# CLIFFHANGER THE STORY D S C



# **TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE**

## **TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

**Deliver Us** Burning Bush and the 10 Plagues Exodus 3–6:12; 7–12:42

## **HOST SUPPLIES**

- Week 4 Timeline Image printed on cardstock from the LG Assets PDF
- Clothesline and clothespins for the timeline in your room

## **STORY SUPPLIES**

- Kid volunteers
- Table
- Seven boxes, in various sizes, labeled #1-7
  - Cardboard campfire prop (inside box #1) or you could make a "fire" icon using red, orange, and yellow construction paper
  - Large toy snake, clearly a toy and not realistic at all (inside box #2)
  - Shovel (inside box #3)
  - Plastic frog(s) (inside box #4)
  - New, unused fly swatter (inside box #5)
  - Box of bandages (inside box #6)
  - Foam ball to represent hail (inside box #7)

#### **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.

WEEK

FOUR

OCTOBER 2022

## SMALL GROUP



**SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction** Early Arriver Opening Activity

# LARGE GROUP

35 MIN STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God Welcome/Opener Worship ("Super Wonderful" from Kidmin Worship Vol. 6 and "The Power" from Everything to Me) Bible Story Bottom Line Prayer Closer

## **SMALL GROUP**

**25** 

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect
Bible Story Review: God Knows (k-1st grade), Let My
People Go (2nd-3rd grade)
Application Activity: Tip-Toe, Slow-Mo Freeze Tag (k-1st grade), God Knows (2nd-3rd grade)
Memory Verse Activity: Don't Give Up (k-1st grade), Don't Give Up (2nd-3rd grade)
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

#### HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (print or email) Devotionals for Kids Parent Cue App

# CLIFFHANGER THE STORY D S C



## **TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

**Deliver Us** Burning Bush and the 10 Plagues Exodus 3–6:12; 7–12:42

## **TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

Hold on because God knows what you're going through.

## **MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE**

"Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up." Galatians 6:9, NIrV

## **MONTHLY VIRTUE**

Grit—Refusing to give up when life gets hard

#### **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.

WEEK

FOUR

OCTOBER 2022

LARGE GROUP

K-3

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS KIDS ENTER. SLIDE: THEME OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

#### WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter

#### WORSHIP LEADER:

#### AUDIO:

Host enters as Worship Leaders exit.

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

## **OPENER**

**HOST:** "Hi, everybody! I'm so happy we're all here today! All month long, we're talking about what it means to have grit.

#### **SLIDE: VIRTUE**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME TRANSITION TO VIRTUE** 

"Grit is refusing to give up when life gets hard.

#### SLIDE: THEME

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): VIRTUE TRANSITION TO THEME** 

"You definitely need grit if you want to climb all the way to the top of a mountain peak.

Pretend like you're climbing a peak.

"But the view from the top makes it all worth it!



Put your hand over your eyes like you're looking at the world below.

"Of course, grit isn't just for climbing mountains. With God's help, we can learn to live with grit in our everyday lives. We can hold on—even when we face tough times—because we know that the story isn't over. God is always in control. And God has a GOOD plan for what's ahead!

"If we want to have grit, then we can't get tired! We need to be in good shape. So I thought today I could show you a really great mountain-climbing workout. First I'll teach you the moves, then we'll put them to music. Everyone on your feet!

"The first move is called 'Safety First.'

#### SLIDE: WORKOUT SLIDE: SAFETY FIRST

"When you see this on the screen, you'll hold out one hand like you're telling everyone to stop. (*Demonstrate.*) With your other hand, you'll hold up one finger high in the air. (Demonstrate.) Let's all try it. Safety First! (*Pause.*) Great!

"The next move is called 'Carabiner Clip.'

#### SLIDE: WORKOUT SLIDE: CARABINER CLIP

"See the carabiner there on the screen? It's one of those cool clips that you attach to a rope.

"The move looks like this. You'll twist to one side and clasp your fingers together like you're hooking a carabiner. (Demonstrate.) Let's give it a try! Carabiner Clip! (Pause.) Way to go!

#### SLIDE: WORKOUT SLIDE: TRAVERSE! TRAVERSE!

"All right, this next one's my favorite! This move is called 'Traverse! Traverse!' For this one, you'll put both arms in the air and stand on your tippy-toes. (*Demonstrate.*) Then you'll move from side to side like you're climbing across the side of a rock, like this! (*Demonstrate.*) Everyone, let's Traverse! Traverse! (*Pause.*)

"And finally, there's one last move. This one is called 'Rope Rappel.'

#### SLIDE: WORKOUT SLIDE: ROPE RAPPEL

"When you use a rope to climb down from a cliff, the word for that is 'rappel.' For this move, you'll pretend to hold the rope out in front of you between your hands. (*Demonstrate.*) And you'll move backward slowly, like this. (*Demonstrate.*) Let's see if you can do it, too. Rope Rappel! (*Pause.*)



#### **SLIDE: THEME SLIDE**

"Okay, now we'll play some music and put all those moves together! If you're ready, let me hear you yell, 'On belay!' That's what a climber says to another climber when their ropes are set and ready. Let me hear you. On belay!"

KIDS: "On belay!"

HOST: "Here we go!

#### AUDIO: FUN MUSIC (SUGGESTION: "AIN'T NO MOUNTAIN HIGH ENOUGH" BY MARVIN GAYE AND TAMMI TERRELL)

As the song plays, lead the room in rotating through the climbing workout moves. Try to do the moves on the beat. Gradually go faster and mix the moves to make it more challenging. Have fun and be silly!

### SLIDE: WORKOUT SLIDES, FOLLOWING THE HOST'S CUES

Go through the moves a few times each, for a minute or two total.

#### SLIDE: THEME OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

"That was incredible! You all were amazing. With a workout like that, I think we've got the grit to handle the toughest rocks on the tallest mountain. Don't sit down yet, because it's time to sing to our God who always gives us the strength we need to hold on. Let's worship God together!"

## WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

WORSHIP LEADER:

AUDIO:



25 MINUTES

## BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.

## **SETTING UP THE STORY**

**STORYTELLER:** "Hello, friends! Are you ready to hear what's next in God's Big Story? (Hold up Bible.) If you haven't been here in a while, or if this is your first time, don't worry! I'll catch you up. Let's take a minute to recap where we've been so far.

If you're using a timeline of Bible images on your wall, you can reference it here.

"God had a plan to bless the whole world through Abraham and Sarah's family. Abraham and Sarah's descendants were known as the Israelites, or Hebrews.

"Abraham's great-grandson Joseph lived in Egypt and was in charge of the food there. When there was a famine and there wasn't anything to eat in the rest of the land, Joseph's family members packed up and traveled to Egypt. Joseph saved them by giving them food to eat.

"Over time, the Hebrews grew to be a very large group of people in Egypt. The pharaoh was worried about the Hebrews becoming too powerful, so he enslaved them and made them work without being paid.

"Still, the Hebrew families continued to grow. The Egyptians treated them very badly and made them work really hard, so they cried out to God for help. God heard them. And God chose someone to help them—a Hebrew man named Moses.

"We talked about Moses last week, when he was just a baby! Moses was raised in Pharaoh's palace, but eventually he ran away to live as a shepherd in the land of Midian."

Move behind the table with the prop boxes.

## THE BURNING BUSH

**STORYTELLER:** "Now, Moses was 80 years old at this point. One day, while Moses was taking care of his sheep, he saw something amazing. Could I have someone come up here and let us see what's inside box number one?

Choose a kid to come up and open box #1 to reveal the cardboard campfire. Send the kid back to his/her seat, and set the campfire on the table.

"Moses saw a bush that was on fire—but the bush didn't burn up!

"God's voice called out to Moses from the fire. God told Moses to take off his sandals, because the place where he was standing was holy ground. God said to Moses . . .

Open the Bible to Exodus 3:6-10 (NIrV) and read.



"I am the God of your father. I am the God of Abraham. I am the God of Isaac. And I am the God of Jacob . . . I have seen how my people are suffering in Egypt. I have heard them cry out because of their slave drivers. I am concerned about their suffering.

"So I have come down to save them from the Egyptians. I will bring them up out of that land. I will bring them into a good land. It has a lot of room. It is a land that has plenty of milk and honey. . . So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh. I want you to bring the Israelites out of Egypt. They are my people.

"WOW. Can you imagine how Moses must have felt when he saw the burning bush and heard the voice of God? God had heard the cries of the people, and now God wanted Moses to help them.

"Moses asked God what he should do if the people didn't believe that God had sent him. God responded by giving Moses a sign that he could show to the people. God told Moses to throw his walking stick on the ground, and it would turn into . . . something else! Who would like to come open the next box and show us what the stick turned into?

Choose a kid to come up and open box #2 to reveal the toy snake. Send the kid back to his/her seat, and set the toy snake on the table.

"God turned the stick into a snake, then back into a stick! That's incredible! And frightening. But mostly incredible!

"Even with this miracle, and two OTHER miracles that God showed Moses, Moses was still nervous about what God was asking him to do. Moses said that he wasn't good at speaking in front of people. So God said that Moses's brother, Aaron, would speak to the people for him."

## **RETURNING TO EGYPT**

**STORYTELLER:** "Moses and Aaron did as God said. They traveled back to Egypt. Together, they spoke to the Israelites to tell them that God was going to lead them out of Egypt. Then Moses and Aaron went to the palace to talk to the new pharaoh. They told the pharaoh that God wanted him to set the Israelites free.

"But the pharaoh wouldn't listen. He said . . .

Open the Bible to Exodus 5:2 (NIrV) and read.

"Who is the LORD? Why should I obey him? Why should I let Israel go? I don't even know the LORD. And I won't let Israel go.

"Who wants to come look inside box number three and show us what you find?

Choose a kid to come up and open box #3 to reveal the shovel. Send the kid back to his/her seat, and lean the shovel against the table.

"Instead of releasing God's people, Pharaoh made them work even harder! And this made the Israelites very upset with Moses and Aaron for making things even worse. They didn't understand that this was all part of God's plan."



25 MINUTES

#### **THE PLAGUES**

**STORYTELLER:** "Later, Aaron performed the miracle for the pharaoh that God had shown Moses. He threw his walking stick down on the ground, and it turned into a snake. But the pharaoh still wouldn't listen. He still wouldn't let God's people go.

"So the next day, Aaron and Moses met the pharaoh down at the Nile River. Aaron struck the water, and all the water in Egypt turned to blood! But still, Pharaoh was stubborn and wouldn't let the Israelites go.

"Over and over, Moses spoke to the pharaoh and demanded that he let the people go. Over and over, the pharaoh refused. So God sent a series of plagues on the Egyptians.

(*Reference boxes #4 through #7.*) "I've got objects in these last few boxes to represent some of the plagues. Could I have four of you come up and show us what's inside?

Bring up four more kids.

"God sent different plagues.

Nod to a kid to open up box #4 and reveal the plastic frog(s).

"Frogs.

Nod to a kid to open up box #5 and reveal the fly swatter.

"Gnats and flies.

"All the livestock animals that belonged to the Egyptians died.

Nod to a kid to open up box #6 and reveal the box of bandages.

"Terrible sores covered the Egyptians and their animals.

Nod to a kid to open up box #7 and reveal the "hail" (foam ball).

"Hail and locusts destroyed their crops.

"Deep darkness came and lasted for three days. Are you ready for the lights to go off? Here goes.

#### LIGHTS: OFF

"One day . . . two days . . . three days.

#### LIGHTS: ON

(to the kids on stage) "Thanks for helping, friends. You can put the props on the table and go back to your seats.



Kid volunteers set down the props and return to their seats.

"Then came the final plague. The oldest son of every Egyptian family died. God saved the sons of the Israelite families who painted the blood of a lamb over their door frames—just as God had told them to do. When Pharaoh saw what had happened, he was devastated. He called for Moses one last time and told the Israelites to leave."

Move in front of the table as you wrap up.

#### WRAPPING UP THE STORY

**STORYTELLER:** "So the Israelites packed up in the middle of the night and left as quickly as they could, taking their flocks and herds with them. After hundreds of years, they were finally free! God had heard their cries for help and had rescued them.

"So what happened next to the Israelites? Well, let's just say this story is to be continued. So I hope you come back next week to find out!

"But for now, the important thing to remember is that God was with the Israelites, even when they were enslaved in Egypt. God heard their cries for help. God led them to freedom!

"God knew what the Israelites were going through. And God knows what WE'RE going through, too. It might be something big, or something small, or something that just FEELS really heavy in your life right now. Whatever you're dealing with, you can know for sure that God loves you and can give you the strength to hold on. God has put people in your life who love you and can help you, too.

#### **SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE**

#### "Hold on because God knows what you're going through.

"Let's pray and thank God for being so good to us."

#### **SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND**

## PRAY

**STORYTELLER:** "Dear God, thank You for this incredible story. Even though the Israelites had been held captive for so long, You knew what they were going through. You had a plan to rescue them! Help us remember that and remember that you know exactly what's going on in our lives, too. Give us the faith to **[Basic Truth] trust You no matter what.** Thank You for being so good and so faithful to us, God. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."



25 MINUTES

# CLOSER

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

**HOST:** "God's people, the Israelites, cried out to God to save them. They were enslaved in Egypt, and they wanted so badly to be free!

"God knew what the Israelites were going through the whole time. And God had a plan to save them. That's why God called out to Moses from the burning bush.

#### SLIDE: GOD'S BIG STORY TIMELINE SLIDE SLIDE: WEEK 4 TIMELINE IMAGE

If you're making a timeline of printed images on your wall, take this moment to place today's timeline image on the clothesline.

"God chose Moses to lead the people to freedom. Moses knew that God was with him when he and Aaron went to talk to the pharaoh. It took all those awful plagues before the pharaoh finally agreed to let God's people go.

"The story of the Israelites is so BIG and so EPIC, but really, what was true for the Israelites is also true for us today. God is with us. God knows what we're going through in our lives. That's why we can hold on. Because we're never really alone.

#### **SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE**

## "Hold on because God knows what you're going through."

"God rescued the Israelites from slavery. And that was just the beginning of God's ultimate rescue plan. When the time was right, God sent Jesus to be the Savior of the entire world! When we put our hope and our trust in Jesus, we have the strength we need to keep going in tough times.

"So even when bad things happen, we can know for sure that God is with us. God knows what we're going through, and God is there to help us through, even if it's not always in the way we expect.

"Our memory verse for this month is a great one. It's Galatians 6:9. Let's say it together."

#### SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE

**HOST AND KIDS:** "Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up." (NIrV)

**HOST:** "That's right! Let's not get tired. Let's live with grit, because God knows what we're going through. You can talk about that some more in Small Group. Have fun!"

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT. SLIDE: THEME OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP