

# TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

## **TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

Mercy's Shore Jesus Restores Peter John 21:1-19 (John 18:1-27)

# **TODAY'S KEY QUESTION**

When is it hard to make things right?

## **TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

Put others first by making things right.

## **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, NIrV

#### **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



**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 ("All About Love" from *Can't Stop Won't Stop*, "Friend Like You" from *This Love*, and "Live Your Love" from *Can't Stop Won't Stop*) 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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## **BASIC TRUTH**

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

# LARGE GROUP

**25 MINUTES** 

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 . . .

**10 MINUTES** 

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, movie opening, 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:** "Hey everybody! Welcome to [Name of Environment]! We're so glad each of you set down your gardening tools long enough to join us today. Let's have a show of hands. How many of you like eating vegetables? (*Allow response*) That's exactly what I thought. An OVERWHELMING, EXCEEDINGLY POSITIVE response in favor of those garden-grown goodies!

"On the topic, there are so many ways to eat veggies. You could broil them, boil them, sauté them, steam them, stir-fry them, and the list goes on. I mean, sometimes the best way to eat your veggies is in a fresh salad. If you love salad, say "ARUGULA!" (*Allow response*) Wowzers! That deafening response can only mean we have some MAJOR salad fanatics!

"Get excited, veggie fans, because today we're all learning how to make the PERFECT garden salad. My preferred method of teaching is in the form of a game I like to call The Perfect Tossed Salad!

#### SLIDE: THE PERFECT TOSSED SALAD

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"This game will teach each of you a skill I've spent years refining and improving. It's a game that balances culinary intuition with accurate tossing. Anybody want to play? (Allow response)

Host selects two Small Groups to face off in the head-to-head challenge. Host instructs Small Groups to stand an equal distance from the stage and from each, select one representative to come to the stage. Host gives both Small Groups a large bucket of plastic veggies, and the volunteers on stage a trashcan and safety goggles.

"To play, our two Small Groups will form a straight line in the audience behind their bucket of plastic vegetables. The first person in line will toss one—and only one—vegetable from their bucket at their teammate standing on stage holding a trashcan. Our volunteers on stage will guide the trashcan to catch the plastic vegetable. Obviously, if the vegetable hits the ground, it cannot be picked up and placed in the trashcan. That would be gross—no threesecond rules apply when making a salad. After the person in the front of the line tosses a vegetable, they must go to the end of their Small Group line. Teams will have 60 seconds to make The Perfect Tossed Salad. The team with the most vegetables in their trashcan will win the highly coveted title of The Perfect Tossed Salad Top Chefs. Any questions? (Allow response) Great! Let's get to tossing!

#### AUDIO: UPBEAT GAME MUSIC

Host enthusiastically encourages teams to toss vegetables quickly. If teams run out of vegetables before time runs out, host can send one representative to the stage to collect the vegetables that miss the mark. To increase difficulty, Host can move groups back after each toss like an egg or water balloon toss. Volunteers on the stage must stand on the stage or a defined area.

"WHOA! I did not expect our Small Groups to pick up a skill so quickly that I've spent years advancing. This can only mean our groups are full of raw, salad-making talent, AND I'm an incredible teacher. Great job to all of our volunteers. However, there can only be one top chef! Let's count veggies to determine the winner.

Host dramatically counts the number of vegetables in each trashcan.

"I did not see that coming! Everybody, give a round of applause for our winners and newly crowned Perfect Tossed Salad Top Chefs! (*Allow response*) With that, I'm going to get off this stage. Welcome everybody's favorite Worship Leader, [Name of Worship Leader], to the stage! Let's stand and sing to our amazing God!"

#### HOST EXITS AS WORSHIP LEADER ENTERS.



# WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "It's so good to see all of you here today. I love this song we're about to sing. It's about how everything Jesus did was all about love. Come on—let's sing it together!

#### AUDIO: "ALL ABOUT LOVE" / TRACK 2 FROM CAN'T STOP WON'T STOP OPTIONAL VIDEO: "ALL ABOUT LOVE" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

"Yeah! There's nothing like the love of Jesus. I'm so thankful that we have a friend like Him! Jesus once told His disciples: 'Love one another, just as I have loved you. No one has greater love than the one who gives their life for their friends.' (John 15:12-13, NIrV) I invite you today to give your worship to Jesus. Sing this with me.

#### AUDIO: "FRIEND LIKE YOU" / TRACK 5 FROM THIS LOVE OPTIONAL VIDEO: "FRIEND LIKE YOU" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

"This month has been full of reminders of what Jesus did on the cross for us. Jesus did what no one else could do and it's all because He loves us! I want to live out the kind of love that Jesus showed every day. I want to live out His love with things I do and say. Let's sing about that now."

#### AUDIO: "LIVE YOUR LOVE" / TRACK 4 FROM CAN'T STOP WON'T STOP OPTIONAL VIDEO: "LIVE YOUR LOVE" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO



# **COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT (STORY)**

## SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit. Four easels, four large notepads, and four sets of paint supplies are positioned across the back of the stage.

## **INTRODUCTION**

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Hey, hey friends. I am really glad to see you all today as we wrap up the month of April. All month we've been discovering more about humility—putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve. And, well, I've been doing lots of thinking this week about how hard it can be to put others first. Sure, it's easy to put someone you really love first, like your grandmother. But what happens if someone mistreats you or hurts you? Let me tell you what I mean.

Communicator tells an age-appropriate personal story about hurting someone. If possible, tell a story that is light or comical. Use the following as a model.

"I'll never forget one time I was fishing with my friend, Jordan. When I was in high school, I had a small aluminum boat perfect for catching fish on sunny days! One Saturday morning, the weather was perfect, so my buddy Jordan met me at the pond to get our lines wet and hopefully catch some fish! Once in the boat, we anchored near the shore in the shade of a huge oak tree. Jordan was sitting behind me in the boat and using a plastic worm as bait. I wanted to try my top-water lure, which has two tremble hooks. This means there are six barbed hooks on a single bait.

"On my very first cast, I accidently hooked my friend's hat that he was wearing and threw the hat into the water. It was so embarrassing, but it got worse. Once we retrieved the hat, we anchored the boat again. On my very next cast, I accidently hooked my friend's back! He was in so much pain, and I felt awful! I hurt my friend. We quickly paddled the boat to the shore and drove to the doctor's office where they were able to safely remove the barbed hook!

"Of course, it was not my intention to hurt my friend, but the damage was done! I was worried he wouldn't forgive me and might hold a grudge. The hat he wore was messed up, and now he had a gnarly scar on his back! This was a wild story, but the best part was when my friend forgave me!"

#### **TENSION**

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Many of you are probably not surprised that Jordan forgave me. I mean, he was my good friend! Friends will need to forgive each other from time to time. However, I hurt my friend as an accident. I didn't intentionally set out to hurt him with my fishing equipment!

"But what if someone intentionally hurts you? What should our response look like? I'm sure each of you have an example of how you've been hurt by another. Maybe your best friend shared that super-private secret with all of your classmates. Maybe you worked really hard on an art gift for your brother's birthday, and he just threw it away. Maybe your classmates gave you a nickname that's mean and hurtful, but they won't stop using it.

"Each of these situations would be difficult and hard to forgive. It makes me wonder, what does it take to choose to forgive someone when they've hurt you?



"This is a great question—a question that people have been asking for a really long time. In fact, we even find the writers of the Bible wrestling with how to show love and humility when people hurt us. Thankfully, Jesus, when He was on earth, lived out our answer. Let's look at this story from His life now."

## TRUTH

**COMMUNICATOR:** "We find our story in the New Testament book of John. John was one of Jesus' closest friends and followers. He gave us a really interesting perspective on Jesus' life and ministry. I really want to bring this story to life with some art. Who thinks they're a great artist and would like to help me this morning? Would any artists like to help me out?"

Communicator brings four volunteers to the stage. Communicator assigns each volunteer a different scene which they should begin painting quickly.

The four scenes include:
1) A man (Peter) eating.
2) A man (Peter) standing next to a rooster.
3) A man (Peter) on a boat.
4) A man (Peter) on a beach.

Communicator continues teaching while volunteers continue to paint.

"As our friends paint the scenes, let's chat about one of Jesus' closest friends named Peter. Some of you have heard us talk about Peter before. He was an ordinary man, a fisherman by trade, who spent many of his days and nights fishing. One morning, Peter had come in from a long night of fishing. And he had caught nothing.

"That morning, Jesus was teaching from the shoreline. After His teaching was over, Jesus asked Peter to do something crazy. He asked him to put his nets down again to catch fish. Peter reluctantly agreed, and when he did, Jesus filled his boat with fish!

"Peter was astonished. Then Jesus invited Peter to put down his nets, leave his boat behind, and to follow Him! Jesus invited Peter to be His disciple. And Peter dropped his nets and followed Jesus! For the next three years, Peter had a front-row seat to hear Jesus teach and watch Jesus care for others.

"Even though he was a close follower of Jesus, Peter was far from perfect. From time to time, Peter spoke before thinking. He was brash and impulsive. Still, though, Peter is an example of how Jesus used real people to make a difference in the lives of others. Over the years, Peter and Jesus grew to be close friends. One would assume nothing could break their friendship, but Peter put their friendship to the test.

Communicator reveals the first painted scene: A man (Peter) eating. Communicator celebrates the artist of scene #1 as the volunteer returns to their seat.

"We actually started this story a few weeks ago. You might remember how the night before Jesus was crucified, Peter ate a meal with Jesus and the disciples. This was a special time when Jesus shared a glimpse of God's plan. As they ate, Peter promised Jesus he would die before disowning Jesus or denying his friendship with Jesus. Yet Jesus told Peter that he would actually disown Jesus three times before the rooster crowed! Of course Peter exclaimed he'd never do that, but then this happened.



"Once Jesus was arrested, the disciples were scared that not only would Jesus be harmed but that the soldiers would arrest them next! From a distance, Peter followed Jesus. As the high priest questioned Jesus, Peter stayed outside, warming himself by a fire. A girl approached Peter.

Open the Bible to John 18:17 (NIrV) and read.

"'She asked Peter, "You aren't one of Jesus' disciples too, are you?" "I am not," he replied.'

"I realize Peter was scared, but this was Peter's big moment to deliver on his promise to not deny knowing Jesus. And Peter failed! Jesus had been arrested and needed friends more than ever! Peter acted like he was not friends with Jesus. But it got worse. Two more times, Peter was asked if he was one of Jesus' disciples, and Peter denied knowing Jesus both times!

> Communicator reveals the second painted scene: A man (Peter) standing next to a rooster. Communicator celebrates the artist of scene #2 as the volunteer returns to their seat.

"John tells us,

Open the Bible to John 18:27 (NIrV) and read.

"'Again Peter said no. At that exact moment a rooster began to crow.'

A rooster, just like Jesus predicted, crowed the moment Peter denied Jesus for a third time! Peter realized the terrible thing he had done."

"As most of you already know, Jesus died on the cross but didn't stay dead. Jesus came back to life and spent time with some of His followers and others. After denying Jesus three times, Peter wasn't sure what Jesus thought of him anymore.

Communicator reveals the third painted scene: A man (Peter) on a boat. Communicator celebrates the artist of scene #3 as the volunteer returns to their seat.

"So Peter did what he might have often done when something was bothering him—he gathered a few friends and went fishing. All night long, they worked hard casting their nets in all the usual spots. Despite their best efforts, the men didn't catch a single fish.

Communicator reveals the fourth painted scene: A man (Peter) on a beach. Communicator celebrates the artist of scene #4 as the volunteer returns to their seat.

"Early the next morning, a Man stood on the shore. Although nobody recognized the Man, He called out for the fishermen to toss their nets on the right of the boat to catch fish. When they listened, their nets filled with fish! In fact, the haul was so large they struggled to pull in the nets.

"This had happened to Peter one other time, and Peter realized the Man on shore was no ordinary man. It was Jesus! In his excitement, Peter jumped into the water and swam to Jesus, while the others followed in the boat with their catch. All the men sat down by a campfire and enjoyed breakfast together.



"After they ate, Jesus and Peter had an important conversation.

Open the Bible to John 21:15 (NIrV) and read.

"'When Jesus and the disciples had finished eating, Jesus spoke to Simon Peter. He asked, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these others do?" "Yes, Lord," he answered. "You know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."'

"Two more times, Jesus asked Peter if he loved Him. After each time Peter expressed his love, Jesus challenged Peter to care for His sheep. Jesus didn't intend for Peter to become a shepherd. Jesus called Himself 'the good Shepherd,' while the people around Him were like sheep. Jesus wanted Peter to take care of the people who followed Jesus and would follow Him in the future!"

## **APPLICATION**

**COMMUNICATOR:** "I really, really like this story because we get a glimpse of the character of Jesus. Let me explain. As one of Jesus' closest friends, Peter was convinced he would never deny knowing Jesus, but when Jesus needed friends most, Peter did just that three different times! When the rooster crowed and Peter realized what he did, I have to believe Peter felt awful! However, Jesus showed up on the same beach where Peter parked his boat. Jesus had a valid reason to be mad at Peter, but that did not happen! After filling up their fishing nets with a catch, like He had done at the beginning of their friendship, Jesus shared a breakfast with the men and Peter. Then Jesus initiated a conversation with Peter to make things right. Jesus still loved Peter. Jesus had forgiven Peter and invited Peter to care for the people who followed Jesus!

#### SLIDE: GOD'S BIG STORY TIMELINE SLIDE: WEEK 5 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.

"Each day, we'll face frustrations big and small. People will wrong you, and it's super-easy to stay mad. But even if you feel like you have the right to be mad, Jesus demonstrated another option. Jesus made things right between Himself and Peter.

"Maybe your friend promised to take you bowling on Friday night but took someone else instead. Instead of getting mad and ignoring them at school, you can go initiate a conversation. It's okay to tell them you were sad. But don't forget to tell them you still care about them and want to hang out."

"Or maybe your big brother promised to watch your last volleyball game! Instead of watching it, he stayed home to play video games with his friends. You're really mad because he always games with his buddies, but he never makes the effort to see you play! Instead of showing him anger, you can let him know you missed seeing him at the game and that you still love him!

"And there's a great chance you'll be the one who wrongs others from time to time. If that happens, it's just as important for you to make things right!"



25 MINUTES

#### LANDING

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Whether you've been wronged or you hurt someone else, the situation will be difficult. We must try to make things right even when it's hard! God gave us an incredible example in Jesus Who showed us how to forgive.

"We'll continue to talk about this story in our Small Groups, but we want you to think on this question:

#### SLIDE: KEY QUESTION

**"When is it hard to make things right?** We realize each of you are coming from different backgrounds and experiences. When you look at the difficulties you've faced, what are the situations that are hard to forgive? When are the times you really need God's help to make things right? Before we leave, let's pray together and ask God for help with this! 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 THE KIDS EXIT. SLIDE: THEME OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP



# **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
- Two Small Groups
- Two trashcans
- Two five-gallon buckets
- Variety of plastic vegetables for preschool kitchen
- Two sets of plastic safety goggles

#### MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

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

#### LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Theme Slide
- Memory Verse Slide
- The Perfect Tossed Salad 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<sup>®</sup> 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.

• To play The Perfect Tossed Salad, you'll need two buckets/trashcans and a variety of light, plastic vegetables like you'd find in a preschool kitchen. The volunteers on stage should be holding trashcans and wearing safety goggles. To increase the difficulty of the activity, put more space between the volunteers on stage and their Small Groups.

# 2. WORSHIP

# WHAT YOU NEED:

• Worship Leader(s)

#### MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

- "All About Love" from Can't Stop Won't Stop
- "Friend Like You" from This Love
- "Live Your Love" from Can't Stop Won't Stop

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

- "All About Love" Live Lyrics or Dance Moves Music Video (available through Store.ThinkOrange.com)
- "Friend Like You" Live Lyrics or Dance Moves Music Video (available through Store.ThinkOrange.com)
- "Live Your Love" Live Lyrics or Dance Moves Music Video (available through Store.ThinkOrange.com)

#### 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.
- 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.

# 3. COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT (STORY)

#### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Communicator
- Bible
- Four volunteers



# **GETTING READY**

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

- Four easels
- Four large notepads
- Four sets of paint supplies
- Paper towels
- Tarp
- Week 5 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 5 Timeline Image Slide
- Week 5 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<sup>®</sup> and have it ready to play.
- As communicator enters, the tarp should be spread across the stage with four easels set up on top. On each easel, you need a notepad with a set of paint supplies on the floor beneath. As volunteers come to the stage to paint, communicator needs to verbally tell them each scene they will draw. Communicator needs to stress the artists need to paint quickly.

# **VIDEO ENHANCEMENTS FOR YOUR ENVIRONMENT**

# AVAILABLE FOR ADDITIONAL PURCHASE AT 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)
- 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