



## GETTING READY

### 1. Welcome/Opener

#### What You Need:

- Host
- Trivia questions (cross out which are used from week to week to avoid repeats)
- Over-sized die
- Small whiteboards and markers for each group to write their answers on (or pieces of paper on clipboards) *Note: You will use these each week.*
- Scoresheet to keep from week to week

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

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter the room
- Serious game show music

#### *Large Group Visuals (downloadable from the website):*

- Theme Slide

#### *Optional Videos (available for purchase through the 252 Media Package):*

- Theme Loop Video
- Countdown Video
- Theme Video

## 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.
- The Opener is "The Big Quiz," which is a five-question quiz that builds from week to week throughout the entire month of January. Ideally, it would be fun to have small groups against small groups and keep the same groups throughout the month (even if kids come and go). Each group will have running tally of 20 total questions for the whole month, and a winner will be announced Week Four. An option could be for the Host to take on a game show persona (Bob Barker, Steve Harvey).

## 2. Communicator Script

### What You Need:

- Communicator
- Bible
- Host
- Three two-sided scripture cards (See "What You Do")

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

- Upbeat music to use as kids exit the room

### *Large Group Visuals (downloadable from the website):*

- One Big Story Intro Video
- Scripture Cards (screens and printable)
- 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."
- Scripture Cards: Make three large, two-sided cards (11 x 17 or larger, if possible) with the following text written on or printed with the text below. *Optional: Print out the letter-sized pages from the file labeled "2001\_LG\_Assets\_Preteen\_W3."*
- *Optional:* If you have a larger room, use the slides provided to project the Scripture Cards on your screens as individual slides.
  - CARD 1: Side 1
    - Luke 4:4, NIV – "Jesus answered, "It is written, 'Man must not live only on bread.'"

- CARD 1: Side 2
  - Deuteronomy 8:3b, NIV – “He tested you to teach you that man doesn’t live only on bread. He also lives on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.”
- CARD 2: Side 1
  - Luke 4:8, NIV – “Jesus answered, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God. He is the only one you should serve.’””
- CARD 2: Side 2
  - Deuteronomy 6:13a, NIV – “Worship the LORD your God. He is the only one you should serve.”
- CARD 3: Side 1
  - Luke 4:12, NIV – “Jesus answered, “Scripture says, ‘Do not test the Lord your God.’””
- CARD 3: Side 2
  - Deuteronomy 6:16, NIV – “Don’t test the LORD your God as you did at Massah.”

### 3. Worship

#### What You Need:

- Worship Leader(s)

# I'm Still Standing

**Bible Story:** I'm Still Standing (Jesus Is Tempted in the Desert) • Luke 4:1-13

**Bottom Line:** Discovering what's in the Bible can help you make the wise choice.

**Key Question:** How do you know what's wise?

**Memory Verse:** *The LORD gives wisdom. Knowledge and understanding come from his mouth.* Proverbs 2:6 (NirV)

**Life App:** Knowledge—Learning something new so you can be better at whatever you do

**Basic Truth:** I need to make the wise choice.

## **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.*

### **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 a big sports game (Winter X Games, NFL Playoffs), movie opening (The Voyage of Doctor Doolittle), 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.*

*\*Note: If the Host is taking on a game show persona, you may consider skipping the traditional welcome and moving right into the game show.*

## **Opener**

**HOST:** “Hey everyone! So good to see you here today! Who is ready for this week’s round of THE BIG QUIZ?”

*Pause for responses.*

**HOST:** “Then let’s do it!”

*NOTE: If playing in teams rather than Small Groups, get teams back together. Have new kids join groups.*

**CG:** *Theme Slide*

**SFX:** *Serious Game Show music*

**HOST:** “And just in case you haven’t been around the past few weeks, let me remind all how this works. Each week, your Small Groups are competing against one another by answering a series of five trivia questions. Whichever team has the most questions correct out of 20 by week four will be the winner and crowned reigning champs of The Big Quiz.”

“After I read the question, each group will have 30-seconds to write an answer down on their board. Then I’ll reveal the correct answer and award points. Questions will come from one of four categories, and we’re choosing the category by rolling this!”

*Host reveals large die.*

“Categories include: History and Geography. Science. Arts and Entertainment. And Sports and Games. Of course, there’s also a U PICK, which allows you to pick the category you want, and a HOST PICK, which means the Host, A.K.A. me, gets to pick whatever question I want from my list.”

“Does everybody understand? Are we ready to play? Perfect. Then, let’s play . . . the BIG QUIZ!”

**SFX: Serious Game Show music**

*Each round, do the following: Have a group roll the die. Choose the appropriate category. Read a question. Give 30 seconds. Markers down. Give the answer. Awards points. Cross of the question you used.*

*(After 5 questions)* **HOST:** “We have one more round next week to change the outcome. It is going to be interesting to see how this ends up! But for now . . . let’s stand and worship together!”

## COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT

### INTRODUCTION

**VIDEO: One Big Story Intro**

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Well, good morning everyone! So good to be with you all today. Here’s a question as we get started today. Have you ever learned something in school and wondered how what you were learning would be useful to you in real life? Have you ever felt that way?”

“Yeah, I’m sure we’ve all been there, right? For me, this always seemed to happen in math class. I wasn’t very good at math, and I had a hard time understanding how all of this math was going to show up in my life someday. Now to be honest, not all of it has, but there have been these moments. Like at the grocery store, and I’m buying cereal and I’m trying to figure out which cereal is actually a better deal, but they don’t weigh the

same and one is on sale. But I can look at the unit price per ounce, do some calculations, and MATH! Or maybe I'm hanging a picture on a wall and I want it to be perfectly centered, but now I understand all of these fractions—halves, quarters, and sixteenths—no problem because . . . MATH! These things that I learned long ago started to show up in my life, and pretty soon I realized that I'm using things I didn't even know that I knew . . . you know?"

## TENSION

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Is it possible that this happens with the Bible, too? Think about it. Many of you show up here week in and week out, and we have a blast together. We hear different stories from the Bible, but if you're honest, you probably have times when you go home and can't immediately see how what you learned in the Bible on Sunday relates to your life the rest of the week. And so, maybe you just assume that it doesn't or that it won't or that it can't. But if that's true, then why is it even worth knowing what's in the Bible? That's a big question, but it's one that at one time or another all of us might have when it comes to church and the Bible. But guess what, we're not the first people to wonder these sorts of things. And when we have questions like this, we can actually look to the Bible for answers—especially the part of the Bible that talk about Jesus."

## TRUTH

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Today we head to one of those parts of the Bible in the Gospel of Luke in the New Testament. The Gospels tell the story of the life of Jesus, and even though we said earlier this month that we don't have many stories from the early years of Jesus' life, there are a few interesting details we can understand about Jesus' early life just by knowing more about life in His time and His place."

"First off, does anyone know where Jesus grew up?"

*Pause for responses.*

"We might be tempted to say Bethlehem, but that was just His birthplace. You're right—He grew up in Nazareth, which is a highly Jewish town in a region called Galilee. Jesus was Jewish and grew up around other Jewish boys. What that means is He would have gone to school at a synagogue. At a synagogue, they gather to read and study Scripture, pray, and learn from rabbis. This is where young Jewish kids would also do their schooling. They wouldn't have a science book and a history book and a math book . . . they would study the Scriptures, what we now call the Old Testament in our Bible. And from an early age, you know what they would do? Memorize. I'm not talking like a verse here and a verse there. They would memorize large portions of Scripture—especially the first five books of the Bible, which is also called the Torah."

“It would make sense that Jesus would have gone through this schooling just like other kids His age would have. Remember from a few weeks ago when He was at the temple impressing the leaders? That seems to be a result of what He had been learning. Now obviously He was special—He’s God’s Son! But He also learned and grew and took God’s Word seriously from an early age.”

“Fast forward a bit. Jesus is around thirty years old. He has just had this special moment of baptism that we looked at last week, where God announced from heaven, *This is my Son, and I love him. I am well pleased with him. (Matthew 3:17, NIV)* It looked like the perfect time for Him to begin His ministry—to start teaching, and healing, and changing the world! But where Jesus went next—correction—where Jesus was LED next is a little bit surprising. Let’s check it out.”

“(Read directly from Luke 4:1, NIV) ‘Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan River. The Spirit led him into the desert.’ Okay, so He had just been baptized . . . now God led Him into the desert. Hmm . . . why the desert? Maybe somewhere hot to dry off or something? Not exactly. Look at the next verse.”

(Read directly from Luke 4:2, NIV) ‘There the devil tempted him for 40 days. Jesus ate nothing during that time. At the end of the 40 days, he was hungry.’”

“Okay, that is a little extreme! God led Jesus into the desert to be tempted by the devil. And not for like a few minutes. For 40 days! And we just saw maybe the most obvious verse in the whole Bible—Jesus ate nothing for 40 days and at the end of 40 days he was hungry. I’ll bet!”

“In this moment of weakness, the devil approached Jesus. (Read directly from Luke 4:3, NIV) ‘The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.”’”

“Let’s be honest—Jesus could do it, right? I mean, not long after this He would turn water to wine. Stones to bread? Piece of cake. No, not stones to cake, I was saying it would be simple for Jesus to pull that off, although stones to cake would be pretty good, too . . . Does anyone else want cake right now? Woah, we’re getting off track. Let’s see how Jesus responds to all of this.”



*Communicator pulls out oversized Card #1, reveals side 1*

*(Luke 4).*

**CG: Luke 4:4 Slide**

“Read this with me. *(Together) Luke 4:4 – Jesus answered, “It is written, ‘Man must not live only on bread, (NirV).”* That was Jesus’ response to the devil’s first temptation. But where did Jesus get that from? There is a clue in the words on the card. Anyone see the clue?”

*Pause for responses.*

“Right! ‘It is written.’ What is Jesus doing? He is quoting. The question is what is He quoting?”

*Communicator flips Card #1 around, revealing side 2*

*(Deuteronomy 8:3b)*

**CG: Deuteronomy 8:3b Slide**

“Read this with me – *(Together) ‘Deuteronomy 8:3b – He tested you to teach you that man doesn’t live only on bread. He also lives on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD, (NirV).”*

“In His moment of temptation, Jesus quotes from Deuteronomy, a book He probably memorized as a young kid. Deuteronomy tells us about how Moses prepared the Israelites to enter the Promised Land by reminding them what it means to live as God’s people.”

“But the devil isn’t done yet. *(Read directly from Luke 4:5-7, NIV)* ‘Then the devil led Jesus up to a high place. In an instant, he showed Jesus all the kingdoms of the world. He said to Jesus, “I will give you all their authority and glory. It has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. If you worship me, it will all be yours.”’”

“The devil proposes a sort of wager: I’ll give You the kingdoms of the world in exchange for Your loyalty. In other words, bow down to me and show me You recognize me as the rightful king. Now this may seem a bit ridiculous to us, but remember, even though Jesus is the rightful King, His path does not lead to a comfortable throne. His path will lead to a terrible cross, and right now the devil seems to be offering Him a plan B, a way to shortcut the cross and still get the glory. What did Jesus do? Again, let me show you.”

*Communicator pulls out oversized Card #2, reveal*

*side 1 (Luke 4).*

**CG: Luke 4:8 Slide**

“Read it with me. *(Together)* ‘Luke 4:8 - Jesus answered, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God. He is the only one you should serve, (NIV).’”’”

“Anybody see the clue again? Yep, ‘It is written.’ Jesus is doing it again. But what is He quoting?”

*Communicator flips Card #2 around, revealing side 2*

*(Deuteronomy 6:13a)*

**CG: Deuteronomy 6:13a Slide**

“Deuteronomy a second time. Let’s read this together. *(Together) Deuteronomy 6:13a – ‘Worship the LORD your God. He is the only one you should serve, (NirV).’*”

“God told Moses to tell the Israelites how to live in the Promised Land successfully. And Jesus used it here as He is confronted by the devil. But the devil wasn’t finished. He tried one more time.”

*“(Read directly from Luke 4:9, NirV) ‘Then the devil led Jesus to Jerusalem. He had Jesus stand on the highest point of the temple. “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down from here . . . .”’*”

“Okay this is kind of a strange one, and it gets even stranger because the devil then quotes from THE BIBLE to try and get Jesus to do it. I know—it’s weird. But I think the idea here is the devil takes Jesus to a very public place, the temple in Jerusalem. And he basically says, ‘Look, You can set the record straight here from the very start. Prove it. Prove to EVERYONE who You are. If You jump, God has to save You. You would be showing everybody in one quick moment who You are.’ Look at Jesus’ response. You might not be so surprised by now.”

*Communicator pulls out oversized Card #3, reveal side 1 (Luke 4).*

**CG: Luke 4:12 Slide**

“Read it with me. *(Together) ‘Luke 4:12 – Jesus answered, “Scripture says, ‘Do not test the Lord your God, (NirV).’”’*”

“Now y’all are pretty smart, so I’m guessing you already know what is coming next. Where do you think this is from?”

(Deuteronomy 6:16)

Communicator flips Card #3 around, revealing side 2

**CG: Deuteronomy 6:16 Slide**

“Deuteronomy again! It’s like He really knows the book or something! Read this one with me – *(Together)*  
*‘Deuteronomy 6:16 – Don’t test the LORD your God as you did at Massah, (NIRV).’*”

“Now you might be saying, ‘What is Massah?’ Glad you asked. Soon after the Israelites had left Egypt, they were traveling through the desert and were VERY thirsty. How thirsty? To the point that they started wishing they could just go back to Egypt or even just die in the desert. It got pretty ugly. In their complaining, they tried to push God to prove that he was good and strong and capable of saving them. God is all of these things, but they just couldn’t see it. Now here was Jesus, and in a different but similar way, the devil is trying to tempt Jesus to push God. But Jesus won’t fall for it. And after this third and final response, the Bible says that the devil left Him.”

**APPLICATION**

**COMMUNICATOR:** “It’s crazy to think of this story happening, to imagine Jesus standing toe-to-toe with the devil in the desert. But I think what’s even more surprising—even though it probably shouldn’t really be that surprising—is that Jesus’ simple response to the devil’s temptations was to quote Scripture. Now do you think there were times when Jesus was studying Deuteronomy way back when He was a kid that He might have had the thought, like we sometimes have the thought about the math or science lesson we’re learning . . . ‘I wonder if I’ll ever use this?’ I know that seems crazy to ask about Jesus, but just go with me on this. Maybe at the time He just didn’t know what learning ALL of those verses would accomplish, and yet, in this moment of temptation, He is able to pull these verses out and stand upon them.”

“Many of you come here week in and week out, and who knows, maybe you try and talk your parents out of making you come. Maybe you’d rather sleep in or go to a friend’s house. Or when you’re here, maybe there are times we’re learning a story that seems like it was from a time that was SOOOO long ago that it will never matter in your life. Or when you read your Bible on your own, you wonder, ‘Is it worth it?’ But what if each of these stories, each of these verses, and all of the time you are spending in God’s Word are shaping the way you see God’s world so that you can better live in it? And what if all of the knowledge you are learning is growing in your mind and heart? You might find that in the days when you most need it—like a hard time at home or school—all of the sudden you are able to remember what you had learned long ago.”

“When you find yourself in a tough spot, you might not be able to grab your Bible or ask a wise friend. Jesus couldn’t. But you can still be wise by trusting in what you already know to be true from God and His Word.”

## LANDING

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

**CG: Key Question Slide**

**“How do you know what's wise?”** Making wise choices comes down to putting what you know into practice. So, think about all of the ways you can discover what you need to know in order to make wise choices when it comes to your friends and family, your school work, and anything else you might do. There are all sorts of places where you can find out what’s wise. You’ll talk more about them in Small Group. Before we head there, let’s pray and thank God for sending Jesus to save us and show us why it’s important to keep learning more about God. Let’s pray.”

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

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