



## GETTING READY

### 1. Opener/Closer

#### What You Need:

- Host
- Contestants: one Small Group Leader and one kid per grade
- Game show host attire for the Host (*optional*)
- Starting line for each grade, taped on the floor at the back of the room
- *Optional*: Multicolored construction paper to create a pathway for each grade
- Answer cube for each grade from previous weeks
- Printed script for the Host (so he/she can read the game questions)
- Bible

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

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room
- Upbeat instrumental music to use during the game

#### *Large Group Visuals:*

- Theme Slide
- Knowledge Slide
- Blank Bottom Line Slide
- Bottom Line Slide
- Answer Cube Art (printable; if you need to make any more answer cubes for this week)
- "The Big Quiz: Battle of the Grades" Slide

## What You Do:

- Download and print this week's tech sheet for everyone helping with Large Group.
- 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.
- A 252 Media Package is available for purchase to go along with each curriculum tier. These graphic motion loops are included in the package. For more information, visit [Store.ThinkOrange.com](http://Store.ThinkOrange.com).
- Work with your team to develop some fun questions about your church/community to use in the game (see suggestions in the script).
- Just like in previous weeks, tape a starting line for each grade in the back of the room.

## 2. Bible Story

### What You Need:

- Storyteller
- Host
- Bible
- Bar-height table and two tall chairs (interview style)
- Cereal box with the "Honey Nut Locusts" Image (LGV) printed and attached to both sides; enlarge the image as needed to match the size of your cereal box
- Bowl and spoon
- Bottle of honey
- Large, cheerleader-style megaphone
- Crown
- Two PVC pipes to use as "jail bars"
- Pre-folded paper airplane that the Host can "finish" folding in the moment (see "What You Do"), with this text from Matthew 11:3 written on the paper: *"Are you the one who is supposed to come? Or should we look for someone else?" (NirV)*

### *Large Group Visuals:*

- One Big Story Intro (Video)
- Blank Bottom Line Slide
- Bottom Line Slide
- "Honey Nut Locusts" Cereal Box Image (printable)

### 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.”
- Print two copies of the “Honey Nut Locusts” Image, and glue or tape a copy to both sides of the cereal box.
- Write the question from Matthew 11:3 on a sheet of paper. Fold the sheet of paper into a paper airplane. It should be folded completely, so the Host can easily “finish” folding it on stage.

### **3. Worship**

#### **What You Need:**

- Worship Leader(s)

# Reason to Believe

**Bible Story:** Reason to Believe (Jesus and John the Baptist) • *Matthew 11:1-6 (Supporting: James 1:5)*

**Bottom Line:** If you don't understand something about God, ask.

**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 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, wearing game show host attire (optional).*

### **Opener**

**HOST:** *(In your best game show host voice)* "Welcome—once again—to everyone's favorite game show: The Big Quiz! It's a grade-versus-grade trivia showdown with one simple goal: show what you know!"

*(Normal voice)* “All of you out there are simply brilliant. Your knowledge amazes me!

**CG: Knowledge Slide**

“Remember, **knowledge is learning something new so you can be better at whatever you do.**

**CG: Theme Slide**

“You always need to learn about something before you can get better at it. Our relationship with God works the same way. We need to learn more about God and find out what’s most important to Him. Then we can be better at following Him.

“It’s time for our final episode of The Big Quiz: Battle of the Grades.

**CG: “The Big Quiz: Battle of the Grades” Slide**

“We’ve mastered Disney, superheroes, and candy. This week we’ll face off and test your knowledge on a very important topic: [your environment’s name]!”

**CG: Your environment logo (optional)**

“That’s right—we’re bringing this one home and asking some fun questions about our very own church and community! How well do you know [your environment’s name]?”

“Let’s get one Small Group Leader and kid to represent each grade.

*Choose one Leader per grade, and have that Leader bring up one kid from his/her group. (Ideally, choose a Leader and kid who didn’t play last week. Also, make sure the kid is a regular attender who would have a good chance of knowing the answers to the questions.) Have each pair of contestants stand behind the tapeline for their grade, at the back of the room. Give an answer cube to the pair representing each grade.*

*(To contestants)* “Contestants, I’ll ask you a series of questions about our church and our community. You’ll use your answer cube to show your answer for each one. When every grade has an answer, I’ll reveal the correct answer. Every pair that answered correctly will then get to move one step closer to the stage.

“Each grade has one lifeline, which is the question mark on your cube. If you choose the lifeline, then you’ll get to ask your grade and see if THEY know the answer. Whoever chooses the question mark first gets to use it, and we’ll do the lifeline AFTER all other contestants have chosen an answer. Whichever grade is closest to the stage at the end of the game wins!

*(To audience)* “Remember not to shout out the answers, so our contestants have a chance to guess. Be ready to shout out your answer in case they need a lifeline, though! Let’s begin.

**CG: Upbeat music (instrumental)**

*Ask the questions, and give the contestants a few seconds per question to hold out a letter on their answer cube.*

*Once all contestants have chosen an answer, use your answer cube to reveal the correct answer. Let those who got it correct take one step forward. (If you have “pathways” made from multicolored construction paper, they can step to the next square.)*

*If a contestant holds out the question mark on his/her answer cube, give the kids from that grade a chance to shout out the answer. (But wait until the other contestants have all chosen an answer first.) Give the Leader/kid pair from that grade a chance to choose the answer with their cube. Then reveal the answer to the question like usual.*

**Church/community trivia questions:**

You can design questions about your church/kids' program and/or your community. Try to make them fun and silly! Also keep in mind that some kids may have more familiarity than others, so try not to present the answers like everybody knows them. Let it be a fun way to educate everyone about your church and community! Some suggestions for game questions are below (you'll need to fill in the multiple-choice answers for each question: A through D).

1. Who/what was our town named for?
2. What is our town famous for?
3. Which of these people was born in our town? (famous people)
4. What is the mascot of our high school?
5. What is something in our town that people go to when they come to visit? (local tourist attraction)
6. In what year did our church first open?
7. Which part of our church building was built first?
8. Why is [name of your kids' environment] called [name of your kids' environment]?
9. What is [your pastor's name]'s middle name?
10. What do I do for fun when I'm not here hosting [name of your kids' environment]?
11. What is [Host/Storyteller's] favorite type of candy?
12. What is our Worship Leaders' favorite song to sing? (poll them in advance)
13. Which of these statements is NOT one of our three Basic Truths?

*After you finish*

*congratulate the Leader/kid pair that made it closest to the stage. Collect the answer cubes and dismiss the contestants to their seats.*

“Way to go, everyone! It’s been such a fun month playing The Big Quiz: Battle of the Grades! Now it’s time to get on your feet and get ready to sing and worship God together.”

**VIDEO: One Big Story Intro**

**CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide**

## **SETTING UP THE STORY**

**STORYTELLER:** “Hi, everyone! (*Hold up Bible.*) We’re picking up God’s Big Story today by talking about a man named John the Baptist. We actually told another part of John’s story a couple of weeks ago. If you were here, you might remember that John had been sent to prepare the way for Jesus.

“Jesus came to John and asked to be baptized, and God Himself told John and everyone else that Jesus was, in fact, God’s chosen One—God’s Son, the Savior. This was a really big deal! John had lots of followers of his own, but he made sure to always point people to Jesus.

“To tell us more about this firsthand, let’s bring out today’s guest: John the Baptist!”

*Host enters, dressed as John the Baptist. He’s carrying a bowl, a bottle of honey, and the “Honey Nut Locusts” cereal box.*

*Host and Storyteller sit in the interview chairs (on one side of the stage). Host pours cereal into a bowl, pours honey on it, and then starts eating.*

**YO, KING, THAT’S WRONG!**



**STORYTELLER:** *(To Host)* “Welcome, John! I have to say, you look a little bit like our friend [Host’s name]. I see we interrupted your breakfast. What are you eating there?”

**HOST:** “My favorite: locusts and wild honey. *(Looking at the box)* Or as this here says, “Honey Nut Locusts.” Yum. Goey sweetness and filled with protein! You want to try some?”

**STORYTELLER:** “Nah, I’m good.”

**HOST:** “You are missing out, my friend!”

**STORYTELLER:** “I’m sure. Now, I understand that you told the king—King Herod—that he was doing some wrong things. You told him he was sinning against God. How did that go?”

**HOST:** “Not well. Do you want me to demonstrate?”

**STORYTELLER:** “Please do.”

*Host puts the cereal down and walks over to the other side of the stage. He picks up the megaphone and crown.*

**HOST:** “King Herod was doing some bad stuff. So, I was like, *(into the megaphone)* ‘King, that’s wrong!’ He was all, *(put on the crown)* ‘No it’s not, I’m the king’ . . . and I was all, *(into the megaphone)* ‘God isn’t going to be happy with you. You really should stop doing that!’ . . . and he was all, *(put on the crown)* ‘Silence! Throw him in jail!’ *(Pause.)* Then I was thrown into jail.”

*Host walks back over to the interview chairs and sits down.*

**STORYTELLER:** “Wow. That’s terrible. I’m sorry that you had to go through that. I’m also sorry that the king didn’t listen to you.”

**HOST:** “It’s okay. I mean, I have to obey God. If that means I go to jail for doing what’s right, then I go to jail.”

**STORYTELLER:** “That’s a really great attitude, John.”

**HOST:** “Thank you.”

### **ARE YOU THE ONE?**

**STORYTELLER:** “Now, after you were thrown into jail, I understand some of your followers came to visit you. How did that go?”

**HOST:** “Well . . . let me demonstrate.

*Host walks back over to the other side of the stage. He picks up the PVC “jail bars.”*

**HOST:** “There I was, sitting in jail. I was bored and feeling a bit down. I mean, I had important work to do, telling the world about Jesus, the Savior . . . and here I was, stuck in a prison cell.

“But then some of my followers came to see me. They told me some of the things that Jesus had been doing: the miracles, the teaching, the way that He seemed to love everybody—even people that OTHER people had forgotten. But I still needed to be sure. So I sent them back to Jesus to ask Him one thing.”

*Host finishes folding the paper airplane with John’s question from Matthew 11:3 written on it. He flies it over to Storyteller.*

**STORYTELLER:** *(Catching the paper airplane)* “Right. You asked Jesus this question.

*(Reading from the paper airplane)* “Are you the one who is supposed to come? Or should we look for someone else?” *(Matthew 11:3, NIV)*

### **REPORT WHAT YOU HEAR . . .**

**STORYTELLER:** *(To Host)* “Come on back over here, John. Let’s tell them how Jesus replied to your message.

*Host puts away the jail bars, walks back to the interview area, and sits down.*

**HOST:** “Yeah—it kind of blew my mind.”

**STORYTELLER:** “Jesus said:

*Open the Bible to Matthew 11:4-6 (NIV) and read.*

*“Go back to John. Report to him what you hear and see. Blind people receive sight. Disabled people walk. Those who have skin diseases are healed. Deaf people hear. Those who are dead are raised to life. And the good news is preached to those who are poor. Blessed are those who do not give up their faith because of me.”*

“Wow. That’s powerful. *(To Host)* John, what did you think about that response?”

**HOST:** “Well, let me show you.

*Host walks back over to the other side of the stage. He picks up the PVC “jail bars” again.*

“Like I said, I already knew Jesus was the One. But now, I really KNEW it. I mean, I was still in jail. (*Reference the jail bars.*) That didn’t change. But what Jesus said made everything that I was dealing with not seem so bad. The Savior we were waiting for was here! And that’s all that really mattered.”

**STORYTELLER:** “Amazing. Thank you for sharing your story with us, John. (*To audience*) John the Baptist, everybody!”

*Host waves and exits.*

## **WRAPPING UP THE STORY**

**STORYTELLER:** “What Jesus said to John made it very clear—Jesus IS God’s Son. Only the Son of God could have the power to do the things Jesus was doing.

“Even though John was stuck in prison, God still loved him and cared about him. John wanted to be sure that Jesus was THE One that God was sending—the Savior. So he sent people to ask. Now he had his answer.

“John understood something important.

**CG: Bottom Line Slide**

**[Bottom Line] “If you don’t understand something about God, ask.**

“God is super amazing and super awesome. In fact, He’s SO amazing and SO awesome that there will definitely be some times when you don’t understand something about Him. You know what? That’s okay! When you don’t understand something about God, you do what John did. You can ask.

“Ask God to help you understand. Ask other people you know who follow God, like your parents or your Small Group Leader. Don’t be afraid to ask questions and learn more about God. You’ll never regret getting more knowledge about Him!

“Let’s pray.”

**CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide**

## Pray

**STORYTELLER:** “Dear God, You are so big and so powerful. It’s amazing to think that we can spend our whole lives getting to know You! Sometimes we have questions about things we don’t understand. In those times, help us to do what John did. Help us to be brave enough to ask questions. Thank You for loving us and sending us Jesus so we can know more about You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

*Host enters as Storyteller exits.*

## Closer

**HOST:** “It’s true—God’s ways are higher than our ways. There will be times when we don’t understand something about God or something about what’s happening in our lives. We can only see a tiny piece of what God is doing in our lives and in the world around us.

“That’s why it’s important for us to get in the habit of asking questions. If there’s something you don’t know, you can always ask . . . and learn.

**CG: Today’s Story Image**

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

"That's what John the Baptist did. He asked. And Jesus made it clear that He really is who John believed He was all along: the Savior of the world.

**CG: Timeline**

"You see, John had been taught his whole life that God had promised to send a Savior to the world. John believed that Jesus was the One God had promised. When John was thrown into jail, he began to doubt. But instead of just giving up or thinking the worst, John sent his followers to Jesus to ask if He really was the Savior. Even though John wasn't there to see all that Jesus was doing, Jesus assured him that He was the One.

**CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide**

"Here's the thing. Everyone has questions about God at some point. When you have questions or you're not sure about something, ask someone who knows a lot about God. Or ask God Himself!

**CG: Bottom Line Slide**

**[Bottom Line] "If you don't understand something about God, ask.**

"Listen to these words from the book of James.

*Open the Bible to James 1:5 (NirV) and read.*

*“If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone and doesn’t find fault.*

“It’s so good to know that God will give us wisdom! He may not give it right away. It could be something that happens over a long time. But keep looking to God to help you understand more about Him and about how He wants you to live.

“Think about it. If you don’t understand a rule in soccer, who do you ask? *(Pause for response.)* Your coach. If you don’t understand something about reading music or singing, who do you ask? *(Pause for response.)* A music teacher. If you don’t understand how to make the perfect chocolate cake, who can you ask for help? *(Pause for response.)* Right. Someone who’s really good at baking. If you don’t understand something about God, ask Him. Ask the people He’s put in your life.

“Remember, **[Basic Truth] you can trust God no matter what.** Keep seeking His knowledge and wisdom so you can live each day for Him! Have fun in Small Group!”

*Dismiss kids to their small groups.*

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

**CG: Theme Slide**