



WEEK  
**TWO**  
SEPTEMBER 2023

LARGE GROUP  
**K-3**

## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

#### Friends Forever

David and Mephibosheth  
1 Samuel 19-20; 2 Samuel 9

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Friends keep their promises.

### MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"A friend loves at all times.  
They are there to help when  
trouble comes."

Proverbs 17:17, NIV

### MONTHLY VIRTUE

Friendship—Using your  
words and actions to show  
others you care

### 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

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  
"Say It Again" from *My Life for You*)  
Bible Story  
Bottom Line  
Prayer  
Closer

### SMALL GROUP

**25**  
MIN

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

**Bible Story Review:** Tray Tableaus (*k-1st grade*), Kazoo to You! (*2nd-3rd grade*)

**Application Activity:** Promises, Promises (*k-1st grade*), Promises (*2nd-3rd grade*)

**Memory Verse Activity:** At All Times (*k-1st grade*), We Got the Beat (*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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25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**Friends Forever**  
David and Mephibosheth  
1 Samuel 19-20; 2 Samuel 9

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Friends keep their promises.

### MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**"A friend loves at all times.  
They are there to help when  
trouble comes."**  
Proverbs 17:17, NIV

### MONTHLY VIRTUE

**Friendship—Using your  
words and actions to show  
others you care**

### BASIC TRUTH

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

### BIBLE VERSES:

- 1 Samuel 19:4**
- 1 Samuel 20:14-15**
- 2 Samuel 9:7**

### HOST SUPPLIES

- Host
- 2 Beach balls

### STORY SUPPLIES

- Storyteller
- Bible
- Five helium-filled balloons in different bright colors, with faces drawn on to represent David, Saul, Samuel, Jonathan, and Mephibosheth (see "What You Do")
- Five balloon weights
- Permanent marker (to use in advance, and also on stage)
- Heavy book (or sandbag, etc.) that can hold a balloon string in place
- Curtain, pipe-and-drape panel, or dressing screen to hide the balloons when they're not being used in the story
- "Bible Story Balloon Face Examples" found in the LG Assets PDF

### 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**



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## WORSHIP

*Worship Leaders enter*

**WORSHIP LEADER:**

**AUDIO:**

*Host enters.*

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

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

## OPENER

**HOST:** "Hi, friends! I'm so pumped that you're here today! Today, and all month long, we're talking about one of my favorite things: FRIENDSHIP!"

**SLIDE: VIRTUE**

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

**"Friendship is using your words and actions to show others you care."**

**SLIDE: THEME**

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

"God created us to be friends with each other and to show each other that we care. On the count of three, can you say the name of one of your friends out loud? One, two, three. *(Pause for response.)* That's so great! Now think about what that friend does for you that lets you know that they care.

*(Pause.)* Aren't you so thankful for your friend? Aren't you so thankful for friendship? With God's help, we can BE good friends who show others that we care.

"Before we do anything else, I want to teach you a fun game called 'Friendly Face-Off.'"

*Pick up the beach ball.*

"I'll walk around the room, and for each round, I'll choose two different small groups to have a 'Friendly Face-Off.' We'll play part of a song, and the first team to have someone come up to me, while holding the beach ball between their knees, and tell me what MOVIE the song is from, wins that round!"

"This is a 'Friendly Face-Off' because you're playing as a team with your friends AND, even though one team wins the round, both teams will then cheer like crazy for each other!"

"Are you ready? *(Pause.)* Okay, let's go! First up, [leader's name]'s group versus [leader's name]'s group."



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Stand between the two small groups and place the beach balls in front of you. Play the first song. When a kid comes up with the ball, let them answer. You may need to help them along. For example, if they tell you the name of the song, ask if they know the name of the movie. If a kid doesn't have an answer or answers incorrectly, let a kid from the other team try and answer.

If someone guesses the song immediately, let it keep playing for a while after they've guessed, and encourage the rest of the audience to sing along.

After each round, get the two groups to cheer for each other. Make a big deal of this, since it's the "Friendly Face-Off." Then find two new groups to play.

Play as long as time allows, and make sure each group gets to participate in at least one round. We would suggest using songs like the ones listed in the "Getting Ready" section at the end of this document. Try to end with "You've Got a Friend in Me."

**AUDIO: SONGS FOR THE GAME—ONE FOR EACH ROUND (FOLLOW HOST'S CUE)**

"Wow! You all really know your movie tunes! And that last one is the perfect song for friendship, isn't it? Everyone stand up, because now it's time for us to sing and worship God together."

## 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.*

*The balloons for the story should already be on stage, behind a curtain.*

### SETTING UP THE STORY

**STORYTELLER:** "Hi, everyone! Today, we're looking at an amazing story of friendship that we can find in the Bible (*hold up Bible*), in the books of first and second Samuel.

"This story is about a man named David.

*Bring out the David face balloon and stand it next to you, on your left side.*

*Note: As you tell the story, reference the balloons as you talk about each person.*

"While David was just a young boy, God chose a man named Saul to rule over Israel as the king.

*Bring out the Saul face balloon and stand it next to you, on your right side.*

"But King Saul didn't listen to God. So God sent the prophet Samuel to David's house.

*Bring out the Samuel face balloon and stand it next to the David balloon.*

"Samuel anointed David with oil, as a sign that David would one day be the king of Israel.

*Move the Samuel balloon back behind the curtain.*

"David started out as a shepherd, but one day he really caught Saul's attention when he faced down a huge giant named Goliath. After that, King Saul made David his personal musician and the leader of his armies.

*Move the David balloon next to the Saul balloon, on your right side.*

"God blessed David, and he won many battles. David even became best friends with Saul's son Jonathan."

*Bring out the Jonathan face balloon and stand it next to the David and Saul balloons, on your right side.*

### JEALOUS SAUL

**STORYTELLER:** "The people of Israel loved David so much that Saul started getting jealous. In fact, Saul started to think that he wanted to get RID of David. But Jonathan loved his friend David, and he wanted to warn David that he was in danger. Jonathan told David to find a place to hide in the field.

*Move the David balloon back onto your left side. Pull the David balloon down close to floor level. Place the book on top of the string so that the balloon stays in place.*



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"Jonathan said he would talk to his father about David. Then he would tell David what he found out.

"Sure enough, Jonathan and Saul went and stood in the field where David was hiding.

*Bring the Jonathan and Saul balloons over to your left side, next to where the David balloon is "hiding."*

*Open the Bible to 1 Samuel 19:4 (NirV) and read.*

*Jonathan told his father Saul some good things about David. He said to him, "Please don't do anything to harm David. He hasn't done anything to harm you. And what he's done has helped you a lot."*

"Saul listened to Jonathan, and he promised that no harm would come to David. Jonathan told David this good news, so David returned to the palace.

*Remove the book from the David balloon string. Bring all three balloons back over to your right side.*

"But Saul didn't keep his promise. In fact, one time, while David was playing the harp, Saul threw a spear at him. (to the David balloon) Duck, David! (Make the David balloon duck.)

"Thankfully, David escaped."

*Bring David back to your left side.*

### **ALWAYS BE KIND TO ME**

**STORYTELLER:** "Soon after this, David was supposed to join Saul for a special feast. Again, David told Jonathan that he would hide in the field.

*Pull the David balloon down close to floor level. Place the book on top of the string so that the balloon stays in place.*

*Then bring the Jonathan balloon over near the David balloon.*

"David asked Jonathan to tell Saul that he had gone to Bethlehem with his family, then to see how Saul reacted. That way they would know if Saul was still after David.

"Jonathan then asked David to make him a promise. He said . . .

*Open the Bible to 1 Samuel 20:14-15 (NirV) and read.*

*Always be kind to me, just as the Lord is. Be kind to me as long as I live. . . . And never stop being kind to my family.*

"Jonathan returned to his father.

*Bring the Jonathan balloon over next to the Saul balloon, on your right side.*



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"It turned out that Saul got very angry when he saw that David hadn't come to the feast. So Jonathan knew that it wasn't safe for David to be in the palace.

"Jonathan went back to the field to meet David.

*Bring the Jonathan balloon back next to the David balloon, on your left side.*

"He warned David to run far away to safety.

*Remove the book from the David balloon string. Move the David balloon to the farthest part of the stage (still on your left side).*

"Then Jonathan returned to the palace with his father."

*Bring the Jonathan balloon next to the Saul balloon, on your right side.*

## A PROMISE KEPT

**STORYTELLER:** "Many years passed, and David escaped Saul again and again.

*You can have some fun with the balloon characters by having Saul "chase" David around the stage a little.*

"But one day, sadly, Saul and Jonathan were both killed during a battle.

*Move the Saul and Jonathan balloons behind the curtain.*

"And, just like the prophet Samuel had said, David was made king in Saul's place.

*Draw a simple crown on the David balloon, using the permanent marker. Bring the David balloon next to you, on your right side.*

"When David was king, he remembered the promise he made to take care of Jonathan's family. He asked if there was anyone left in Jonathan's family so he could take care of them.

*Bring out the Mephibosheth face balloon.*

*(as you bring out the balloon)* "Jonathan's son, Mephibosheth, was still alive. He was unable to walk because of an injury he received as a child. David had Mephibosheth brought to him.

*Stand the Mephibosheth balloon next to the David balloon, on your right side.*

"Listen to what David said to Mephibosheth.

*Open the Bible to 2 Samuel 9:7 (NIV) and read.*



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*“Don’t be afraid,” David told him. “You can be sure that I will be kind to you because of your father Jonathan. I’ll give back to you all the land that belonged to your grandfather Saul. And I’ll always provide what you need.”*

**WRAPPING UP THE STORY**

**STORYTELLER:** “David was true to his word. He made Mephibosheth a permanent member of his royal household. He kept the promise he had made to his friend Jonathan all those years before.

*Move to the front of the stage as you wrap up.*

“It’s important for us to keep our promises to our friends, like David kept his promise to Jonathan. When we do what we say we’ll do, our friends will see that they can trust us. We can be the kind of friends who are there for each other, no matter what we might face in life.

“You see, this is a really important part of friendship.

**SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE**

**“Friends keep their promises.**

“Let’s pray and ask God to help us keep our word to our friends.”

**SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND**

**PRAY**

**STORYTELLER:** “Dear God, thank You for the story of David and Jonathan. We can see how David and Jonathan looked out for each other and kept their promises to each other. Please help us keep our promises like they did. Show us how we can be true to our word and do what we’ve said we’ll do. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”





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## CLOSER

*Host enters as Storyteller exits.*

**HOST:** "Jonathan and David were great friends who made promises to each other. And they didn't just MAKE those promises. They KEPT their promises!"

"David found Jonathan's son, Mephibosheth, all those years later, because he wanted to show kindness to Jonathan's family like he said he would.

"We need to make sure that we keep our promises to our friends, like Jonathan and David did for each other. Remember . . .

**SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE**

**"Friends keep their promises.**

"Can you say that with me?"

**KIDS AND HOST: "Friends keep their promises."**

**HOST:** "And remember, our God is the very best example of a promise keeper! God promised to send us a Savior. And when the time was right, God sent Jesus for us.

"When we keep our promises to our friends, we build trust in our friendships. That's the kind of thing that makes a friendship grow. And it's a great way to **[Basic Truth] treat others the way you want to be treated.** After all, doesn't it feel good when someone keeps a promise to you? We should keep our word to our friends to show them how much we care.

*Share a short, kid-appropriate personal story about a time when a friend kept a promise they made to you and it made your friendship stronger.*

"Let's say our memory verse together, Proverbs 17:17."

**SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE**

**HOST AND KIDS:** "A friend loves at all times. They are there to help when trouble comes." (Proverbs 17:17, NIV)

**HOST:** "Great job! That's what true friendship is about—being there for our friends, no matter what. You can head to Small Group now and talk about how we can keep our promises to our friends!"

*Dismiss kids to their small groups.*

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

**SLIDE: THEME**

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



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## 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. OPENER/CLOSER

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Host
- Beach ball

##### MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room
- Songs for the "Friendly Face-Off" game, such as:
  - "Let It Go" from *Frozen* (the instrumental section starting at 2:25)
  - "I Like to Move It" from *Madagascar*
  - "Hair Up" from *Trolls*
  - "Under the Sea" from *The Little Mermaid* (starting at 0:09)
  - "We Know the Way" from *Moana* (starting at 0:17)
  - "We Don't Talk About Bruno" from *Encanto* (starting at 2:01)
  - "Try Everything" from *Zootopia*
  - "When Will My Life Begin?" from *Tangled*
  - "I Just Can't Wait to Be King" from *The Lion King*
  - "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" from *Mary Poppins*
  - "Heigh-Ho" from *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*
  - "Once Upon a Dream" from *Sleeping Beauty*
  - "You've Got a Friend in Me" from *Toy Story* (starting at the bridge, at 1:12)

##### LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Theme Slide
- Virtue Slide
- Bottom Line Slide
- Memory Verse Slide

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

- Theme Loop
- Countdown
- Theme
- Theme Transition to Virtue
- Virtue Transition to 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® or Amazon Music® and have it ready to play. If your church has a license agreement with a streaming service, please refer to the legal coverage of the license.
- 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).
- Select songs to use in the "Friendly Face-Off" game, and make a plan to cue them up to the correct start times. We've included some suggestions to get you started.

#### 2. WORSHIP

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Worship Leader(s)

##### MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

- "Over and Over" from *Everything to Me*
- "Say It Again" from *My Life for You* (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 "Say It Again.")



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## GETTING READY

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

### OPTIONAL VIDEOS (AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE):

- "Over and Over" Live Lyrics or Dance Moves Music Video (available through [Store.ThinkOrange.com](http://Store.ThinkOrange.com))
- *Live Loud* Video from *Get Reel* (available through the 252 Media Package)
- "Say It Again" 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 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. BIBLE STORY

### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Storyteller
- Bible
- Five helium-filled balloons in different bright colors, with faces drawn on to represent David, Saul, Samuel, Jonathan, and Mephibosheth (see "What You Do")
- Five balloon weights
- Permanent marker (to use in advance, and also on stage)
- Heavy book (or sandbag, etc.) that can hold a balloon string in place
- Curtain, pipe-and-drape panel, or dressing screen to hide the balloons when they're not being used in the story
- "Bible Story Balloon Face Examples" found in the LG Assets PDF

### LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Theme Background Slide
- Bottom Line Slide

- "Bible Story Balloon Face Examples"

### 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.
- Fill the balloons with helium (not air). Attach each balloon to a balloon weight.
- Using the "Bible Story Balloon Face Examples" sheet for reference, use the permanent marker to draw simple faces on the inflated balloons to represent the people in the story. (Make sure to let the ink dry, and try not to touch the ink to avoid smudges.) The Saul face should include a crown. Make sure that you leave room on the David balloon for the Storyteller to draw a crown during the story.
- Set up a curtain, pipe-and-drape panel, or dressing screen on stage where you can hide the balloons when they're not being used in the story.

### 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



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## GETTING READY

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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