



## GETTING READY

### 1. Opener/Closer

#### What You Need:

- Host
- Worship Leader(s), if needed
- Sheet of paper on a clipboard
- Pen

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

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room
- Karaoke track for “You’ve Got a Friend in Me” (from *Toy Story*) or a similar age-appropriate song, ideally without any background vocals

#### *Large Group Visuals:*

- Theme Slide
- Courage Slide
- Blank Bottom Line Slide
- Bottom Line Slide
- Blank Memory Verse Slide
- Memory Verse Slide
- “Funny Fill-In Karaoke” Slide
- Timeline (*optional*)—CG or print

#### What You Do:

- Look at the lyrics for your chosen song, and make a plan for which nouns you want to substitute when your Host sings it live. Help your Host understand how you want him/her to incorporate the words the kids come up with on the spot.

- Make sure the Host practices with the song and the performance track a little before doing it live. It might be a good idea to give the Host the track a few weeks in advance.

## 2. Bible Story

### What You Need:

- Storyteller
- 10 clear, empty jars with lids, labeled #1, #2, #3, etc.
- Table

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

- **Bible Story Sound Effects #1-10**

### *Large Group Visuals:*

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

### What You Do:

- Line up the sound jars on the table. Line them up in order—left to right, if looking at the stage from the audience.

## 3. Worship

### What You Need:

- Every Beat
- Through It All

# Ready or Not

**Bible Story:** Ready or Not (Moses and the Burning Bush / The 10 Plagues) • *Exodus 3–6:12, 7–12:42*

**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 (NirV)

**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:** *Theme Slide*

*Host enters.*

Opener

**HOST:** "Hey, everybody! Welcome to [your environment's name]! My name is [your name], and I'm so glad you're here today. This month we're talking about courage.

**CG:** *Courage Slide*

"Courage is being brave enough to do what you should do, even when you're afraid.

**CG:** *Theme Slide*

"I thought I would brave the stage for you today and do a little 'Funny Fill-In Karaoke'!

**CG:** *"Funny Fill-In Karaoke" Slide*

"I want to perform one of my favorite songs for you, but I'm missing a few words. I need a few nouns—you know, like a person, place, or thing. Do you think you could help me out? (*Pause for response.*) Great! Let's do it!

*Get the kids to shout out some nouns. Choose words that are funny (and appropriate) and write them on the piece of paper. Then substitute the nouns for the real song lyrics of "You've Got a Friend in Me" (or whatever other song you've chosen).*

"All right—let's give this a try. Presenting your new favorite song: 'You've Got a \_\_\_\_\_ in Me!'

**SFX:** *"You've Got a Friend in Me" karaoke track*

*Sing the song with the fill-in lyrics—with great enthusiasm!*

*NOTE: If you really don't feel comfortable singing, you can have the  
Worship Leader(s) sing instead.*

“That was so fun! Thanks for helping me with those song lyrics. I definitely couldn't have done it without you. I was kind of nervous before I started, but looking out at all of you made me feel brave!

“Let's keep the music going, shall we? Go ahead and stand up. It's time for us to sing to God and worship Him together!”

Mission Announcements Here.

*Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.*

Worship

WORSHIP LEADER: “Oh, yeah! I love the joy that fills this place. Everybody get up on your feet. I love a good celebration, and that's what our worship is all about. It's about putting our focus on God—giving Him our attention, and giving Him praise for all the good things He does for us. His love is better than anything ever. So let's sing and celebrate!

### SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “Hi, everyone! Last week we talked about a baby boy named Moses. His mom put him in a basket in the river to protect him from a scary situation. That took a lot of courage!

“Moses and his family lived in a place called Egypt. God's people, the Israelites, had been slaves in Egypt for a long, long time. They were treated terribly. They had to work really hard in the hot sun all day. I wonder if the people felt like maybe God had forgotten about them.

*Move behind the table with the “sound jars.”*

“But God had a plan to work through Moses, who had grown up in Pharaoh's own palace. One day, Moses made a terrible mistake and ran away from Egypt. He lived in a place called Midian, where he raised a family . . . and some sheep.

*Open jar #1.*

**SFX: #1—sheep sound (when Storyteller opens the jar)**

“With Moses living so far away, it would seem like maybe God's plan to rescue his people wasn't going to happen.”

## THE BURNING BUSH

STORYTELLER: "Then one day, God appeared to Moses from inside a burning bush!

Open jar #2.

**SFX: #2—fire crackling**

"God said . . .

*Open the Bible to Exodus 3:7-8a (NirV) and read.*

*"I have seen my people suffer in Egypt. I have heard them cry out because of their slave drivers. I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to save them from the Egyptians. I will bring them up out of that land. I will bring them into a good land. It has a lot of room. It is a land that has plenty of milk and honey."*

"God continued. He told Moses to go to the new Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt. Moses wasn't sure that the Israelites would believe that God had sent him, so God said He would show them miraculous signs to prove it. In fact, He turned Moses's walking stick into a snake . . .

Open jar #3.

**SFX: #3—snake hiss**

". . . and then back into a stick!

"But still, Moses wasn't so sure he was the right guy for the job. After all, he told God that he didn't speak very well. But God told Moses that He would help him. He told Moses that his brother Aaron would also be there to help him speak.

"Moses must have been afraid. But with God's help, he found the courage he needed. He traveled back to Egypt to do what God had said."

## I'M BAAAAACK!

STORYTELLER: "When Moses arrived back in Egypt, the Israelites were so excited that God had sent Moses to lead them to the Promised Land! They were on board. They were ready to be free! But Pharaoh? Well, he definitely was NOT excited to lose them.

"When Moses and Aaron told Pharaoh that God wanted him to let the Israelites go, Pharaoh wouldn't do it. In fact, he made the people work even harder!

Open jar #4.

**SFX: #4—whip crack**

“Now the Israelites weren’t happy, Pharaoh wasn’t happy, and Moses wasn’t happy. He didn’t understand why God’s plan wasn’t coming true. He cried out to God for help.

*Open the Bible to Exodus 5:22-23 (NirV) and read.*

*“Why, Lord? Why have you brought trouble on these people? Is this why you sent me? I went to Pharaoh to speak to him in your name. Ever since then, he has brought nothing but trouble on these people. And you haven’t saved your people at all.”*

### **THE TERRIBLE PLAGUES**

**STORYTELLER:** “God told Moses to go back to see Pharaoh again. God warned Moses that He knew Pharaoh wouldn’t listen and that God would demonstrate His great power to Pharaoh.

“Moses and Aaron told Pharaoh to let God’s people go. When Pharaoh said no, God turned the river to blood! But still, Pharaoh wouldn’t let the Israelites leave.

“He wouldn’t listen, even though God sent frogs—hundreds of them!

*Open jar #5.*

**SFX: #5—frogs**

“Pharaoh at first said that he would let the Israelites go, but then he went back on his word. Over and over, Moses and Aaron asked Pharaoh to let their people go . . . and over and over, Pharaoh would promise to let them go, then change his mind.

“God also sent gnats . . .

*Open jar #6.*

**SFX: #6—gnats**

“. . . and then flies.

*Open jar #7.*

**SFX: #7—flies**

“Then all the Egyptian cows died.

*Open jar #8.*

**SFX: #8—cows**

“Terrible sores showed up all over the Egyptians and their animals. Then hail rained down, destroying crops and tearing the leaves off the trees.

*Open jar #9.*

**SFX: #9—hailstorm**

“Then these bugs called locusts came and finished off everything that was left.

*Open jar #10.*

**SFX: #10—locusts**

“Then deep darkness covered Egypt for three days . . . and finally—and the worst of all—the oldest son in every Egyptian family died. Only the Israelite families were saved because they painted the blood of a lamb over their doorframes—just like God told them to do.

“Finally, Pharaoh gave up. He told Moses to take the Israelites and leave Egypt.

“The Egyptians gave the Israelites silver, gold, and clothes to take on their journey. The Israelites left quickly, in the middle of the night.”

*Move to the front of the stage.*

### **WRAPPING UP THE STORY**

**STORYTELLER:** “After hundreds of years of slavery, the Israelites were finally free! God had used Moses to lead them out of Egypt. At first Moses didn’t feel ready to take on such a big job, but he did it because he knew God was with him. He had the courage to trust that God’s plans would come true.

“Moses’s story reminds us of something important.

**CG: Bottom Line Slide**

*[Bottom Line]* “You can do what you should, even when you don’t feel ready.

**CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide**

“We can trust God even when we’re not sure we’re up for the challenge. We can trust Him even when we feel nervous or afraid. *[Basic Truth]* We can trust Him no matter what. When we choose to trust Him, we find the courage we need to live His way.

“Let’s pray and ask God to help us with that.”

**Pray**

**STORYTELLER:** “God, thank You so much for being with Moses and helping him to have courage. Please help us to be brave enough to do what we should, even when we don’t feel ready. Help us to remember that You’re with us always. Help us to have courage because we know You’ll never leave us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

*Host enters as Storyteller exits.*

Closer

HOST: “What a great story! If you think about it, Moses was the perfect choice to lead God’s people out of slavery in Egypt. After all, he was an Israelite, but he had grown up in the palace as an Egyptian. He understood what it was like to be an Israelite *and* an Egyptian.

**CG: Today’s Story Image**

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

“At first, Moses wasn’t so sure he was the right guy for the job. He didn’t exactly feel ready for what was ahead. But God knew he was the one.

“Sure enough, Moses followed God’s instructions. He stood up to Pharaoh. And eventually, he led God’s people to freedom.

**CG: Timeline**

“This was a huge event in the story of God. Of course it was important for God’s people who had been stuck as slaves in Egypt. Finally, they would have a chance to live free, in a land of their own!

“It was also an important event because it was like a preview of God’s BIG rescue plan that came much later—when God sent Jesus to be our Savior. Remember in our story, how the Israelites put the blood of a lamb over their doors so that God would protect them? Well, when Jesus died on the cross for our sins, He gave His life for us just like a lamb. He made a way for us to have a relationship with God that would last forever.

**CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide**

“When you have to face something tough, you might feel a little bit like Moses did. You might not feel ready. You might need some help finding the courage to do it. In those moments, remember that God is with you. He’s there to help you.

**CG: Bottom Line Slide**

*[Bottom Line]* You can do what you should, even when you don’t feel ready.”

**CG: Blank Memory Verse Slide**

“Our memory verse is Joshua 1:9. We’ll put it up on the screen. Let’s say it together.

**CG: Memory Verse Slide**



**HOST and KIDS: *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. (NirV)***

**HOST: "That's right! God is with you. He can give you the courage to do whatever He asks you to do.**

**"You can head to Small Group now and talk some more about living courageously. Have fun!"**

***Dismiss kids to their small groups.***

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

**CG: Theme Slide**