



WEEK  
**FIVE**  
JULY 2023

LARGE GROUP  
**K-3**

## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**The Other Side**  
Heaven  
Revelation 21:3-5a

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

God will make everything  
right in the end.

### MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"God's grace has saved you  
because of your faith in Christ.  
Your salvation doesn't come from  
anything you do. It is God's gift."  
Ephesians 2:8, NIV

### MONTHLY VIRTUE

Faith—Trusting in what  
you can't see because of  
what you can see

### BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

### 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**

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 ("Over and Over" from *Everything to Me*, and  
"Who You Say I Am" from *Who You Say I Am single*)  
Bible Story  
Bottom Line  
Prayer  
Closer

### SMALL GROUP

**25**  
MIN

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

**Bible Story Review:** God's Glory Is Its Light (*k-1st grade*),  
A, B, or C (*2nd-3rd grade*)

**Application Activity:** God Will Make Everything Right  
(*k-1st grade*), No More (*2nd-3rd grade*)

**Memory Verse Activity:** Memory Verse Moves (*k-1st grade*),  
Verse Hunt (*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



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

25 MINUTES      10 MINUTES

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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Heaven  
Revelation 21:3-5a

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### MONTHLY VIRTUE

Faith—Trusting in what  
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what you can see

### BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

### BIBLE VERSES:

Revelation 21:1-4  
John 5:24

### HOST SUPPLIES

- Printed script
- Bible

### STORY SUPPLIES

- Four chairs
- Steering wheel
- Large scroll, i.e. long paper rolled up and attached to dowels that you can unroll as a visual

### 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 KIDS ENTER.**

**SLIDE: THEME**

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

### WORSHIP

*Worship Leaders enter*

**WORSHIP LEADER:**

**AUDIO:**

*Host enters.*

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN**

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

### OPENER

**HOST:** "Hello, friends! It's so great to see your smiling faces today! All summer long, we've been talking about what it means to have faith. If you don't remember . . .



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**SLIDE: VIRTUE**

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

“Faith is trusting in what you can’t see because of what you can see.”

**SLIDE: THEME**

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

“I can look around and see that God is good. I can see that God has given me friends and family who I love. I can see that God made this amazing world all around me. And I can believe that God sent Jesus FOR me! I can put my faith in Jesus and choose to follow Him, even though I can’t see Him with my own eyes.”

“Today’s game is all about what you can see with YOUR eyes. In just a minute, we’ll put an image on the screen. The image will start out really blurry, and it’ll gradually get clearer. As soon as you can guess what the picture is, shout it out! We’re all working as a team, so let’s see how many we can guess correctly! Here we go!”

**AUDIO: FUN INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC**

*Tech note: As you put the slides up, leave each one on screen for about 5 to 7 seconds before you go on to the next one. The image will get progressively clearer. If someone guesses the correct answer, skip ahead to the fully clear version (D).*

**SLIDE: GAME IMAGE 1A (BICYCLE)**

**SLIDE: GAME IMAGE 1B**

**SLIDE: GAME IMAGE 1C**

**SLIDE: GAME IMAGE 1D**

*Repeat this process for the other six images.*

**SLIDE: GAME IMAGE 2A-D (SKATEBOARD)**

**SLIDE: GAME IMAGE 3A-D (SPEEDBOAT)**

**SLIDE: GAME IMAGE 4A-D (HOVERBOARD)**

**SLIDE: GAME IMAGE 5A-D (CONVERTIBLE CAR)**

**SLIDE: GAME IMAGE 6A-D (TRAIN)**

**SLIDE: GAME IMAGE 7A-D (CRUISE SHIP)**

**SLIDE: THEME**

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

“Wow! Some of those were really difficult to guess, but you did so great! Now, let’s all jump up on our feet and get ready to sing. We can ALWAYS put our faith in God. **[Basic Truth] We can trust God no matter what!** Let’s sing and thank God for that now.”



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## WORSHIP

*Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.*

**WORSHIP LEADER:**

**AUDIO:**



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## BIBLE STORY

**SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND**

*Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.*

*Storyteller sets up four chairs like a car, facing the audience—with two chairs in front as the front seat and two chairs behind them as the back seat.*

*Storyteller sits in the driver's seat and uses an imaginary steering wheel to pretend to drive.*

### SETTING UP THE STORY

**STORYTELLER:** *(pretending to drive)* "Hi, everyone! Have you ever been on a road trip? I mean like, a REALLY long road trip—more than just running errands with your family around town. Raise your hand if you have. *(Pause for response.)*

"Okay, cool. There's a question that you might ask if you're riding in the car and it seems to be taking forever. Can anybody guess what question I'm talking about? *(Pause for response.)* That's right. Are we there yet? Let me hear you say it."

**AUDIENCE:** "Are we there yet?"

**STORYTELLER:** "You got it!

*Stand up from the "car."*

"Well as you know, we've spent a lot of time over the last year moving through God's Big Story.

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

"We've gone through the Bible together and covered many of the stories along the way. *(Hold up Bible.)* It's a pretty long journey to go all the way from the beginning up until now. But I hope you've noticed something about God's Big Story as we've made our way through it. God's story is a story of LOVE for people across time—including us today!

*(Open the Bible to somewhere in the middle.)* If you're somewhere in the middle of the story, you might be tempted to ask . . . 'Are we there yet?'

"The truth is . . . we're NOT there yet. We're on a journey of faith as we follow Jesus together. And because of what Jesus did for us, we can have HOPE for the future that nothing can take away.

"Let's go back and take a look at where we've been—all the way from the VERY beginning."

*Sit back down in the car and act like you're driving as you recap the timeline images.*



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## OLD TESTAMENT OVERVIEW

**STORYTELLER:** “We started in the book of Genesis and learned how God created the world—including people.

**SLIDE: AUGUST WEEK 2 TIMELINE IMAGE: CREATION**

“We saw how Adam and Eve disobeyed God and tried to handle things on their own. But God already had a plan to fix what had been broken.

**SLIDE: AUGUST WEEK 4 TIMELINE IMAGE: GOD CHOOSES ABRAM**

“God chose a man named Abram—whose name God later changed to Abraham. God made a promise to bless the whole world through Abraham’s family.

“Abraham’s family became the Israelite people.

“Do you remember Joseph?

**SLIDE: OCTOBER WEEK 2 TIMELINE IMAGE: JOSEPH PART 2**

“Joseph was sold into slavery by his brothers. I’m sure he felt forgotten in that time. But with God’s help, Joseph was wise enough to save up food. He ended up saving the whole country of Egypt—and also his family from back home.

**SLIDE: OCTOBER WEEK 5 TIMELINE IMAGE: CROSSING THE RED SEA**

“That brings us to Moses. God sent Moses to lead the Israelites out of slavery, but the Pharaoh of Egypt wouldn’t give them up without a fight. Sure enough, Moses led the Israelites through the Red Sea on dry land! After that, Moses probably thought, ‘Are we there yet?’ But God led him and the other Israelites through the desert for years and years, toward a land that God had prepared for them.

**SLIDE: NOVEMBER WEEK 2 TIMELINE IMAGE: KING DAVID**

“You might remember David as the one who defeated the giant Goliath. David was a young shepherd when he was anointed to be the future king. But that didn’t happen right away. Instead, David had to go and hide from the person who WAS king at the time—King Saul. He knew he would one day be the king, so he probably wondered, ‘Are we there yet?’

**SLIDE: NOVEMBER WEEK 3 TIMELINE IMAGE: DANIEL**

“Do you remember this story—Daniel and the lions’ den? This happened after God’s people had disobeyed and became captives. Daniel was one of those captives—and he was committed to following God, even if it got him in trouble with the king. Daniel ended up being thrown into a den of lions. But God kept him safe!

**SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND**

“During this time, God’s people must have felt confused and sad, because they were living away from the land God had prepared for them. I imagine they thought, ‘Are we there yet?’ What is God doing? When will God show up and make it all right?”



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“Well, God DID bring the Israelite people back from captivity to their homeland. And still, God had a plan to bless the whole world through Abraham’s family. God spoke through prophets like Isaiah about the Rescuer who was to come.

**SLIDE: DECEMBER WEEK 1 TIMELINE IMAGE: JESUS IS PROMISED**

“Imagine what this must have been like for Isaiah. As someone who believed in the promises of God, I bet Isaiah really wanted to know when this would happen—when God would send a Savior to us. That’s an ‘Are we there yet?’ moment for sure!”

### JESUS AND THE NEW TESTAMENT

**STORYTELLER:** “And then . . . it happened! Jesus, God’s Son, came to this world as a baby.

**SLIDE: DECEMBER WEEK 3 TIMELINE IMAGE: JESUS IS BORN**

“Jesus grew up to be a carpenter then a teacher. He performed miracles and taught people about God in a way that they had never heard before.

**SLIDE: FEBRUARY WEEK 1 TIMELINE IMAGE: CALLING OF THE DISCIPLES**

“Jesus’ followers loved Him, but even they couldn’t possibly understand what was about to happen next. In fact, they hoped that soon Jesus would take control and be the king. Maybe they thought to themselves, ‘Are we there yet? Is it time yet?’

“But it wasn’t time for that. Instead, it was time for Jesus to give up His life and die on the cross. Jesus did this to pay for the sins of the whole world.

**SLIDE: APRIL WEEK 2 TIMELINE IMAGE: JESUS IS ALIVE**

“Jesus conquered death when He came back to life. Then He returned to heaven.

**SLIDE: MAY WEEK 2 TIMELINE IMAGE: PENTECOST**

“Soon after that, God sent the Holy Spirit to the believers. They told others about Jesus, and more and more people began to put their faith in Him. The early church grew very quickly! But the believers knew they weren’t ‘there yet’ because there were still so many people who had never heard the good news about Jesus.”

**SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND**

*Stand up as you tell this part of the story.*

### JOHN’S VISION

**STORYTELLER:** “We’ve come a long way, haven’t we? (*Hold up Bible.*) Everything we just heard brings us to today’s story, which is actually a vision that God gave to a man named John.

“John had spent his entire life telling people about Jesus. At the end of his life, John was exiled—or sent away—to the Island of Patmos. One day, the Holy Spirit gave John a vision. A loud voice like a trumpet called out, and Jesus Himself appeared!



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*Pick up the scroll.*

"It's hard for us to even imagine the things John saw. But he wrote it down, and that's what we can find today in the book of Revelation.

*Unroll the scroll.*

"Let me read you just a little bit of it.

*Open the Bible to Revelation 21:1-4 (NirV) and read.*

*"I saw 'a new heaven and a new earth.'*

"I heard a loud voice from the throne. It said, 'Look! God now makes his home with the people. He will live with them. They will be his people. And God himself will be with them and be their God. "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death." And there will be no more sadness. There will be no more crying or pain. Things are no longer the way they used to be.'

"Isn't that amazing to think about? No more crying. No more death. No more sadness or pain. That is the hope we have as believers in Jesus. God will live alongside people. And God will make EVERYTHING brand-new."

## WRAPPING UP THE STORY

**STORYTELLER:** "So, are we there yet? Nope! Not yet, but we will be! There's so much we don't know, but we do know this. In the end, God will make right every single thing that's wrong. And our place in the story will be amazing.

**SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE**

**"God will make everything right in the end.**

"Let's pray."

**SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND**

## PRAY

**STORYTELLER:** "Dear God, what an amazing story You've written! Through it all, You have always had a plan. And Your plan is good. Thank You for loving us. Thank You for sending Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You for helping us know that everything will be right in the end and that **[Basic Truth] we can trust You no matter what.** We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."





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## CLOSER

*Host enters as Storyteller exits.*

**HOST:** “Even though we have John’s words about heaven, most of us still have a hard time imagining what that will be like. There’s a lot we don’t know.

**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.*

“But we do know that life with God forever will be more incredible and amazing than we could ever imagine! We can believe this.

**SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE**

**“God will make everything right in the end.**

“The promise of heaven is so important because it gives us hope . . . even when things in our lives might seem frustrating or disappointing. We can put our faith in Jesus and believe that everything WILL be right in the end.

“Jesus once said this.

*Open the Bible to John 5:24 (NirV) and read.*

*“What I’m about to tell you is true. Anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life.*

“Let me read that again.

*“Anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life.*

“We can have faith that Jesus is God’s Son and that He died on the cross for us. If we put our trust in Him, we have the PROMISE of life with God forever!

“You can head to Small Group now and talk about that some more. I’ll see you later, okay?”

*Dismiss kids to their small groups.*

**AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT.**

**SLIDE: THEME**

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