



10 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

I can trust God knows best even when it is hard.

NAAMAN
2 KINGS 5:1-14

MEMORY VERSE

"God . . . knows everything."

1 JOHN 3:20, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who knows what's best for you?

BOTTOM LINE

God knows what's best for me.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.

LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE CHILDREN'S HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE WORSHIP, BIBLE STORY, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

WORSHIP

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" from Week One in Bible; instruments or music player; this month's worship song, "God's Way," included in your monthly files; and "The Plans," available from OrangeKidsMusic.com; *Optional Dance Moves Videos for "God's Way," available in the Media Package if you subscribe or from OrangeKidsMusic.com, and "The Plans," available from OrangeKidsMusic.com*

Worship Leader enters.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Friends! My name is [your name], and I'm SO glad we get to worship God together! God loves us and **God knows what's best for me** and you. Tell me, **who knows what's best for you?**"

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "**God knows what's best for me!**"

WORSHIP LEADER: "That's right! We can go God's way because God will always lead us in the right direction. So sing this out with me!

Lead children in singing, "God's Way," this month's worship song.

"The Bible teaches us that 'God . . . (hold open palm with thumb to forehead and pull down) knows (touch head with fingertips) everything (spread arms out),' 1 John 3:20. (Open hands like a book.) Let's say our memory verse together with the motions.

Lead children to say the memory verse with the motions.

"Great job, friends! I'm so glad to know that God knows everything because that means I can trust the plans God has for me. Sing this with me.

Lead children in singing, "The Plans."

"God's plans ARE really, really, really good because **God knows what's best for me**. One more time, **who knows what's best for you?**"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: **God knows what's best for me."**

WORSHIP LEADER: "Yes, **God knows what's best for me**. Thanks for worshipping with me today, friends. **[Transition]** And now it's time to turn around, sit down, and shake the wiggles out (*wiggle hands*) so we can hear (*cup hands behind ears*) what the story's all about!"

Host enters as Worship Leader exits.



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

INTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: Table; cow, dog, and teddy bear plush friends; two different-colored bandages; a toy thermometer; two different-colored children's spoons; two different colors of crepe paper

Preset the bandages, thermometer, spoons, and crepe paper on the table.

Host enters, carrying the plush friends as Worship Leader exits.

HOST: "Hello, friends! I'm [your name]. I thought it would be fun to play doctor's office today. (Hold up the cow plush friend.) Aww, you're okay, Callie Cow. I'll take care of you. It looks like you have a boo-boo. You need a bandage.

Place the animals on the table.

"Friends, should I give Callie Cow a [color] bandage or a [color] bandage? (Pause.) Okay! Let's use the [chosen color] one!

Put the chosen bandage on the cow plush friend.

"There you go, Callie Cow. This will make your boo-boo all better.

Put the cow on the table and pick up the dog.

"Okay, Milo, let's take your temperature.

Use the toy thermometer to take the dog's temperature.

"Oh, no! Milo the puppy has a fever. He needs some medicine. Which spoon should I use? Should I use the [color] spoon or the [color] spoon? Okay! We'll use the [chosen color] spoon.

Pretend to give the dog some medicine with the chosen spoon.

"There you go! That will make you feel so much better.

Put the dog down, pick up the teddy bear, and inspect him.

"What happened to your arm, Mr. Bear? Do you think it's broken? We should put a cast on it. That will help.

Pick up the two colors of crepe paper streamers.

"I have a [streamer color] cast and a [streamer color] cast. Which one should I use? (Pause.) The [chosen color] one it is! Wrap the chosen color of streamer around the bear's arm.

"Thanks, friends! You helped me make a lot of choices. Our fluffy friends are feeling so much better. See you in a little while."

Storyteller enters as Host gathers props and exits.

STORY

WHAT YOU NEED: Baby pool, small beach pail, blue confetti, and a Bible; *Optional Story Images* and cardstock



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FOUR
SEPTEMBER 2023

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
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Preset the baby pool and pail of confetti on one side of your activity area. Storyteller enters carrying a Bible.

STORYTELLER: "Hey, friends! I'm [your name], and I have a true story to tell you, straight from the Bible.

Open Bible for children to see, then set it down.

"Today's true story from the Bible begins with a very important man who led a lot of soldiers! His name is Naaman! Naaman was sick.

(Option: Display Story Image W4 01)

"He had boo-boos all over his skin, and there was no medicine to make him feel better. But a girl who worked for Naaman told him that a man named Elisha could help him!

"Elisha loved God, and he was a prophet, which meant he gave people messages from God. Elisha heard that Naaman needed help . . .

(Option: Display Story Image W4 02)

". . . so he sent a messenger to tell Naaman to go to the water (*point to the baby pool*) and dip in it seven times.

"Naaman had a choice to make.

Walk over to stand next to the baby pool.

"Would he do what God said and dip in the water seven times?

Walk to the opposite side of your storytelling area.

"Or, would he keep looking (*put hand above your eyes and look around*) for another way to get better?

"What do you think Naaman should do? (*Listen for responses.*)

"Guess what? Naaman didn't do what God said! He didn't understand why God would want him to dip in the water seven times! But Naaman's workers told him that he should do what God says.

(Option: Display Story Image W4 03)

"So finally, Naaman decided to trust God and dip in the water seven times.

(Option: Display Story Image W4 04)

"Would anyone like to be our Naaman today?

Select a child to come up as Naaman and stand next to you.

"Thanks for helping me today! Go ahead and step into the baby pool. (*Pause as volunteer moves.*) Okay, how many times did God tell Naaman to dip in the water? (*Pause and pick up the pail.*) Yes! Seven times. So, count with me."



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Toss a handful of confetti over the volunteer's head with each number as you lead the children to count off.

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "One, two, three, four, five, six, and seven!"

STORYTELLER: (to the volunteer) "Great job, Naaman! You can shake off and step out of the pool. Thanks for helping us today!"

Send volunteer back to their seat.

"Guess what? After dipping in the water seven times, Naaman's boo-boos were gone!"

(Option: Display Story Image W4 05)

"Naaman was healed, just like God said! Naaman learned in a big way that God knew what was best for him. And we know that, too! We can trust God knows best, even when it's hard. Because **God knows what's best for me. Who knows what's best for you?"**

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "**God knows what's best for me!**"

STORYTELLER: "Yes, **God knows what's best for me!** **[Transition]** Our story time is over (*pick up Bible and close it*), but we're not through. Let's talk to God because God loves you!"

PRAYER

STORYTELLER: "Heavenly Father, thank You for the story of Naaman. He didn't understand, and it seemed hard, but I'm so glad he trusted you! Help us trust You, too, because Your way is always best. We love You. Thanks for loving us, always. In Jesus' name, we pray, amen."

"Friends, you're awesome. See you later!"

Host enters as Storyteller exits with the Bible.

OUTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

Host enters.

HOST: "Wow! Naaman listened to what God said, and God made him all better! God knew what was best for Naaman, and **God knows what's best for me!**"

"I think I (*point to self*) got the story. Did you (*point to children*) get it? If you did, say, 'Got it!' Get it?" (*Cup one hand behind ear.*)

CHILDREN AND HOST: "Got it!"

HOST: (*Give two thumbs-up.*) "Good! **[Transition]** And now it's time for more Bible fun. There's more to learn. Come on, everyone!"

Host dismisses small groups and exits.