



WEEK
FOUR
MAY 2022

LARGE GROUP
PRETEEN

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Glory Days
Heroes of the Faith
Hebrews 11

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

Who inspires you to get back up?

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Just for Fun
Opening Activity

HOST

- Two Small Group Leaders
- Two kid volunteers
- Two blindfolds
- Cones
- Hula hoops
- Balls
- Rope
- Pool noodles
- And any other obstacle for the kids to navigate around

LARGE GROUP

35
MIN

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **LAUNCH is THIS WEEK - WELCOME** to our new 4th graders
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- **SUMMER CAMPS** - Still time to sign up
- **New expectations for the pre-service experience**
 - check-in with leaders and place sticker on clipboards
 - hang out until we gather at the entrance
 - grab a seat close to your group
 - Games open back up after all small groups are finished (around 10:05 or 11:35)
 - Be respectful of the other groups meeting (girls in game room and guys in large group space)

STORY SUPPLIES

- Prop box
- Mason jar or some other prop to accompany Communicator's personal story
- National flag from another country
- First aid kit
- Voter registration card or voting sticker
- Pillow
- Map
- Baby doll
- Handcuffs
- Bag of flour
- Basket
- Staff or walking stick

MONTHLY WORSHIP LINEUP:

Week 1 - Never Gonna Stop Singing
Week 2 - Let Go & There's Nothing That Our God Can't Do
Week 3 - This is Living & Graves Into Gardens
Week 4 - Might Get Loud & Who You Say I Am
Week 5 - Real Love & Waymaker



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25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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Heroes of the Faith
Hebrews 11

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

Who inspires you to get back up?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Trusting God can help
you get back up.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"But those who trust in the LORD
will receive new strength. They
will fly as high as eagles. They will
run and not get tired. They will
walk and not grow weak."

Isaiah 40:31, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Resilience—Getting back up
when something gets you down

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS STUDENTS ENTER.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter

WORSHIP LEADER:

AUDIO: *Might Get Loud*

AUDIO: *Who You Say I Am*

Host enters . . .

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (30- OR 60-SECOND VERSION)

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

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, movie opening, a viral video on YouTube, holiday (National Paper Airplane Day, National Burger Day, National Brisket Day, Memorial Day), 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: "Howdy to you! Welcome to be absolute BEST place to be at this time and on this day, [Name of Environment]! We're so excited you are here! Just get yourselves ready, because you're about to witness several fearless individuals attempt an impossible task! The [Name of Kids Ministry] has REALLY outdone themselves today in a terrifying challenge that requires complete trust and clear communication between partners! Relationships are on the line today in a challenge we like to call Hear Here!"



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SLIDE: "HEAR HERE!" TITLE

"To play, we need two Small Group Leaders to each bring one kid with them to the stage. Any volunteers? (Pause for response)"

Host selects two Small Group Leaders to come to the stage. The Small Group Leaders should both bring with them one kid volunteer. Host hands both Small Group Leaders a blindfold and directs the pairs to the same side of the stage.

"The game HEAR HERE is SO simple. One must walk from one side of the stage to the other. The team who walks the fastest across this course or farthest in 60 seconds wins! As you can see, this stage is littered with hula hoops, sports equipment, cones, and other oddities. But today these are actually traps, mines, and other unnamed dangers. When someone bumps one of the perils with their feet, they must hop on one leg. If they bump into something else, they're eliminated. Make sense? (Pause for response.) Good!"

"We have one more twist for this here obstacle course. The individuals walking through will be blindfolded and must carefully listen to their partner's instructions! You need to HEAR your partner while you are HERE on this stage. Hence the name, HEAR HERE. For this game, kids will be blindfolded while the Small Group Leaders provide directional instructions! Small Group Leaders are not allowed to step on the course and should call out to their blindfolded partners from the edges of the challenge. Any questions before we get started? (Pause for response.) Excellent! Let's play HEAR HERE!"

AUDIO: UPBEAT GAME MUSIC

Host directs Small Group Leaders to stay outside the boundary of the obstacle course. Once a kid bumps into an object, direct that student to hop on one leg. When a kid bumps into an object a second time, mark the distance reached on the course. Whoever completes the course first OR gets the furthest wins! Host collects the blind folds and celebrates the winner.

"YAAAAS! Incredible job to both of our teams—solid effort! The communication was as clear as mud! And the competitors listened . . . sort of! Regardless, we should celebrate both teams with a warm round of applause. (Pause for response.) NOW! We did have one clear winner, and they should be celebrated EVEN LOUDER because they are THE HEAR HERE CHAMPIONS! Let's get obnoxiously loud right now! (Pause for obnoxious response.) Well done, teams."



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COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT (STORY)

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

INTRODUCTION

COMMUNICATOR: "What's up, everybody? I'm really glad you are here today."

NOTE: For the next part of the script, Communicator tells a personal family story of a time when a relative showed resilience. The following is an example of the type of story to tell. Alternatively, you can share the following story as a hypothetical situation.

"Does anybody know what holiday is coming up? (Pause for response.) That's right! Memorial Day is quickly approaching. It's a day we remember all those who have died while serving in the United States armed forces. So many men and woman have sacrificed much while protecting our freedoms and rights as Americans.

Communicator pulls out a mason jar from prop box. (Or whatever sort of prop would connect with your story.)

"When it comes to resilience, I'm often reminded of my grandpa. You all would have loved his goofy jokes and his love of music. When he was your age, America was experiencing the Great Depression when many people lost their jobs, businesses failed, and many did not have money to purchase basic goods. Like your great grandparents, my grandpa worked hard to overcome this difficult season in our nation's history. My grandpa helped provide for his brothers and sisters by working in the garden or hunting small critters to cook. He helped dry pears on the rooftop, stored the root crops, potatoes and carrots under the house, and jarred some of the other crops they harvested to eat during the winter. Can you imagine what it would take to make it through a time like that? Time and time again, my grandpa demonstrated resilience in order to help his family survive."

TENSION

COMMUNICATOR: "My grandpa is one example of someone who faced a hardship but found a way to overcome the difficulty. If we had time, each of you might be able to share examples from your family's history of family members who were prime examples of resilience. Some of you may have family members who traveled great distances to immigrate from other countries to live here.

Communicator pulls out a national flag from another country from the prop box.

"Some of you may have grandparents who survived devastating natural disasters that wiped out their community.

Communicator pulls out a first aid kit from the prop box.

"Others may have great aunts and uncles who faced discrimination and fought for equal rights.

Communicator pulls out a voter's registration card or voting sticker from the prop box.

"It is great to read or hear about these stories of resilience! But how can such stories actually help us show resilience in our own lives? What do these stories have to do with us right now? All of us face something that requires our resilience. When we dread going to school because of a bully or we learn we are moving across the country or we are fighting with our best friend, is there any value in hearing what others have overcome? How can the stories of others impact our own?"



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"That is a great question. And you know what? I think this is why we have the Bible. We can read how God helped people throughout history and how they showed resilience because of that. Those stories can absolutely impact how we see our own problems and situations. Sometimes it helps to look into our past to help us figure out the present and move into the future. This is exactly what we will be doing with our time right now!"

Communicator pulls a Bible out of the prop box.

TRUTH

COMMUNICATOR: "If you been here in the past, you've probably heard us tell you there are 66 books in the Bible, full of history, stories, letters, and poetry that work together to form God's one big story! There are two big sections within the Bible: the Old Testament and the New Testament. The New Testament is the location of the book we will explore today, the book of Hebrews.

"The author of Hebrews understood that some days are harder than others. We may feel like staying in bed a little longer so we don't have to face what's out there.

Communicator pulls out a pillow from the prop box.

"Although we don't know who wrote the book, we do know they deeply loved God and wanted others to know Jesus. At the time Hebrews was written, Jesus was no longer walking around on earth. We know that many new believers, because of their faith in Jesus, were experiencing mistreatment from other Jews and Roman citizens. As a result, life was difficult! Some were weighing if Christianity was worth it! The author understood that the more we discover about what God has done in the past, the more we can trust God to act NOW.

"Check out what was written in Hebrews. We read,

Open the Bible to Hebrews 11:1-2 (NIRV) and read.

"Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see. That is what the people of long ago were praised for.

"Faith is such an important word for all of us to understand. Faith is so much more than hoping for the best in all situations. It's taking a long look at the big picture of God's work through history and trusting God can work out all the hard parts of our story, too!

"The author proceeded to write about some of the Old Testament men and women who faced difficult times but still trusted and put their faith in God!

Communicator pulls out a map from the prop box.

"People like Abraham! Abraham lived a comfortable life surrounded by family and friends. God called Abraham to leave everything he knew. Just like that, without a map, Abraham headed to an unknown land. Abraham obeyed God because of his faith.

Communicator pulls out a baby doll from the prop box.



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“Even though Abraham was 75 years old and had no kids, God promised him enough kids and grandkids and great grandkids as there are stars in the sky! Abraham trusted God. And his journey of faith into the unknown led to God’s miracle gift of a son, Isaac. In fact, the entire story of God’s people starts with Abraham’s simple act of faith.

“The author also turned attention towards Abraham’s great grandson, Joseph. He was his dad’s favorite son, who annoyed his brothers to the point they sold him as a slave.

Communicator pulls out a pair of handcuffs from the prop box.

“In Egypt, Joseph opted to work hard instead of sulking over his difficult turn of events. Joseph served time as a slave, was falsely accused of wrongdoing, and spent years in prison! Eventually, Joseph’s situation changed.

Communicator pulls out a bag of flour from the prop box.

“Joseph was second in command to the Egyptian Pharaoh and distributed food during a famine. Throughout Joseph’s life, he got back up again and trusted God to work out his story!

“After several centuries passed, God’s people remained in Egypt and grew into a great nation. But they were forced to work as slaves under Pharaoh’s rule. So God called on a man named Moses to help.

Communicator pulls out a basket from the prop box.

“As a baby, Moses’ mom was forced to place him in a basket in the Nile River. The Pharaoh’s daughter found Moses and raised him. Moses grew up and eventually had to flee Egypt. He chose to live a quiet life as a shepherd in the desert. But God had a plan for Moses. God spoke to him through a burning bush and told him to return to Egypt to free the Israelites from slavery. The task was daunting, but Moses chose to trust God.

Communicator pulls out a staff or walking stick from the prop box.

“With his staff in his hand, Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt, through the Red Sea, and into the desert. For forty years, Moses led the Israelites through the desert, facing attacks from the outside, and complaints from the Israelites.

“Abraham, Joseph, and Moses are just a few of the many individuals highlighted in Hebrews 11. Through their faith in God, they were able to do amazing things in the face of difficult challenges.”

APPLICATION

COMMUNICATOR: “The common thread that weaves throughout all these Old Testament men and women mentioned by the author of Hebrews is their faith. They did not walk around life with their fingers crossed just hoping everything would work out. Rather, they kept going, trusting that God was in control of the situation. This did not mean everything always worked out in their favor for people like David or Samson or Joseph. But it did mean they could confidently face and even bounce back from hard times because they believed God knew the end of the story.

“And you know what’s great? The same can be true for us! When we choose to trust God and get back up, we continue the story of these amazing men and women in the Bible. Throughout the Bible, we read story after story of people who faced all kinds of troubles! Some faced giants. One built a boat filled with animals to get through



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a massive flood. One even lost his strength when his hair was cut. And time and time again, they made it through the challenges life threw at them by trusting in God. When something gets us down, we can look back in time to people who lived long ago and see how their faith in God changed the way they responded to their situations!

“For us, trusting God does not prevent bad stuff from happening. We live in an imperfect and broken world full of hardships. But trusting God does mean we can get back up knowing that God is in control. We’ve seen this over and over again throughout the pages of the Bible! No matter what we face each day, we can know that God has planned the perfect end to our story.”

LANDING

COMMUNICATOR: “In the busyness of life, it can be easy to forget that God loves you and is always with you! So with that in mind, think about this one question before heading to your small group:

SLIDE: KEY QUESTION

“Who inspires you to get back up?” Think about the people you’ve learned about in the Bible. Think about the people you see each and every day. Who helps you see that getting back up when you get down is possible? On top of that, we need to remember that God knows what we’re facing. God can help us get through those moments. If you’re not quite sure who in your life can help you get back up, don’t worry. You’ll have a chance to talk with your Small Group and discover some great ideas. Before you head out, let’s pray and thank God for always coming through for us. Let’s ask God to help us find the strength to get back up when life gets us down. Let’s pray.”

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

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS STUDENTS EXIT.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP