



PLAY WITH
CONFIDENCE

WEEK
FOUR
MAY 2023

LARGE GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT (STORY)

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit.

INTRODUCTION

COMMUNICATOR: “Hello, everyone! Let’s take a quick survey. If I mention something that you think you’re good at or know a whole lot about, I need you to stand up. For example, if I say ‘science,’ and you are really great at that subject, stand to your feet. Make sense? After each one, we’ll have everyone sit back down. Let’s give it a try!

Use examples from the following list or add your own. Do as many as time allows.

- Fractions
- Swimming
- Singing
- Table tennis/ping-pong
- Riding a unicycle
- Spelling
- Video games—but specifically racing games
- Multiplication
- Geography
- Juggling
- Dancing
- Memorizing lines for a play
- Drawing
- Writing stories
- Soccer
- Gymnastics

TENSION

COMMUNICATOR: “It looks like some of you are pretty good or knowledgeable about at least a few things—and some don’t know about or aren’t great at some others. But that’s how it goes, right? I don’t think there’s a human alive today who knows everything about everything!

“So what happens when you don’t know something and you have to ask questions? Think about it. Are you the sort of person who just goes ahead and asks away? Or are you more likely to keep your questions to yourself? Maybe you feel embarrassed or wonder if you’re not smart enough to understand?”

“Then there are times when you’re not sure about the things that you feel like you should know—maybe even like what we talk about at church about God or the Bible—but don’t? What do you then?”

“Sometimes it’s hard when you don’t know something. But thankfully we’ve got a great source of wisdom (*hold up Bible*) right here. In this book, people wrote down what they learned about God, about Jesus, about lots of things. And now, thousands of years later, it can show us the best way to live and give us insight into how to follow God in our own relationships with Him. If you’ve got questions . . . look no further.”

TRUTH



PLAY WITH
CONFIDENCE

WEEK
FOUR
MAY 2023

LARGE GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

COMMUNICATOR: “For the past several months, we’ve been making our way through God’s Big Story.

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

“We’ve seen how God sent Jesus to this world . . . and how Jesus is the Savior Who was promised. We’ve seen how Jesus lived a life of love and compassion. He taught amazing things about God and healed people who were sick. Eventually, Jesus died on the cross for our sins, then came back to life! After that, He spent time with His friends and followers.

“When Jesus returned to heaven, He sent the Holy Spirit to the believers to help them share the news about Jesus with others. The new church grew quickly as more and more people put their faith in Jesus as their Savior.

“We find many of those stories in the Book of Acts. Today our story is specifically about a follower of Jesus named Philip. And, surprise, surprise, we find someone who has some pretty big questions.

“Around here we love a good question. How about we tell this story with a bit of a question game. Hey, [Name of Host], can you help me out? I’ll grab three volunteers—let’s get started!”

AUDIO: “THE PRICE IS RIGHT – GAME SHOW THEME” FROM TELEVISION’S GREATEST THEMES BY TV TUNESTERS

Host enters. Communicator chooses three willing volunteers to stand at their seats. Toss each one a slap hand rattle to use as a buzzer. Host should use Game Show Questions Cards (Printable) to read from.

The correct answers are highlighted.

HOST: “Okay, pop quiz, let’s start with something super-random. The category for this question is Great Moments in Television History. Which one of the following was NOT an actual TV show?”

1. Whisker Wars, a reality show about facial hair
 2. The Great Game of the Goose, an adult version of Snakes and Ladders
 3. **Cow Cart, a documentary-style TV show about legless cows**
- or
4. Bunheads, a TV show about ballet dancers

When someone buzzes in with the correct answer, say the following:

“You are correct, Cow Cart is NOT an actual TV show. And cows with no legs give a whole new meaning to ground beef. Back to you, [Name of Communicator]!”

Applaud all volunteers, collect the slap hand rattles, and then continue.

COMMUNICATOR: “I hope that’s not what we’re in for, friends. How about we see if we can find our answers in this story about Philip!”

Open the Bible to Acts 8:26-27b (NIRV) and read.



PLAY WITH
CONFIDENCE

WEEK
FOUR
MAY 2023

LARGE GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

“An angel of the Lord spoke to Philip. “Go south to the desert road,” he said. “It’s the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” So Philip started out. On his way he met an Ethiopian official.’

AUDIO: “THE PRICE IS RIGHT – GAME SHOW THEME” FROM TELEVISION’S GREATEST THEMES BY TV TUNESTERS

“[Name of Host], what do you have for us this time?”

Toss the slap hand rattles to three volunteers as the Host is prepping the question.

HOST: “Okay, small humans, this category is titled Kangaroo, Coffee, or Numbers. Of the three things I just mentioned, Kangaroo, Coffee, Numbers, which one was first discovered in Ethiopia?”

When someone buzzes in with the correct answer, say the following:

“You are correct, the discovery of coffee is attributed to a goat herder on the Ethiopian plateau. We’ve gone from that to a double decaffeinated half-calf venti cinnamon frappe with oat milk and no whip. All yours, [Name of Communicator].”

COMMUNICATOR: “Actually, Ethiopia is important to our story. God told Philip to take a certain road. While he was there, Philip met an official from the faraway country of . . . you guessed it, ETHIOPIA! It turned out that this man held an important position in Ethiopia—he was in charge of all the wealth of the Kandake (*pronounced khan-da-kuh*).

AUDIO: “THE PRICE IS RIGHT – GAME SHOW THEME” FROM TELEVISION’S GREATEST THEMES BY TV TUNESTERS

“[Name of Host]? Have another one?”

Toss the slap hand rattles to three volunteers as the Host is prepping the question.

HOST: “You bet, you bet, you bet, [Name of Communicator]! We’ve got three players? All set? Here we go. This category is titled, ‘Whaaaa?’ Here’s the question.

“[Name of Communicator] just mentioned that the man was in charge of all of the wealth of the Kandake. Kandake is a word that means:

1. Queen of Sheba
 2. Queen of the Nile
 - 3. Queen of Ethiopia**
- or
4. Queen of Diamonds

When someone buzzes in with the correct answer, say the following:

“That’s correct, *Kandake* means ‘queen of Ethiopia.’ Take it away, [Name of Communicator].”

COMMUNICATOR: “That’s right! *Kandake* means queen of Ethiopia. This particular official had gone to Jerusalem



PLAY WITH
CONFIDENCE

WEEK
FOUR
MAY 2023

LARGE GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

to worship God. On his way home, he was sitting in his chariot. And interestingly enough, he was reading a scroll that contained what we now know as the book of Isaiah.

Open the Bible to (Acts 8:29 NIV) and read.

“The Holy Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot. Stay near it”

“At the beginning of this story, it was an angel of the Lord who spoke to Philip, telling him to take this particular road. Now the Holy Spirit was guiding him.

“So, sure enough, Philip listened. He ran over to the chariot and overheard the man reading from the writings of Isaiah, the prophet.

AUDIO: “THE PRICE IS RIGHT – GAME SHOW THEME” FROM TELEVISION’S GREATEST THEMES BY TV TUNESTERS

“[Name of Host]! Here we go!”

Toss the slap hand rattles to three volunteers as the Host is prepping the question.

HOST: “This one is a Dis or Dat. You have two categories, and you have to tell me which phrase belongs to which category. Your categories are Verses in the Bible or Country Music Song Lyrics. I’ll say a phrase, and you tell me which one you think it is. First one to buzz in gets to answer. Ready? Here we go!”

For each Dis or Dat, kids can buzz in each time. It’s a type of quick-fire round. Use the following or choose your own.

“I’ve been flushed from the bathroom of your heart” *Song Lyric*

“Didn’t you pour me out like milk? Didn’t you form me like cheese?” *Verse in the Bible (Job 10:10, NIV)*

“You think these people are drunk. But they aren’t. It’s only nine o’clock in the morning!” *Verse in the Bible (Acts 2:15, NIV)*

“Shut my mouth. Slap your grandma.” *Song Lyric*

“You can’t take a shower in a parakeet cage.” *Song Lyric*

“Get out of here! You don’t even have any hair on your head!” *Verse in the Bible (2 Kings 2:23, NIV)*

“Nicely done, everyone—and now I’m off to make a fortune in Nashville singing bluegrass from the Book of Deuteronomy.”

COMMUNICATOR: “Hilarious! Now, back to the story. Philip was now close to the official’s chariot, just like the Holy Spirit told him. Philip overheard the official reading from the book of Isaiah. Philip leaned over and asked the man,

Open the Bible to (Acts 8:30 NIV) and read.

“Do you understand what you’re reading?”

“No!” the man replied. ‘I have no idea!’—he was reading a pretty confusing part of Isaiah, to be fair— The man



WEEK
FOUR
MAY 2023



25 MINUTES

went on to say,

Open the Bible to (Acts 8:31 NIV) and read.

“How can I? . . . I need someone to explain it to me!”

“This is what the man was reading:

Open the Bible to (Acts 8:32-33 NIV, quoting Isaiah 53:7,8, then Acts 8:34) and read.

*“He was led like a sheep to be killed.
Just as lambs are silent while their wool is being cut off,
he did not open his mouth.
When he was treated badly, he was refused a fair trial.
Who can say anything about his children?
His life was cut off from the earth.’*

‘The official said to Philip, “Tell me, please. Who is the prophet talking about? Himself, or someone else?’”

AUDIO: “THE PRICE IS RIGHT – GAME SHOW THEME” FROM TELEVISION’S GREATEST THEMES BY TV TUNESTERS

Toss the slap hand rattles to three volunteers as the Host is prepping the question.

HOST: “Okay people, last question, listen up, I’m only going to say this once—the title of this category is ‘Jesus Is the Answer.’ Hands on buzzers, here we go.

“[Name of Communicator] just told us that the official, the man from Ethiopia, read a Scripture from Isaiah. He asked who the prophet was talking about when he mentioned ‘he was led like a sheep to be killed.’ Is the answer:

- 1. Jesus**
 - 2. Jesus**
 - 3. Jesus**
- or
- 4. Jesus**

When someone buzzes in with the correct answer, say the following:

“Yep, you all got it!”

COMMUNICATOR: “Strong finish! Thanks, [Name of Host]. Let’s give them a hand.

Lead applause as the Host exits.

“That’s right! Philip told the man what the passage from Isaiah meant—and then he told him everything about Jesus. As they traveled along the road, talking about Scripture and Jesus, they came upon a small body of water. The Ethiopian man, so moved by the story of Jesus and the things Philip was telling him about the Scriptures



PLAY WITH
CONFIDENCE

WEEK
FOUR
MAY 2023

LARGE GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

demanded, right there, to be baptized.

Open the Bible to (Acts 8:36-37 NIV) and read.

“The official said, “Look! Here is water! What can stop me from being baptized?”

“And Philip baptized the man, right there, by the side of the road. After being baptized, the man continued his journey back to Ethiopia. Luke tells us in Acts that he went on his way full of joy.”

SLIDE: GOD'S BIG STORY TIMELINE

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.

APPLICATION

COMMUNICATOR: “The official didn't understand what he was reading from Isaiah. I'm guessing that sometimes you don't understand what you read from the Bible. I mean, there are things I don't even understand in the Bible! So what can we do in these situations?”

“Find a trusted adult like a parent or family member or a Small Group Leader. Then ask your questions. We all need to remember that God welcomes our questions. When we're confused or uncertain about something, we don't need to hide it. We can ask. God is bigger than all of our questions put together!”

“Honestly, you might not always get the answers you need. Sometimes the answers only make you ask more questions. Sometimes the only answer to our questions is 'I don't know.' And that's okay, too. The point is, though, to start asking. You can be confident that God will be right there with you, ready to help. Remember, you can trust God no matter what!”

LANDING

COMMUNICATOR: “As you head to your Small Groups, think about this question:

SLIDE: KEY QUESTION

“What questions do you have?” And remember: no questions are off limits. Do you want to know more about how Jesus did the things He did? Are there things you read in the Bible that are totally confusing? Bring your questions, and as you do, let's pray that God will help you find the answers we're looking for. 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