



# COMMUNITY GARDEN

GROWING FROM THE GROUND UP

WEEK  
**THREE**  
APRIL 2023

LARGE GROUP  
**PRETEEN**

## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

#### Brother

Being Humble Like Jesus  
Philippians 2:3-8

### TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What are some ways  
you've put others first?

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Put others first because  
Jesus put you first.

### MONTHLY 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, NIV

### MONTHLY VIRTUE

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.

### 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.

### SMALL GROUP

15  
MIN

#### SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Just for Fun  
Opening Activity

### LARGE GROUP

35  
MIN

#### STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

Welcome/Opener  
Worship ("Happy Day Remix" from *Happy Day Remix* single, "Thank You God" from *Everything to Me*, and "What a Beautiful Name" from *Kidmin Worship Vol. 6*)  
Bible Story (Communicator Script)  
Key Question  
Prayer

### SMALL GROUP

25  
MIN

#### GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Application Activity: Take a Snapshot  
Bible Story Review: Bible Story Extension and Discussion Questions  
Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You  
Prayer Activity: Make it Personal with Prayer

### HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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



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**PRELUDE**      **SOCIAL**      **STORY**      **WORSHIP**      **GROUPS**      **HOME**

25 MINUTES      10 MINUTES

**TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

**Brother**  
Being Humble Like Jesus  
Philippians 2:3-8

**TODAY'S KEY QUESTION**

What are some ways  
you've put others first?

**TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

Put others first because  
Jesus put you first.

**MONTHLY 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, NIV

**MONTHLY VIRTUE**

**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.

**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**

Host enters . . .

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN**  
**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 (Masters Golf Tournament), movie opening (The Super Mario Bros. Movie), 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:** (*rushing*) "Hi. Hello. How are ya? Good to see you. Happy you are here. My absolute favorite part of the year is all the blooming spring flowers. I love them ALL—pansies, primroses, irises, lily of the valley, snapdragons, and the list goes on! So I asked my mom this morning, 'Mom, when do I need to plant my tulip and daffodil bulbs so I have glorious and amazing flowers by this afternoon?' And you know what she told me? (Allow response) Nope, that's not what she said! She told me, 'The best time to plant your tulip and daffodil bulbs was last October!' LAST! OCTOBER!

"Well, I guess I'll have to shop for my tulips from the store this year. But since I have all of these bulbs and dirt, how about we play a game? It's called, Bury the Bulbs.

**SLIDE: BURY THE BULBS**

"It's a relay game of speed. Since I'm six months behind, I'll need six volunteers! Anybody out there have cultivation chops and a need for speed?" (Allow response)



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

*Host selects six volunteers and bring them to the stage. Host splits the volunteers into two teams and positions them on opposite sides of the stage. Each team is given an empty small pot with a bulb at the bottom. Both teams line up behind their pot and face the center of the stage.*

“Thanks for volunteering. This game is simple. Each team has been given a bulb that needed to be planted six months ago and a plastic gardening trowel. The first person on each team will take the trowel and rush to the center of the stage. In the center of the stage is a large bucket full of potting soil. You’ll need to get a heaping scoop of potting soil, rush back to your pot, and pour it on your bulb. You can only use ONE HAND to scoop the soil and bring it back to your bulb. If a second hand touches the trowel, dirt, or bucket, that soil will be forfeited from the mix. The trowel should be passed to the next teammate until the bulb is COMPLETELY covered. Once the bulb is completely hidden, the game is over. At that moment, we will crown the winning team the Bury the Bulbs Champions! Any questions? *(Allow response)* Great! Let’s play!

**AUDIO: UPBEAT GAME MUSIC**

*Host makes sure the teams are set with no unanswered questions. Host facilitates Bury the Bulbs game. The bulb should be completely covered, or the pot should be filled up to a specific line.*

“AND STOP! I am very, VERY excited to announce all the bulbs have been planted! Better late than never! Let’s give a generous round of applause for our volunteer gardeners. *(Allow response)* From the bottom of my heart, thank you for helping me have glorious flowers that should be set to bloom this afternoon-ISH.

“It’s important to acknowledge one team worked more quickly than the other to completely bury their bulb. To that team, we bestow the title Bury the Bulbs Champions! Everyone in the audience raise your right hand high in the air. On the count of three, let’s give our champs an air five! One! Two! Three! *(Allow response)* Congrats! Now let’s stand up and get ready to worship our great God!”

*Host exits as Worship Leader enters.*



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10 MINUTES

## WORSHIP

*Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.*

**WORSHIP LEADER:** “I’m excited to worship Jesus with you today. I love that worship gives us the opportunity to celebrate—and we get to do that right now. Let’s sing about the love of Jesus and how it changes our lives. Every day with Jesus can be the best day ever. Come on—let’s sing and praise. It’s a happy day!

**AUDIO:** *“HAPPY DAY REMIX” / TRACK 1 FROM HAPPY DAY REMIX SINGLE*  
**OPTIONAL VIDEO:** *“HAPPY DAY REMIX” LIVE LYRICS VIDEO*

“Yes, we are forever changed by the love of Jesus. That was so much fun! Before we continue in worship, let’s watch this.

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE):** *LIVE LOUD VIDEO FROM GET REEL*

“This next song is called ‘Thank You God.’ Thanking God is what worship is all about. It’s our chance to recognize that God has done great things. It’s telling God with our words and our actions that we are grateful! I’m so glad that we get to sing this song today to give thanks to our incredible God. Sing this with me.

**AUDIO:** *“THANK YOU GOD” / TRACK 4 FROM EVERYTHING TO ME*  
**OPTIONAL VIDEO:** *“THANK YOU GOD” LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO*

“I am so thankful for the Word of God. Scripture helps us learn and grow as we follow Jesus. In Philippians, chapter 2, we read how Jesus humbled Himself by coming to earth and dying on the cross for us. But because of that, God gave Him a place of honor that no one else has. As we read in Philippians 2:9-10: *‘So God lifted him up to the highest place. God gave him the name that is above every name. When the name of Jesus is spoken, everyone will kneel down to worship him.’* (NirV) Let’s sing and worship the name of Jesus together.”

**AUDIO:** *“WHAT A BEAUTIFUL NAME” / TRACK 1 FROM KIDMIN WORSHIP VOL. 6*  
**OPTIONAL VIDEO:** *“WHAT A BEAUTIFUL NAME” LIVE LYRICS VIDEO*



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

## COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT (STORY)

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

*Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit. Set up the dry erase board during this transition.*

### INTRODUCTION

**COMMUNICATOR:** "What's up, everybody? I'm really glad to see so many of you here today. As we get started, let's play a quick game called 'What Would They Do?' I need one brave volunteer to come to the stage to be the contestant. Anybody want to give it a try?"

*Communicator calls up one volunteer to play the game. Communicator hands the volunteer a dry erase marker and an eraser. The volunteer stands behind a large dry erase board.*

"To play our game, I will ask the audience a question. The audience **MUST** answer the question as honestly as they can. Our brave volunteer will have to write down how they think **MOST** of the audience will answer. Once our volunteer has written down their answer, we will poll the audience. Any questions? *(Allow response)* Great! Let's get to it.

*Communicator plays What Would They Do? Communicator asks a series of questions centered on putting others first. Communicator gives the volunteer a brief moment to write down an answer they think the crowd will favor. Communicator dismisses volunteer at the end of the game.*

Questions could include:

- *What's easier: eating all the leftover Easter candy yourself or giving it away?*
- *Your favorite show has new episodes available. So does your brother's. Do you watch yours first or allow your brother to put his on first?*
- *What would you prefer: getting in line for pizza first or allowing the new kid to go first?*
- *If you were given the last brownie and your sister wants it, would you split it with her or ignore her?*
- *You're saving your money for that brand-new, super-cool video game, but your buddy needs to borrow a few bucks at the baseball game. Do you share the dollar or hope someone else has some money?*

### TENSION

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Great job to our audience and volunteer on the stage. The game was more difficult than I anticipated. The audience didn't answer each question like I thought they would! Our volunteer did a great job trying to anticipate what the audience would say!"

"Can we all be honest for a moment? Putting others first isn't easy! Each of you felt the tension and difficulty when faced with the various situations. When there is only one brownie left, it would be really, **REALLY** hard for me to give it up to someone else! When you're saving your money for something special, the last thing you'll want to do is give money away.

"Why is it so hard for us to put others first? Why is it difficult to let go of the things we want to put others first? First of all, if you struggle with this, you're in good company. This is something I have a hard time doing from time to time. But if we want to follow Jesus with our lives, it's something we should really think about. Thankfully, the writers of the Bible have a lot to say about humility and help remind us why it's so important. Let's head to one of those passages now."



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

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## TRUTH

**COMMUNICATOR:** “We’re continuing our journey through God’s Big Story.

*If you’re using a timeline of story images on the wall, reference it here.*

“We’ve talked about how Jesus is the Savior God had promised. We’ve seen how Jesus taught amazing things about God and how He healed people who were sick. Last week, we celebrated Easter, and we talked about how Jesus died on the cross and then came back to life!

“Today we’re taking a look at something the apostle Paul wrote ABOUT Jesus (*hold up Bible*) . . . much later . . . in a letter he wrote to a church he started—but I’m getting ahead of myself.

*Communicator erases what’s on the dry erase board and writes the word “Paul” in large print on the dry erase board for the kids to see it.*

“Many of you have heard us talk about Paul before. Outside of Jesus, Paul has been one of the most influential Christians in human history! When Paul became a follower of Jesus, he had an unyielding drive to spread the message and hope of Jesus regardless of the cost. One way Paul worked to accomplish this was by traveling all over and starting brand-new churches.

*Communicator erases what’s on the dry erase board and writes the word “Philippi” in large print on the dry erase board for the kids to see it.*

“On one of his journeys, Paul spent three months in the Greek city of Philippi where he shared the news about Jesus with a number of people, including a businesswoman named Lydia. During his stay, Paul started a church in the city! In fact, it’s very likely that the church met at Lydia’s house!

“The trip also had difficult moments like when Paul was thrown in prison. But it didn’t stop him from sharing Jesus with the jailer and his family! After Paul was released, he left Philippi, but the church in the city remained close. They were so faithful; they supported Paul in his time of need.

“When a church was established like the one in Philippi, usually Paul wasn’t able to stay in the town for years and years. If he wasn’t able to stay in a town or he felt God calling him elsewhere, he would continue to travel and keep sharing the good news of Jesus. To support the churches, Paul would either visit or write letters.

“In the New Testament, we can read a number of letters Paul wrote to churches. In fact, one of the letters was written to this new church in the city of Philippi. Paul was in prison in Rome when he wrote this letter. Check it out.

“In Philippians, Paul wrote,

*Open the Bible to Philippians 2:3-4 (NIRV) and read.*

*“Don’t do anything only to get ahead. Don’t do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves. None of you should look out just for your own good. Each of you should also look out for the good of others.”*



WEEK  
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APRIL 2023

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**PRETEEN**

**PRELUDE      SOCIAL      STORY      WORSHIP      GROUPS      HOME**

**25 MINUTES**

"I love this! When we value others more than ourselves, we will look out for others with care and concern. We won't push to win or get our way every time!

"Paul was inviting the church in Philippi to show humility. Another way to define the word humility is to put others first by giving up what you think you deserve!

*Communicator erases what's on the dry erase board and writes the word "Humility" in large print on the dry erase board for the kids to see it.*

"We've already established humility is difficult and may be hard to imagine. The difficulty would have been felt for these followers of Jesus in the first century as well. In his letter, Paul explained how we should model our lives after Jesus, who was the very best example of humility.

*Communicator erases what's on the dry erase board and writes the word "Jesus" in large print on the dry erase board for the kids to see it.*

"Paul explained,

*Open the Bible to Philippians 2:5-8 (NIRV) and read.*

*"As you deal with one another, you should think and act as Jesus did. In his very nature he was God. Jesus was equal with God. But Jesus didn't take advantage of that fact. Instead, he made himself nothing. He did this by taking on the nature of a servant. He was made just like human beings. 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!"*

"Although Jesus is the Son of God and the King of Kings, He did not enter this world as you'd think a king would enter it. Instead of being born in a grandiose castle, Jesus was born to a poor family, far away from fanfare in a place where the animals stayed.

"The life He lived was not one of privilege. Jesus spent time with those who seemed unimportant. Time and time again, the writers of the Gospels tell stories about Jesus healing people who were overcome with sickness, disease, and disability. Rather than choosing the most important, well-educated people to be His followers, Jesus chose the overlooked and outcasted!

"Jesus spent time alone with God. Over and over, Jesus stepped away from the crowds to ask God for help. He did this before He started His ministry, before choosing His disciples, and before giving up His life on the cross. He wanted everything submitted to His Father, handing over all of His desires and plans.

**SLIDE: GOD'S BIG STORY TIMELINE**

**SLIDE: WEEK 3 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.*



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APRIL 2023

LARGE GROUP  
**PRETEEN**

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25 MINUTES

### APPLICATION

**COMMUNICATOR:** "I want to highlight one verse Paul wrote to the church of Philippi. In Philippians 2:5, Paul said,

*Open the Bible to Philippians 2:5 (NIRV) and read.*

*"As you deal with one another, you should think and act as Jesus did."*

"In our world, many want to shoot the ball like Curry or dance like Misty Copeland or YouTube like Mr. Beast. But Paul was calling all of us to model our lives after Someone much different—Jesus! Every day, we can look for opportunities to set aside the things we want in order to put others first just like Jesus!"

*Communicator erases what's on the dry erase board and writes the word "Dishes" in large print on the dry erase board for the kids to see it.*

"When your mom asks you to sweep the kitchen floor, you could demonstrate the humility of Jesus when you do it without complaint! Then, you can wash the dishes, even though she didn't ask you to!

*Communicator erases what's on the dry erase board and writes the word "Gaming" in large print on the dry erase board for the kids to see it.*

"Some of you love to play video games with your friends. It's even better when your friends game at your house! Demonstrating Jesus' humility could look like letting your kid brother pick the game and play with you while your friends are at your house!

*Communicator erases what's on the dry erase board and writes the word "Friends" in large print on the dry erase board for the kids to see it.*

"Group projects can be really difficult, but they aren't as bad if we get to partner with friends. However, living a humble life like Jesus looks like trying to partner with someone who is new to your school or doesn't have a ton of close friends in your class.

"As we've already mentioned, thinking and acting like Jesus is no easy task! But it can help when you remember how Jesus put YOU first when He died on the cross! Jesus chose to give up His life to pay the debt for our sins even though He did not deserve to die! Now, instead of living for ourselves, we have the freedom to put others first, just like Jesus did."

### LANDING

**COMMUNICATOR:** "To live a life reflecting Jesus requires all of us to rely on God's help. We need God's creativity and strength to put others first! As we prepare to head to small groups, I want you to noodle on this one question:

#### SLIDE: KEY QUESTION

**"What are some ways you've put others first?"** It could have been spotting your buddy a dollar for the vending machine, letting your kid brother borrow your baseball bat, or opening the door for a guest this morning at church. You'll talk more about these examples with your small groups! Before we leave, let's pray together and ask God to give us the creativity and strength to put others first!"





WEEK  
**THREE**  
APRIL 2023

LARGE GROUP  
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25 MINUTES

*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 THE KIDS EXIT.**

**SLIDE: THEME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**



WEEK  
**THREE**  
APRIL 2023

LARGE GROUP  
**PRETEEN**

PRELUDE      SOCIAL      STORY      WORSHIP      GROUPS      HOME

## GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

### STORY: COMMUNICATING GOD'S TRUTH IN ENGAGING WAYS (25 MINUTES)

### WORSHIP: INVITING PEOPLE TO RESPOND TO GOD (10 MINUTES)

#### 1. WELCOME/OPENER

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Host
- Six volunteers
- Two bulbs like tulips or daffodils
- Two gardening pots large enough to fit the bulbs
- One bag of potting soil
- Two plastic gardening trowels or sand shovels
- Tarp (*optional*)
- 1 5-gallon bucket (*optional*)

##### MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

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

##### LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Theme Slide
- Bury the Bulbs Title Slide

##### OPTIONAL VIDEOS (AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE THROUGH THE 252 MEDIA PACKAGE):

- Theme Loop
- Countdown
- Theme

##### WHAT YOU DO:

- Download and print this week's tech sheet for everyone helping with Large Group.
- Download the slides or optional videos and have them ready to use. If you do not have screen 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).

- To play Bury the Bulbs relay, lay down a large tarp center stage to protect the floor from the potting soil. In the middle of the tarp, place a bag of potting soil. If you choose, place the potting soil in a 5-gallon bucket to make it easier for kids to scoop the dirt. Place teams on opposite sides of the stage. Give each team a plastic garden trowel and a garden pot with a bulb inside. Both garden pots should be the same size and not too large. Teams will line up behind their bulb. First person in the line takes their gardening trowel, scoops a heaping trowel full soil, and empties it in their team's pot. The trowel gets passed to the next person in their line while the participant who just completed a scoop goes to the end of the line. This repeats until their bulb is completely covered in potting soil.

#### 2. WORSHIP

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Worship Leader(s)

##### MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

- "Happy Day Remix" from *Happy Day Remix single*
- "Thank You God" from *Everything to Me (In Get Reel there is a Live Loud video you can show to help teach and encourage worship in our everyday lives. Consider using this segment before doing "Thank You God.")*
- "What a Beautiful Name" from *Kidmin Worship Vol. 6*

##### OPTIONAL VIDEOS (AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE):

- "Happy Day Remix" Live Lyrics Video (available through [Store.ThinkOrange.com](http://Store.ThinkOrange.com))
- *Live Loud* Video from *Get Reel* (available through the 252 Media Package)
- "Thank You God" Live Lyrics Video (available through [Store.ThinkOrange.com](http://Store.ThinkOrange.com)) or Dance Moves Music Video (available through [Store.ThinkOrange.com](http://Store.ThinkOrange.com) or the 252 Media Package)
- "What a Beautiful Name" Live Lyrics Video (available through [Store.ThinkOrange.com](http://Store.ThinkOrange.com))



WEEK  
**THREE**  
APRIL 2023

LARGE GROUP  
**PRETEEN**

PRELUDE      SOCIAL      STORY      WORSHIP      GROUPS      HOME

## GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Download all songs and have them ready to use.
- Dance Moves Music Videos and Live Lyrics Videos are available for many Orange Kids Music songs. For more information, visit [Store.ThinkOrange.com](http://Store.ThinkOrange.com).
- A 252 Media Package is available for purchase to go along with each curriculum tier. The *Live Loud* faith skills video and the Dance Moves Music Video for the monthly worship song are included in the package. For more information, visit [Store.ThinkOrange.com](http://Store.ThinkOrange.com).

## 3. COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT (STORY)

### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Communicator
- Bible
- One volunteer
- Dry erase marker
- One freestanding dry erase board
- One eraser for the dry erase board
- Week 3 Timeline Image, printed on cardstock from the LG Assets PDF
- Clothesline and clothespins for the timeline in your room

### MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

- Upbeat music to use as kids exit the room

### LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Theme Background Slide
- Key Question Slide
- God's Big Story Timeline Slide
- Week 1 Timeline Image Slide
- Week 1 Timeline Image (printable)

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Download the slides and have them ready to use. If you do not have screen 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.

### VIDEO ENHANCEMENTS FOR YOUR ENVIRONMENT

AVAILABLE FOR ADDITIONAL PURCHASE AT [STORE.THINKORANGE.COM](http://STORE.THINKORANGE.COM).

**FEATURE PRESENTATION:** Everything you need to pull off a dynamic video storytelling experience, including video Bible presentations to complement 252 Kids and 252 Preteen curriculum. Our Large Group scripts are interchangeable with these videos so you can plug and play the way you need to each week.

For 252 Kids (kindergarten through 3rd grade):

- In *StoryLab*, two inquisitive young Hosts invite kids to engage with the month's Virtue, setting up a simple and direct telling of the Bible story by a professional Storyteller.

For 252 Preteen (4th and 5th grade):

- In *The So & So Show*, two Hosts and a Communicator walk you through a contemporary and comedic presentation of the Bible story. This YouTube-style show sets up the story and also connects it to the weekly Key Question for preteens.

**GET REEL:** Videos and graphics to enhance your 252 Kids and 252 Preteen curriculum environments. Four videos each month will help kids learn basic faith skills. Use them in your FX, Large Group, or as a promotional piece to show in your adult services:

*Discovery*—Listen to God's words (HEAR)  
*Dear God*—Dialogue with God (PRAY)  
*One Thing*—Articulate your faith (TALK)  
*Live Loud*—Worship with your life (LIVE)

### ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENTS INCLUDING:

- Graphic motion loops
- Themed audio transitions
- Virtue and monthly widget promo videos (M.C. Haggis)



WEEK  
**THREE**  
APRIL 2023

LARGE GROUP  
**PRETEEN**

**PRELUDE**      **SOCIAL**      **STORY**      **WORSHIP**      **GROUPS**      **HOME**

## GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

- Countdown videos (30 seconds, 60 seconds, and 5 minutes)
- Music videos for original songs that highlight each Virtue
- Retro Reel video to play on your fifth Sunday