



## GETTING READY

### 1. Opener/Closer

#### What You Need:

- Host
- Lots of sturdy plastic cups, such as SOLO® cups; at least one for each kid (see “What You Do”)
- Host’s phone

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

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room
- Fun music for the game

#### *Large Group Visuals:*

- Theme Slide
- Humility Slide
- Blank Bottom Line Slide
- Bottom Line Slide
- Blank Memory Verse Slide
- Memory Verse Slide

#### What You Do:

### 2. Bible Story

## What You Need:

- Storyteller
- Bible
- Handheld wireless microphone (or a wired microphone on a stand)
- “#1” foam finger
- Table
- Prop box including:
  - Two lunch boxes
  - Large chocolate chip cookie, wrapped in plastic wrap
  - Video game controller
  - Math worksheet
  - Pencil

### *Large Group Visuals:*

- One Big Story Intro (Video)
- Blank Bottom Line Slide
- Bottom Line Slide
- Philippians 2:3 Slide
- Philippians 2:5 Slide
- Philippians 2:6 Slide
- Philippians 2:7 Slide
- Philippians 2:8 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 the weekly SFX and have them ready to use.
- Download music from a resource such as iTunes® and have it ready to play.
- The One Big Story Intro Video is available with the monthly download. You can find it in the “Prelude” folder under “Monthly Planning.”
- Put the items in the prop box and place it where the Storyteller can easily access it.

## 3. **Worship**

### What You Need:

- Worship Leader(s)

# Lean on Me

**Bible Story:** Lean on Me (Servant Principle) • *Philippians 2:3-8*

**Bottom Line:** Put others first because Jesus put you first.

**Memory Verse:** *Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves.* Philippians 2:3 (NirV)

**Life App:** Humility—Putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve

**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*

*Host welcomes the kids as they enter.*

### **Opener**

**HOST:** "Hi, friends! My name is [your name] and I'm so glad that you're here at [your environment's name]."

"All month long we're talking about humility."

**CG:** *Humility Slide*

**“Humility is putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve.**

**CG: Theme Slide**

“That might seem a little upside down from the way things normally go. Normally we want to get the best things for ourselves. Normally we want to put ourselves first. But Jesus showed us a better way. He showed us what real humility looks like. When we remember how Jesus treated people, we can follow His lead. We can turn things upside down and **[Basic Truth] treat others the way we want to be treated.**

“I thought we could start off today with another fun upside-down game—one that we ALL get to play. It’s called CUPside Down!

“In just a minute, we’ll set out a bunch of cups in the room. Some of them will be facing up and some of them will be upside down. When I say, ‘Go,’ all of the girls in the room will try to set all of the cups right side up, like this (*hold a cup upright*) . . . while all of the boys in the room will be trying to turn all the cups upside down, like this (*hold a cup upside down*). When time is up, we’ll count up how many cups are facing up and how many are facing down and determine the winning team.

“First, let’s set out the cups. Leaders, can you help me out?”

**SFX: Fun music**

*Get the Leaders to help you set out the individual cups throughout the room—with some facing up and some facing down. Have the cups pre-set in equal stacks to make it easy.*

*Try to make this as even as possible by telling each Leader to set their cups either right side up or upside down, and giving out equal numbers of “up” stacks and “down” stacks.*

“All right, I think we’re ready to go. Remember, girls, you’re trying to set the cups right side up, and boys, you’re trying to turn them upside down. On your marks, get set, . . . go!

*Set a 30-second timer on your phone.*

**SFX: Fun music**

*Comment on the action. If multiple kids seem to be arguing over the same cup, encourage them to move on to the different cups around them.*

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“All right. Time’s up! Hands in the air!

*Have the Leaders stack cups that are facing the same direction. For example, put all the right-side-up cups in one stack and all the upside-down cups in another stack. Whichever stack is tallest wins!*

“That was so fun! You all were moving around the room so fast, and you were flipping cups like crazy. Give yourselves a hand!

“Humility is a great way for us to flip things upside down and put others first. We can remember to be humble when we remember the humility Jesus showed US. Let’s take some time to worship God and thank Him for who He is and what He’s done.”

*Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.*

**Worship**

## SETTING UP THE STORY

**STORYTELLER:** “We’ve been making our way through the Bible together (*hold up Bible*) and following God’s Big Story ever since the very beginning. EVERYTHING in God’s Story led up to what happened when He sent His Son, Jesus, to be our Savior.

“Jesus came to earth and taught things no one had heard before. He healed people. He lived a perfect life. But the religious leaders didn’t like how Jesus claimed to be God’s Son. They had Him arrested, and He died a horrible death on the cross. But He didn’t stay dead! Jesus defeated death and came alive again.

“Jesus flipped things upside down and changed the way everything works—forever. He changed how we view others and how we treat them. The apostle Paul wrote about that in a letter, which he wrote to followers of Jesus who lived in a city called Philippi.

“Here’s what Paul wrote. (*Hold up Bible.*) I’ll get some help from our Leaders to read it out loud for us.

*As the slides come up on screen, walk around and have a different Leader read each slide into the handheld microphone. (Or you can have them walk up to a wired mic on a stand.)*

**CG: Philippians 2:3 Slide**

**LEADER:** “Don’t do anything only to get ahead. Don’t do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves” (NIRV).

**CG: Philippians 2:5 Slide**

**LEADER:** *“As you deal with one another, you should think and act as Jesus did” (NIRV).*

**CG: Philippians 2:6 Slide**

**LEADER:** *“In his very nature he was God. Jesus was equal with God. But Jesus didn’t take advantage of that fact” (NIRV).*

**CG: Philippians 2:7 Slide**

**LEADER:** *“Instead, he made himself nothing. He did this by taking on the nature of a servant. He was made just like human beings” (NIRV).*

**CG: Philippians 2:8 Slide**

**LEADER:** *“He appeared as a man. He was humble and obeyed God completely. He did this even though it led to his death. Even worse, he died on a cross” (NIRV).*

**CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide**

## **WHAT JESUS DID**

**STORYTELLER:** *“Thanks, Leaders. (To kids) Did you catch that? Jesus is equal with God.*

*Stretch your hands out wide, facing up.*

*“He made His big, huge, mighty self small, to be like us.*

*Move your palms together, down low.*

“Jesus did what was BEST for us. He was humble. He obeyed God completely, even though it cost Him everything. He thought of our needs and our weaknesses. He put us first.”

## **LET’S DO IT TOO**

**STORYTELLER:** “So we know what Jesus did for us. Do you think that should change the way we treat other people? *(Pause for response.)* Absolutely! We can follow the example Jesus gave us as WE put others first, too. But we need God’s help to do it!

“Raise your hand if you know what it feels like when someone puts you first. *(Raise your hand.)* How does it feel? *(Pause for response.)* It feels good, right? Well, you and I can do that for others. **[Basic Truth] We can treat others the way we want to be treated.**

*Put on the foam finger and hold it up.*

“Instead of saying, ‘I’m number one!’ . . .

*Put the foam finger on a Leader’s hand.*

“. . . we’re saying to someone else, ‘YOU’RE number one!’

“When we put others first, not only are we following Jesus’ example, but we’re also showing the world what God is like. We shouldn’t just be thinking about ourselves and how we can get ahead. We should value others more than ourselves.”



## FOR REAL, THOUGH

**STORYTELLER:** “Here’s the thing, though. It’s easy for us to SAY we want to put others first. But what does that really look like? Well, you might be surprised how many different situations come up every day that give us a chance to put others first.

*Set the prop box on the table. Pull out the two lunch boxes and set them on the table—with one directly in front of you and one to the side.*

“Let’s say you and your older sister are packing your lunches for school. You’ve packed a sandwich, an apple, and a water bottle, but you’re looking for one more thing. Then, at the exact same moment, you and your sister both spot the very last remaining chocolate chip cookie. (*Hold up the cookie.*) You know you both want it. What do you do? (*Pause.*) Well, even though you REALLY want that cookie, you can show humility by letting her have it this time—without complaining.

*Drop the cookie into the lunch box that’s off to the side. Close it up and then put both lunch boxes back into the prop box. Then pull out the video game controller and hold it up.*

“How about this? It’s Friday afternoon, and as you get off the school bus, a couple of your friends follow you home to play video games for a little while. But when you get inside, you realize that there are three of you wanting to play, and there’s only two game controllers. You can take turns, but someone has to sit out first. What do you do? (*Pause.*) Well, even though you love playing this new game with your friends, you can choose to be humble by saying you’ll sit out first. You can show your friends what humility looks like by putting them first.

*Put the video game controller back into the prop box. Pull out the math worksheet and pencil and hold them up.*

“Okay, one more. You and your siblings are all working on homework. You come across a math problem you need a little help with. But at that exact moment, your little brother also needs your mom’s help with his assignment. Everything in you wants to jump in front of him so you can get the help you need and then be done. But what do you do? (*Pause.*) You can practice some patience and let your little brother go first. When you do that, you’re showing humility. You’re putting your little brother first.”

*Put the worksheet and pencil back into the prop box. Come around to the front of the table to wrap up the story.*

## **WRAPPING UP THE STORY**

**STORYTELLER:** “If we’re not careful, we can find ourselves in those everyday situations and never really stop to think about others. I mean, if we’re honest, WE want to go first. We want to pick our favorite color. We want to have things our way. But God’s way means paying attention to the people around us, noticing what they need, and choosing to love them and put them first. After all, that’s what Jesus did for us!

“Remember:

**CG: Bottom Line Slide**

**[Bottom Line] “Put others first because Jesus put you first.**

“That can be hard for us to do, but remember, God is always there to help us. Let’s talk to Him about that now.”

**CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide**

## **Pray**

**STORYTELLER:** “God, thank You so much for Jesus and for the incredible example of humility that He gave us. It’s because of HIS humility that we can show humility to others. Please help us show our friends and family that we value them by the way we treat them. Help us to remember how Jesus put US first, and please give us the strength to treat people the same way. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

*Host enters as Storyteller exits.*

## Closer

**HOST:** “It’s true. Jesus is the very BEST example of humility. He gave up everything to come to earth and save us!

### CG: Timeline

“After Jesus died and came to life again, people talked about what He did. They talked about the way He treated people—with love and compassion. They remembered all that He had done to put people first.

### CG: Today’s Story Image

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

“We should think that way when we spend time with the people in our lives. We should be thinking about others more than we think of ourselves.

### CG: Blank Memory Verse Slide

“It’s just like Paul wrote in his letter—in Philippians 2:3—which is our memory verse for this month.

### CG: Memory Verse Slide

*“Don’t do anything only to get ahead. Don’t do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves (Philippians 2:3 NIV).”*

“It’s not easy for us to put others first. But we can find the strength we need when we remember what Jesus did for us.

**CG: Bottom Line Slide**

**[Bottom Line] “Put others first because Jesus put you first.**

“For us, it can often be our attitude that can show humility to others. Let’s say you’re right in the middle of something that you want to do, and someone bothers you. Do you get upset? Or do you look at it as a chance to help them out? Our days are full of chances when we can choose to put others first—by being ready to give them our time and attention and thinking about what THEY might need.

“So how can YOU can follow Jesus’ example and put others first? I bet you’ve got some great ideas about that. You can head to Small Group and talk about it now.”

*Dismiss kids to their small*

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

**CG: Theme Slide**