



GETTING READY

1. Welcome/Opener

What You Need:

- Host
- Four kid volunteers
- Lots of nuts with matching bolts
- Mud or potting soil with water
- Two large clear tubs
- Two blindfolds
- Two small buckets
- Towels
- Tarp

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

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

Large Group Visuals (downloadable from the website):

- Theme Slide
- “The D.I.Y. Twist” 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.
- Fill the bottom of both clear tubs with mud. If needed, make "mud" out of water and potting soil. Bury an equal number of nuts and bolts in both tubs. You should have a minimum of ten nuts and ten bolts in each container. Place the tubs on both sides of the stage. The size of the tubs will determine how difficult this is. The larger the tub, the more spread out the nuts and bolts.

2. Communicator Script

What You Need:

- Communicator
- Bible
- Construction paper
- Tape
- 10 laundry baskets
- Large black marker

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room.

Large Group Visuals (downloadable from the website):

- 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.
- During the introduction and tension, the communicator will be writing down prompts from the personal story or audience on the pieces of paper, one prompt per piece of paper. For every prompt the communicator writes down, it should be stuck on a laundry basket turned upside down. This will allow the piece of paper to be read by the audience while it is stacked in a "wall". Toward the end of the tension portion, the communicator will need to stack the laundry baskets in a pyramid like a game of cup stack.

3. Worship

What You Need:

- I Choose You
- Who You Say I Am

Step by Step

Bible Story: Step by Step (Jesus Teaches on Forgiveness) • Matthew 5:1-2, 23-24

Key Question: What is keeping you from forgiving?

Bottom Line: Take the first step to forgive others.

Memory Verse: Put up with one another. Forgive one another if you are holding something against someone. Forgive, just as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:13 (NIRV)

Life App: Forgiveness—Deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay

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

Worship 1: I Choose You

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: March Madness, World Team Table Tennis Championships Spring Break, Texas Independence Day, National Panda Day, St. Patrick's Day, National Awkward Moments Day, National Sloppy Joe Day, Start of Spring, National Ravioli Day, National Quilting Day, movie openings like Onward, Mulan, 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.

Opener

HOST: "Welcome one and all to the best place on earth, [Name of Environment]. I love this place because we get to learn important lessons like how to build really, really tall towers out of marshmallows and noodles . . . AND

DO IT YOURSELF. Lessons like this are extremely important to help you practice adulting before you have to adult for real. When the time comes in a few years for you to move out of your house, it will be really important for you to know how to D.I.Y. It could be learning to build a bird house or repairing a doorknob or building an adorable farmhouse table from scratch as shown on Pinterest.”

“Let’s have a show of hands to help me better understand the D.I.Y. competency of this group. How many of you have ever attempted to put together cheap, Swedish furniture outside . . . while it’s raining . . . standing in a mud puddle . . . with no visibility. *(Pause for response.)* That’s exactly what I was afraid of. This room is completely unprepared for the harsh realities of the real world, and there is only one way to fix that . . . with a game.”

“This could be one of the most practical games ever before played on this stage. It’s called The D.I.Y. Twist.”

CG: “The D.I.Y. Twist” Slide

“Anybody out there ok getting a little messy to play a game? *(Pause for response.)*

Host selects four volunteers and brings them to the stage. Host splits the volunteers into two teams of two people.

“Here’s how you play THE D.I.Y. TWIST. One person from each team must twist nuts onto matching bolts. Once a person has attached a nut to a bolt, they will hand it to their partner who will hold all the connected nuts and bolts until the end. Sounds easy enough. However, the nuts and bolts are at the bottom of these containers filled with dirt and mud. The person connecting the nuts and bolts has to reach into the mud and find the nuts and bolts. Oh, and you’ll be blindfolded, too! I mean, I told you this would be a DIY *TWIST!* Any questions? *(Pause for response.)* The group with the most connected nuts and bolts after 60 seconds wins! Enough talking. We need to practice adulting. Let’s play!”

SFX: Upbeat Game Music

Host allows game to go for approximately 60 seconds. Once the time is up, Host dramatically counts the number of connected nuts and bolts for each team. Host makes a big deal out of the number of connected nuts and bolts.

“WOW! That was an incredible display of blind-folded dexterity. Well done to all of our volunteers, but an extra REALLY, REALLY, REALLY, REALLY well done to our winners! Give a big round of applause to all of our participants! As they exit the stage and get cleaned up, let’s go nuts for everybody’s favorite worship leader, *[Name of Worship Leader]*, and get ready to give some worship to our incredible God!”

Host exits as Worship Leader enters.

Worship 2: Who You Say I Am

Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit.

COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT

INTRODUCTION

COMMUNICATOR: “What’s up, everybody? So glad you all made it today to *[Name of Environment]*. Ok, I have a bit of a tough question for us today. Be honest with yourself. Don’t answer out loud. But how many of you have ever hurt someone? Maybe it was on purpose, or perhaps it was by accident. But if we’re honest, we have to admit that it’s true. Each one of us has probably had a moment when we’ve hurt someone.”

Communicator tells a personal, age-appropriate story about a time they were hurt by someone else.

“I remember this one time in fifth grade I was assigned a group project to creatively present an erupting volcano. We needed the project to include a main chimney, hot lava, volcanic ash, and the magma chamber—all the stuff you would expect from a D.I.Y. volcano group project. The first step was to brainstorm with our partners what we would build for the project. Our teacher wanted no two projects the same. My group began to think through what to build and, yes, we came up with all your stereotypical model volcanos made out of paper mâché or modeling clay. However, we wanted to really impress our teacher by coming up with something different. All of a sudden, we heard some of the other groups talking. People were talking about some really great ideas. My friend Blake’s group had an idea that sounded great! Maybe I was hungry, maybe I was jealous of the idea, but I heard clear as day, ‘VOLCANO DESSERT!’ I said, ‘Let’s do it!’ My group loved the idea, but they weren’t sure that it was ok to take another group’s idea. But I thought Blake’s group had so many ideas. I figured they’d never go with the

dessert one. So when it came time to pitch our idea to our teacher to ensure everyone's project was different, we got to go first! We said, 'VOLCANO DESSERT!' And we had our project plan!

"But then I heard my friend Blake's group go up. I heard him say it—volcano dessert. Of course, they couldn't do a volcano dessert because we had already taken the idea! Blake was sitting near us, and I KNEW he knew we overheard them brainstorm and take their idea of volcanic deliciousness. He looked at me. I could tell he was really mad! They had to settle for a ketchup and vinegar volcano. I mean, that's just gross!"

Communicator writes "Stole His Group Project Idea" on a piece of paper and tapes it to the side of a laundry basket.

"Annoyed, Blake did what any normal fifth grader would do. He marched up to my desk with a rotten scowl, pointed his finger in my face, and screamed 'THIEF!' To which, I did exactly what you think I might do. I lied about ever hearing their idea. But who was I kidding, he knew I wasn't telling the truth and told me as much."

Communicator writes "Lied to his face" on a piece of paper and tapes it to the side of a laundry basket.

"At that point, I didn't know what to say, so I just leaned in real close to Blake's face to counter, but before I could speak and perpetuate the lie, I said something I knew had stung. I screamed out, 'Get away from me! You smell like vinegar!' It caught him off guard. I felt horrible, but I didn't know what to say. But I knew how he must have felt . . . hurt and angry."

Communicator writes "Vinegar" on a piece of paper and tapes it to the side of a laundry basket.

TENSION

COMMUNICATOR: "After this incident, it took a long time for Blake to trust me again. When we hurt someone, the last thing we want to do is ask for forgiveness, right? What we really want is act like it never happened! Ignore the other person and hope for the best. But the best never happens, does it? Because when we hurt people, it breaks our relationships. This is just one example. Take a moment and think about some of the ways people can hurt others. It doesn't have to be a real example from your life. Think about ways people hurt each other in movies or on TV shows."

Communicator calls on kids and allows them to briefly share.

Communicator writes down each good idea down on a separate piece of paper. Each piece of paper should be taped onto the side of a laundry basket. All ten laundry baskets should have one example of ways others can hurt you.

“Wow. Look at these examples. There are so many ways someone can hurt someone else and make them upset. This list could go on and on. When we hurt others and make them upset with us, it’s like we’re putting up a wall. And this wall means that our relationship with that person is broken. It can affect how we talk to others, play with others, make friends, and the list goes on.”

Communicator stacks the laundry baskets into a pyramid with four baskets on level 1, three baskets on level 2, two baskets on level 3, and one basket on level 4.

“When you’re the one who did the hurting, it is really, really difficult to admit that you’re wrong and make it right. But why is that? Why is it so hard to ask for forgiveness—especially when we so often hurt people we’d consider our friends or family? Why do we tolerate living with a wall of hurt between us instead of making peace with those people?”

“None of these questions are easy to answer, but this is exactly what we are going to explore today. Long ago, Jesus addressed this difficult subject of forgiveness to a big group of people. Let’s dig in and hear what Jesus said about this.”

TRUTH

COMMUNICATOR: “If you’ve been here before, you have probably heard us talk about how Jesus’ reputation could bring a crowd. Many would bring their relatives who were sick for healing. Others gathered to hear Jesus’ teachings. Some wanted to witness one of His many miracles. Regardless of the reasoning, people came from all over when Jesus was in town.”

“On this particular day, a large crowd followed Jesus and His disciples near Capernaum. When He noticed the large numbers, Jesus took them to a mountainside and sat down. It was the perfect opportunity for Jesus to teach the audience. Many experts believe Jesus taught a couple of days and covered topics like pointing others to Jesus, how to pray, dealing with anger, and being generous. As He continued to speak, He also discussed forgiveness. Listen carefully to Jesus’ words. He said, *(Read directly from Matthew 5:23-24) ‘Suppose you are offering your gift at the altar. And you remember that your brother or sister has something against you. Leave your gift in front of the altar. First go and make peace with them. Then come back and offer your gift,’ (NIRV).* Obviously, we don’t offer gifts to God at an altar in the same way they did many years ago. Regardless, Jesus is

clearly stating the importance of us letting go of anger to make peace with others. But what does this look like today?"

"Suppose your older brother was given a brand new, fancy-pantsy Nintendo Switch. It had been on his must-have list since the console was released. Yes, it's was his, BUT you'd also get to play the gaming system with him. When your parents gave him the Switch, it truly was a big surprise. After he had the Switch for a few days, you asked if you could play. He reluctantly gave it up and left the room. But as you were playing Mario Kart, you got so excited and totally by accident you flung the screen into the wall. You look and that his brand new, fancy-pantsy Nintendo Switch's screen was cracked and the left Joy-Con controller was broken! You run to your room and hope he thinks your younger brother did it."

Communicator writes "Breaks Switch" on a piece of paper and tapes it to one of the laundry baskets.

"Maybe it was your best friend. It's the person who always, no matter what, has your back. When you need someone to talk to or someone to stand up for you, this friend is always ready to help! Everybody needs a friend like that. But let's say you are on the playground with your entire grade. Some of you decide to play a game of kickball. Sure, he's not the strongest kickball player, but you are the one of the team captains. He must think that this is all but a guarantee that he'll not be picked last. However, as the teams are picked, you're the one who ends up picking him . . . last. This is your best friend, the one who has your back no matter what, and you picked him LAST! The whole situation left him hurt, feeling like he wasn't any good, and really upset."

Communicator writes "Picked Last in Kickball" on a piece of paper and tapes it to one of the laundry baskets.

APPLICATION

COMMUNICATOR: "Here's the thing. Throughout our lives, we'll argue with people and even disagree with others. We'll make others feel annoyed or frustrated. Sometimes we may even hurt them. And before you know it, you will have built a wall of hurt between you and the people you should be closest with. Sure, it might seem easy to move on without making peace. However, when we do this, we aren't doing what Jesus is talking about in these verses. This is especially true when we go ahead and pray to God, study God's Word, and worship God while acting like everything's fine."

"But we should not forget what Jesus said. *(Read directly from Matthew 5:23-24)* 'Suppose you are offering your gift at the altar. And you remember that your brother or sister has something against you. Leave your gift in front of the altar. First go and make peace with them. Then come back and offer your gift,' (NirV). Jesus is saying we

are NOT fine when we don't apologize and make things right. Before we do anything else, we should make things right with that other person."

"Asking forgiveness looks like going to your brother to point the damage to his gaming system and letting him know that you'll pay to have the screen fixed and buy him a new controller. It looks like telling your best friend that you messed up and should have picked him sooner. Ask him to do something fun after school and let him pick the activity! Ultimately when we do the hard work and making it right with others looks like this. . ."

Communicator destroys laundry basket wall.

"It prevents giant walls of hurt and grudges from ever being built! The secret to making the peace is really simple. It's about you making the choice to seek forgiveness . . . even if things don't turn out perfectly. Someone has to be the first to make a move. And it should be you."

LANDING

COMMUNICATOR: "At the same time, you may be the person who needs to offer forgiveness. Maybe you're the one who's hurt and carrying a grudge. Here's what I've found. The longer you wait, the harder it can be to forgive. If that's the case, think about this as you head to small groups."

CG: Key Question Slide

"What is keeping you from forgiving? What's standing in the way of letting something go, so you can help rebuild a relationship not a wall between you and the other person? For others, you may need to think about who needs you to apologize. These might be tough questions for you to answer, but that's why it's good you have an awesome Small Group. You'll talk more about this with them. Before we head there, let's pray and thank God for forgiving us! Let's pray."

Communicator leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard. Communicator dismisses kids to Small Group.

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