

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

We Didn't Start the Fire Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego Daniel 3

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

When has someone helped you see God?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

When you do what's right, others can see God.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Anyone who lives without blame walks away safely. But anyone who takes a crooked path will get caught." Proverbs 10:9, NIrV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Integrity—Choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.

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

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God Welcome/Opener Worship ("Lift My Voice" from *Can't Stop Won't Stop*, "Sing Your Praise" from *My Life for You*, and "What I Choose" from *Make a Move*) 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



PRELUDE	SOCIAL	STORY	WORSHIP	GROUPS	HOME	
		25 MINUTES	10 MINUTES			

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MONTHLY VIRTUE

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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 STUDENTS ENTER. SLIDE: THEME OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

Host enters . . .

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 (Formula 1 US Grand Prix, MLB World Series), 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: "Welcome one and all! My name is [Name of Host], and I am EXTRA excited to be with you here at [Name of Environment]! For the entire month of October, our theme has been Driven, and when the words 'drive' and 'automobile' collide in my brain, I can't help but think about racing cars . . . REAL RACING CARS! Can anyone name an organization that races cars? (Allow response) Exactly! Both NASCAR and Formula 1 are known for their speedy cars and awesome races!

"Well, this week I rushed to the office of [Name of Children's Pastor or Senior Pastor] with a brilliant idea! I asked if they were cool with us handing over the keys of several powerful muscle cars to kids in [Name of Environment] for an epic race through the parking lot and around the building! Would anybody be game to do something like that?! (*Allow response*) And you know what they said? (*Allow response*) Right. They emphatically said NO WAY. Something about not being of legal age to drive and not enough liability insurance. Whatever that means!

"BUT it takes a lot to deter a good idea! I just needed to scale it back a bit . . .



or a lot! What groups want to play a game I like to call 'The Ultimate-Ish Driven Grand Prix'?

SLIDE: "'THE ULTIMATE-ISH DRIVEN GRAND PRIX" TITLE SLIDE

Host brings up two Small Groups to the stage. Once Small Groups are on stage, Communicator brings out matchbox cars and tracks.

"First off, you'll notice these are not muscle cars. These are not even go-carts. These are toy, Matchbox cars . . . aaaaaand a whole bunch of pipes. These may not seem ULTIMATE, but they are ULTIMATE-ish AND are the tools you'll need for a GRAND PRIX of ULTIMATE magnitude!

"Here's how 'The Ultimate-Ish Driven Grand Prix' will work. Our two Small Groups will stand in two separate lines. Each person will be holding a PVC pipe next to others in their Small Group forming a track for a small matchbox car. Once you form the two, you'll race a matchbox car down the tracks and attempt to land your car in a bucket at the end of the track. If a matchbox car ever falls to the ground, your team must return the matchbox car to the start. If the matchbox car touches anything or anybody other than the PVC pipe or bucket, you guessed it, the matchbox car must return to the start. The first team to have a car land in your bucket wins! Make sense? Any questions? (*Allow response*) Awesome! Let's build the tracks!

Host direct both Small Groups to grab a piece of PVC pipe. If PVC pipes are not an option, consider using pool noodles split down the middle. Once both tracks are set, encourage the crowd to countdown the start of the race. The car that makes it into their bucket first wins.

AUDIO: UPBEAT GAME MUSIC

"What a race! What a fantastic 'Ultimate-Ish Driven Grand Prix!' We just witnessed teamwork done right! Well done to both teams. As much as I would love to give the title of the [Name of Environment] 'Ultimate-Ish Driven Grand Prix' Champion to both Small Groups, I can't! It wouldn't be right. One team's matchbox car moved a little bit quicker! Let's give a HIP HIP HOORAY to our winning Small Group! (*Allow response*)

"Now, Let's stand up and get ready to sing some songs and worship our ULTIMATE, amazing God!"

Host exits as Worship Leader enters.



WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Get on your feet, everyone, because it's time for us to worship! Right now, we get to lift our voices to give praise to God. God is always there to help us and show us how to live each day. Because of God's love, we are free and forgiven. Let's sing this from our hearts.

AUDIO: "LIFT MY VOICE" / TRACK 10 FROM CAN'T STOP WON'T STOP OPTIONAL VIDEO: "LIFT MY VOICE" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

"I love to worship God with all of you! So good. Before we continue, let's check this out.

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): LIVE LOUD VIDEO FROM GET REEL

"This next song is called 'Sing Your Praise.' You and I were created to praise God! We can do that with the songs we sing, and with the way we live each day. With God's help, we can choose to live with integrity and show God's goodness to the world around us. Come on and sing this with me.

AUDIO: "SING YOUR PRAISE" / TRACK 2 FROM MY LIFE FOR YOU OPTIONAL VIDEO: "SING YOUR PRAISE" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

"Jesus said, 'I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in darkness. They will have that light. They will have life.' (John 8:12, NIrV) Each day, we can choose to follow Jesus. Our relationship with Jesus is what helps us show God's love and kindness to the people in our lives. Sing this with me."

AUDIO: "WHAT I CHOOSE" / TRACK 8 FROM MAKE A MOVE OPTIONAL VIDEO: "WHAT I CHOOSE" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO



COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT (STORY)

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit.

25 MINUTES

INTRODUCTION

COMMUNICATOR: "What's up, everybody? That was the best 'Ultimate-Ish Driven Grand Prix' I've ever seen! Which team was the winner again? Awesome! Could you send the MVP of your group up here?

Communicator has the winning Small Group from the game send their "elected" MVP to the stage. If you choose not to play the opening game, Communicator can bring up a volunteer who wants to help.

"I need your help to drive a real race car . . . controlled by a remote-control, of course! Here's what I need to you to do: in the middle of the room, you'll notice a taped square on the floor. Your job is to steer the remote-controlled car to the center of the taped square in less than 30 seconds. (*To the rest of the group*) While they do that, I need the crowd to cheer them on! Everybody understand? Any questions? Perfect! Let's get to it.

Communicator encourages the volunteer to steer the remote-controlled car into the square in the middle of the room. Communicator is encouraging whether the volunteer achieves the goal or not.

(*To volunteer*) "Excellent job! I'm impressed with your ability to drive under the pressure of having everyone watch you! If you're game, I want to give you one more turn. Only this time, I want you to attempt to drive the race car blindfolded. You'll still need to accomplish this in 30 seconds, but don't worry! You will have help!

"Everyone in the audience has an important job of guiding our driver with their voices. When the driver is far away and moving in the wrong direction, I want the audience to make a low 'ooooh' noise. Whenever the race car moves in the correct direction, the audience should make a high 'ahhh' noise. Audience, it's your responsibility to help the car get to its intended destination. Any questions? Good. Let's drive!

Communicator encourages the audience to make directional "Oh's" and "Ah's". The volunteer does their best effort to get the race car in the taped square. After 30 seconds, Communicator thanks volunteer and dismisses them to their seat.

"Great room effort! Special thanks to our volunteer who was asked to do an impossible task!"

TENSION

COMMUNICATOR: "Driving a remote-controlled car is no easy task. However, adding a room full of people watching you drive with a blindfold adds another level of difficulty. How can you see the car when you're blindfolded? You can't! Driving a remote-controlled car requires you to watch where the car is going. If you're unable to see, you'll have a hard time steering the car in the right direction and avoiding the obstacles.

"You know what? This reminds me of life! When I face difficulties or experience victories, I wish I could see God—like an approving smile or comforting gaze. Sure, we can see God in others. See Jesus through our family and friends. But sometimes it doesn't feel like that's enough. Like I wish I could physically see God. I wish I could have a conversation



with Jesus on the couch. Nothing would be more reassuring than seeing God in moments when I have lot of questions or don't know what to do.

"But what if it was possible to see God? What if you and I could see God every day? How amazing would it be if we were able to see God at our schools or in our homes or at the grocery store or driving through town? How would that change the way we live and approach the circumstances we face?

"Those are some great questions. I have a feeling if we looked at the Bible, we'd find all sorts of people who experienced similar situations with similar questions. The writers of the Bible had all sorts of experiences with God, many of them did have dinner and conversations with Jesus, and many were in the room when the Holy Spirit showed up for the first time. God inspired them to write those moments down for others to learn about and experience God, too. What if because of how they experienced God, we get to experience God's presence, too? Let's check out one of those moments together and find out."

TRUTH

COMMUNICATOR: "We pick up our story in the book of Daniel, near where we left off last week. You might remember how we discussed a time in the history of God's people when they were conquered by the Babylonians. After the victory, the Babylonian King, Nebuchadnezzar, selected several young, bright Israelite men to serve in his court. Four of the men, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, and Daniel, were blessed by God with knowledge and wisdom. After Daniel interpreted a dream for the king, Nebuchadnezzar appointed Daniel to a high position. Upon Daniel's request, his friends were also placed in a high position to help!

"This brings us to today's story! To help bring this part of Israel's history to life, I need some help from several of you. If I call on you to help, simply stand up where you're sitting. First up, we need a king. Would someone like to play the role of King Nebuchadnezzar today?

Communicator selects one volunteer, gives them a crown, and directs them to stand where they were sitting. Nebuchadnezzar volunteer remains standing until story is complete.

"King Nebuchadnezzar was a feared and respected ruler. As a result, when the king spoke, people listened and obeyedeven when King Nebuchadnezzar made some rather extravagant requests. Would anybody like to be a giant statue?

Communicator selects one volunteer and directs them to stand on a step stool where they were sitting. The statue volunteer remains standing until story is complete.

"In the Babylonian culture, it was common to build statues to worship false gods. King Nebuchadnezzar made something HUUUGE! Check this out from Daniel 3.

Open the Bible to Daniel 3:1 (NirV) and read.

"'King Nebuchadnezzar made a gold statue. It was 90 feet tall and 9 feet wide. He set it up on the plain of Dura near the city of Babylon.'

"The king made a statue as tall as a nine-story building out of gold!"

"For the dedication of the statute, the king summoned all the important officials from across the nation. Although Daniel was not present, his close friends, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, were among the guests.



Communicator selects three friends sitting next to each other and directs them to stand where they were sitting. The three will represent Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. The three volunteers remain standing until story is complete.

"Once the people were gathered before the gold statue, an announcement was made telling everyone to fall down and worship the gold statue as soon as the musicians played their instruments.

"Obviously, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego knew God's people should not bow down to anybody or anything except to the one true God. It didn't matter how big or how much gold was used to build the statue! But there was a dilemma! The messenger let the people know that if anybody refused, they would be thrown into a fiery furnace!

"As expected, the sound of the horns, flutes, harps, and pipes blasted, and all people fell down to worship the gold statue. All the people that is except for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Some of the officials noticed and went to Nebuchadnezzar with the news. The king burned with anger at Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and summoned the three to question them face to face!

"While the three stood before the most powerful man in the entire nation, the king explained the decree himself. Nebuchadnezzar said,

Open the Bible to Daniel 3:15 (NIrV) and read.

"'You will hear the horns, flutes, zithers, lyres, harps, pipes and other musical instruments. When you do, fall down and worship the statue I made. If you will, that's very good. But if you won't, you will be thrown at once into a blazing furnace. Then what god will be able to save you from my power?'

"This was a huge moment for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego! If they chose to honor the king, the three would be dishonoring the one true God! Alternatively, if Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego opted not to worship the statue, they would be thrown into a fire! What do you think they did? Let's find out!

"Well, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were unfazed by the threat! They stood before the king and spoke with conviction.

Open the Bible to Daniel 3:16-18 (NIrV) and read.

"'King Nebuchadnezzar, we don't need to talk about this anymore. We might be thrown into the blazing furnace. But the God we serve is able to bring us out of it alive. He will save us from your power. But we want you to know this, Your Majesty. Even if we knew that our God wouldn't save us, we still wouldn't serve your gods. We wouldn't worship the gold statue you set up.'

"WOW! They refused the king's order, right to his face!

"Nebuchadnezzar was seething! Out of his anger, he ordered the furnace to be heated seven times hotter than normal. Some of the king's strongest soldiers bound Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and tossed them into the furnace. The heat from the furnace was so hot, the soldiers who tossed the three into the fire were killed! But what happened next, amazed everyone.



Communicator selects one volunteer sitting next to the three friends representing Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and directs them to stand. This volunteer will represent the fourth man seen in the fire.

"As the king watched Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fire, he stood up shocked at what he saw. Instead of three men tied together, the king saw four men unbound and unharmed walking around the fire! You heard that correctly. There were four men instead of three! Nebuchadnezzar said the fourth man in the fire looked like a son of the gods!

"After the king called the men out of the furnace, he saw the fire did not damage their clothing or harm their bodies. They didn't even smell like smoke! After witnessing this, King Nebuchadnezzar proclaimed,

Open the Bible to Daniel 3:28-29 (NIrV) and read.

25 MINUTES

"'May the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be praised! He has sent his angel and saved his servants. They trusted in him. They refused to obey my command. They were willing to give up their lives. They would rather die than serve or worship any god except their own God. No other god can save people this way. So I'm giving an order about the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. No one may say anything against him. That's true no matter what language they speak. If they say anything against him, they'll be cut to pieces. And their houses will be turned into piles of trash.'

"Then the king elevated the three men's positions in Babylon!"

Communicator instructs volunteers to take a seat.

APPLICATION

COMMUNICATOR: "This is an incredible story of three guys who refused to worship something other than the one, true God! When faced with deadly consequences, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego still chose to take a stand and honor God. As a result, God saved them and stood with the three men while in a furnace burning seven times hotter than normal. In the end of the story, King Nebuchadnezzar saw God in action! He got a glimpse of God's power. As a result, the King of Babylon issued a decree protecting the name of God!

"The reality is that every time we choose to do what's right, others can see God through our words and actions. Every time you choose to give up your gaming controller to let your little brother play while you watch, you're showing God's care! When you have first pick in kickball and you select someone who normally gets picked last, you're showing God's love. Anytime you give up the last piece of pizza to someone else, you're giving others a glimpse of God's generosity.

"However, so much of this starts by following Jesus! When Jesus came to earth, He lived His life with integrity—even when it cost Him something. To see Jesus is to see God since Jesus is God. As we follow Jesus, our life will reflect God and give others the chance to see God working through us. This also happens when other people make wise choices and follow Jesus. We can experience God's comfort and love. When others help us understand how to make the wise choice, they are showing us that God didn't just work in the lives of people in the Bible—God is still working today."

LANDING

COMMUNICATOR: "Think about all the people God has placed in your life. There are friends, coaches, aunts, parents, teachers, small group leaders, and the list goes on. Each one is significant and works to invest in you or care for you. As you think of those people, we want you to consider this question:



SLIDE: KEY QUESTION

"When has someone helped you see God? Although many of those we just mentioned may be the answer to the question, it could be someone you barely know or someone you've never met. If you don't have an answer, no worries. During Small Groups, we'll explore what it could look like for you to help others see God. Before we do, let's pray and thank God for always being with us."

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

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

WORSHIP

STORY

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)

SOCIAL

1. WELCOME/OPENER

PRELUDE

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Host
- PVC pipes cut horizontally-one piece per participant
- Two Matchbox cars
- Two five-gallon buckets

MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

- High-energy music to use as kids enter the room
- Fun, upbeat music for the game

LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Theme Slide
- "The Ultimate-ish Driven Grand Prix" 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[®] 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.

 To play 'The Ultimate-ish Driven Grand Prix,' you'll need to cut a PVC pipe into 12-24" pieces. These pieces should be cut horizontally, creating small tracks for a small car to roll down. After the pieces are cut, consider sanding the edges of the PVC pipes to dull the edges. An alternative to using PVC pipes would be pool noodles. However, if you opt to use pool noodles, test the matchbox cars. If they do not work, consider using a marble or golf ball.

GROUPS

HOME

• For groups to successfully play the game, the participants should be standing shoulder to shoulder with the PVC pieces touching with no gaps! It may take a minute for groups to get this correct. The first group to get their matchbox car in the bucket wins. Host should be commentating and adding humor to the game.

2. WORSHIP

WHAT YOU NEED:

Worship Leader(s)

MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

- "Lift My Voice" from Can't Stop Won't Stop
- "Sing Your Praise" 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 "Sing Your Praise.")
- "What I Choose" from Make a Move

OPTIONAL VIDEOS (AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE):

- "Lift My Voice" Live Lyrics or Dance Moves Music Video (available through Store.ThinkOrange.com)
- *Live Loud* Video from *Get Reel* (available through the 252 Media Package)
- "Sing Your Praise" Live Lyrics Video (available through Store.ThinkOrange.com) or Dance Moves Music Video (available through Store.ThinkOrange.com or the 252 Media Package)
- "What I Choose" Live Lyrics or Dance Moves Music Video (available through Store.ThinkOrange.com)

WHAT YOU DO:

• Download all songs and have them ready to use.



GETTING READY

STORY

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

WORSHIP

• Dance Moves Music Videos and Live Lyrics Videos are available for many Orange Kids Music songs. For more information, visit Store.ThinkOrange.com.

SOCIAL

 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
- One kid volunteer (remote-control car racer)
- Carpet tape or painter's tape
- One remote-controlled car

PRELUDE

- One blindfold
- One crown
- One step stool
- Six kid volunteers (helping tell the story)

MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

• High-energy music to use as kids exit the room

LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Theme Background Slide
- Key Question Slide

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[®] and have it ready to play.
- Prior to kids' arrival, tape a 3'x3' square in the center of the large group space. Test the remote-controlled car to make sure the car can be driven to the square from the stage.

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.

GROUPS

HOME

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