moses. I think many of us think of Moses and imagine him as a fearless, confident leader willing to do whatever God asks of him. However, this story reminds us that Moses didn't start out that way. Moses didn't feel prepared at all to do what God asked him to do."

"For hundreds of years, the Israelites lived in Egypt. For generations, they were enslaved and forced to do the will of the Pharaoh. God heard their cries and devised a plan. What's so amazing about this story is how God wanted to use Moses, the guy who felt completely unprepared to do the job. Moses even asked God to find someone else! But God didn't want someone who felt prepared for the challenge. He wanted Moses. He knew Moses was more than capable of doing the job with his help."

"I don't know about you, but this story gives me SO MUCH hope for the challenges I will face in life. God didn't call on someone who had life all figured out. He didn't call on a perfect person to complete a difficult task. Rather God called a flawed man who escaped to the desert and picked up shepherding. God needed someone to talk to the most powerful man in all of Egypt and chose a guy who had trouble speaking at times! Why would God do this? Because that's how God works. God often uses unexpected people in unexpected situations to do extraordinary things for Him. And Moses had nothing to worry about, because God was with Moses every step of the way. God gave Moses exactly what he needed to get the job done. In return, Moses followed God and stood up to Pharaoh."

"I love how God rescued His people in this story. Even during the final plague, God saved the Israelites through the sacrifice of lamb's blood, which was painted over their doorframes. This is an incredible picture of how God made a way for all of us to be rescued from our sins through the blood of Jesus, the ultimate, once-and-forever Rescuer!"

"When God gives us a task, this story reminds us He will make us ready. Whether we feel prepared or not God can give us what we need to get the job done. So if you feel like God has chosen you for something great, then that means you're probably the perfect person for the job. God will give you what you need when you need it."

LANDING

COMMUNICATOR: "To do this, we must trust God no matter what and ask Him to show us what to do, where to go, and what to say. As we head to small groups, we want you to think about this question . . ."

CG: Key Question Slide

COMMUNICATOR: "Think about some of the situations that you've faced: **what have you had to do that you didn't feel ready for?** This might have been something in your past or something that's happening in your life right now! Whenever we face a situation like this, talk to God about it. Trust God to give you exactly what you need for the task at hand. Then GO FOR IT! You'll talk more about this in Small Group. Before you head there, let's pray together."

then dismisses them to small group.

Communicator leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard

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