



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Family Ties
Ruth and Naomi
Ruth 1-2

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Be kind to the people
closest to you.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"You are God's chosen people.
You are holy and dearly loved.
So put on tender mercy and
kindness as if they were your
clothes. Don't be proud.
Be gentle and patient."
Colossians 3:12, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Kindness—Showing others they are
valuable by how you treat them

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.

Scripture

BIBLE STORY

Ruth and Naomi Ruth 1-2

- Ruth 1:16
- Ruth 2:2
- Ruth 2:20

3. BIBLE STORY

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Storyteller
- Bible
- Table
- Large prop box containing:
 - Picnic basket
 - Paper map (the actual location doesn't matter)
 - Walking stick
 - Lots of artificial wheat stalks
 - Umbrella
 - Water bottle (full of water)
 - Baby doll, wrapped in a blanket

Host

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Host
- Printed script
- The actual items for the game, if possible (you can hold them up instead of showing them on screen):
 - Hiking boots
 - Camp stove
 - Carabiner
 - Trekking poles
 - Compass
 - Headlamp
 - Camping water filter (i.e. the kind with tubes)
 - Multi-tool



GEAR UP

AN ADVENTURE IN KINDNESS



WEEK
TWO
FEBRUARY 2024

LARGE GROUP
K-3

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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Ruth 1-2

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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 KIDS ENTER.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

Host enters.

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

OPENER

HOST: "Hello, friends! I'm so excited that you're here at [name of your environment]. All month long we're talking about how we can 'gear up' with kindness.

SLIDE: VIRTUE

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME TRANSITION TO VIRTUE

"Kindness is **showing others they are valuable by how you treat them.**

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): VIRTUE TRANSITION TO THEME

"You see, each and every person in the world is unique and special. God loves each one of us more than we can imagine. And that's why kindness is so important! When we're kind to other people, we can actually SHOW them how valuable they are. We can help them see how much they matter to us, and to God. So we need to 'gear up' and be ready to show kindness to everyone we meet!

"I've got another fun game for us to play today where you'll try to 'Guess the Gear.' If you've ever been camping or been in the outdoors, some of this gear may look familiar to you!

"We'll put a picture of an item on the screen. I'll give you two choices of what the item is called, and you'll turn and face one direction or the other to make your choice of what you think the answer might be. Let's get started!

AUDIO: FUN INSTRUMENTAL BLUEGRASS MUSIC

SLIDE: GAME IMAGE 1 (HIKING BOOTS)



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Note: If you own (or can borrow) the actual items and can hold them up rather than putting them on screen—even better!

"If you think these are called hiking boots, turn this way. (Point to the wall on the kids' left.) And if you think they're called 'foot gloves,' turn this way. (Point to the wall on the kids' right.)

Give the kids some time to make their choice.

"You are all so brilliant! They're definitely hiking boots. Okay, let's keep going!

SLIDE: GAME IMAGE 2 (CAMP STOVE)

Play the game the same way for all the rounds, moving quickly. Use the printed script for reference as you announce the name choices for each item. For this item, give the kids the choice between a camp stove and a "camping record player."

SLIDE: GAME IMAGE 3 (CARABINER)

For this round, give the kids the choice between a carabiner and "Mr. Clippy." Explain that you use a carabiner to clip onto ropes when you're rock climbing.

SLIDE: GAME IMAGE 4 (TREKKING POLES)

For this round, give the kids the choice between trekking poles and "ski scepters." Explain that you use trekking poles for balance, especially when you're on rocky or slippery ground.

SLIDE: GAME IMAGE 5 (COMPASS)

For this round, give the kids the choice between a compass and a "direction-ator." Explain that you use a compass to find your way if you get lost.

SLIDE: GAME IMAGE 6 (HEADLAMP)

For this round, give the kids the choice between a headlamp and a "lighty brighty." Explain that you wear the headlamp on your head so you can shine the light while using your hands for other things.

SLIDE: GAME IMAGE 7 (WATER FILTER)

For this round, give the kids the choice between a water filter and a "tubey-tubey-pump-a-rooney." Explain that you use a water filter to clean water and make it drinkable.

SLIDE: GAME IMAGE 8 (MULTI-TOOL)

For this round, give the kids the choice between a multi-tool and a "corky-drivey-ply-o-grabber." Explain that a multi-tool has lots of different tools in one, which is handy when you're out in nature.



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SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

“Nice work, everyone! Raise your hand if you knew about all of those kinds of gear already. *(Pause for response.)* Raise your hand if some of those were new for you. *(Pause for response.)* There’s a lot of really helpful gear out there to help us enjoy the outdoors!”

“Now let’s ‘gear up’ for some super-fun worship songs. Are you ready to sing and dance? *(Pause for response.)* Great! Everyone up on your feet.”



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WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Hello, everyone! When I look around this room, I see family. You're my brothers and my sisters. We are the family of God. And Jesus has told us to love one another. We can do that by showing kindness. Let's sing this song together about what Jesus told us all to do: 'Love One Another.' Let's go!"

AUDIO: "LOVE ONE ANOTHER" / TRACK 7 FROM MAKE A MOVE

OPTIONAL VIDEO: "LOVE ONE ANOTHER" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

"That's so good! We can love the people around us with the kind of love God has given to us. Before we continue in worship, let's watch this.

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

"Last week we taught you a song called 'Your Love.' Wave your hand at me today if you're thankful for God's love. (Get a reaction.) Yes! I'm so grateful for the love and kindness God gives us. As we read in Psalm 116:5: 'The Lord is holy and kind. Our God is full of tender love.' (NirV) Let's show honor to God together as we sing in worship."

AUDIO: "YOUR LOVE" / TRACK 7 FROM MY LIFE FOR YOU

OPTIONAL VIDEO: "YOUR LOVE" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO



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BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.

Storyteller: Put the prop box on the table.

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "Hello, everyone! Today we're looking at a story in the Old Testament (*hold up Bible*), in the book of Ruth.

"This took place after God had led the Israelites out of Egypt, into the wilderness, and finally to the land that God had promised to them.

Pick up the picnic basket.

"But even when God's people were living there in the Promised Land, they still experienced times when there was very little rain and not enough food.

Open the picnic basket and hold it upside down to show that it's empty. Then set the basket on the table.

"During one of these times, a man named Elimelek and his wife, Naomi, moved to the land of Moab where there was more food.

Open the paper map, and point with your finger to a place on the map.

"Elimelek and Naomi had two sons who both married women from Moab. After a few years, sadly, the father and both of the sons died. That meant the three women—Naomi, Orpah, and Ruth—were left on their own."

RUTH STAYS WITH NAOMI

STORYTELLER: "Naomi heard that God had provided food in her homeland, so she decided to travel back to Bethlehem, which was her hometown.

Hold up the map again, and point to a different place on the map.

"At first, Orpah and Ruth traveled along with Naomi. But Naomi told the two of them to go back home to their families. She thanked them for being kind to her family, and she asked God to be kind to them as well.

"At first, Orpah and Ruth didn't want to leave Naomi. Eventually, Orpah did what Naomi had said and left to go home to her family. But Ruth chose to stay with Naomi. She said:

Set down the map. Open the Bible to Ruth 1:16 (NirV) and read.

"Don't try to make me leave you and go back. Where you go I'll go. Where you stay I'll stay. Your people will be my people. Your God will be my God." (NirV)



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“Naomi could see that Ruth had made up her mind. So together, the two women kept traveling toward Naomi’s homeland, Bethlehem.”

Hold up the walking stick and walk in place for a few steps.

RUTH COLLECTS GRAIN

STORYTELLER: “Naomi and Ruth made it to Bethlehem, and Naomi told everyone what had happened to her husband and sons.

Set down the walking stick.

“In Bethlehem, it was harvest time, which meant that people were collecting the grain in the fields.

Hold up the bundle of artificial wheat stalks. Place most of the stalks in the picnic basket on the table.

“But they didn’t collect ALL of the grain. You see, God had made a law back then that reminded people to help those who were in need. God’s law said that when people collected grain during the harvest, they should always leave some grain behind for their neighbors to gather if they needed it.

Set two or three wheat stalks on the floor next to the table.

“Ruth saw a way that she could show kindness to Naomi. She said to Naomi:

Open the Bible to Ruth 2:2 (NIRV) and read.

“Let me go out to the fields. I’ll pick up the grain that has been left. I’ll do it behind anyone who is pleased with me.” (NIRV)

“Naomi agreed. And she must have been very, very thankful! So, Ruth worked hard in the heat of the day, following behind the harvesters and picking up the grain that was left behind.

As you talk, pick up the stalks from the floor and hold them in your arms.

“She only stopped once to rest in the shade.

Open the umbrella and hold it over your head.

“As Ruth continued to gather grain, the owner of the field, Boaz, arrived.

Close the umbrella. Set the umbrella and the loose grain stalks on the table.

THE KINDNESS OF BOAZ

STORYTELLER: “Boaz asked the man in charge of the workers who Ruth was. The man told him she had come back from Moab with Naomi. Boaz already knew Naomi, because her husband was part of Boaz’s family.

Pick up one of the loose wheat stalks from the table.



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“Boaz told Ruth she could stay and gather grain, and that she could even get a drink if she was thirsty.

Pick up the water bottle and take a quick sip.

“Ruth asked Boaz why he was being so kind to her. Boaz told her that he had heard about her kindness to Naomi, and how she had left her own country to stay with Naomi. Boaz talked to his workers and asked them to make sure they left extra grain behind for Ruth.

Set the water bottle on the table, and pick up the other loose wheat stalks.

“At the end of the day, Naomi was amazed to see how much grain Ruth had gathered! Naomi asked where Ruth had gathered it, and Ruth said that it had been in the field belonging to Boaz.

“Naomi said:

Set down the wheat stalks. Open the Bible to Ruth 2:20 (NIRV) and read.

“May the Lord bless him! . . . That man is a close relative of ours. He’s one of our family protectors.” (NIRV)

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “Ruth continued to gather grain from Boaz’s fields. In time, Ruth and Boaz were married . . . and they had a son named Obed.

Pick up the baby doll and hold it in your arms.

“Obed ended up being the grandfather of King David . . . and part of the family line of Jesus!

Set the baby doll back into the prop box. Move in front of the table as you wrap up.

“Think of all the examples of kindness we just heard. Ruth showed kindness to Naomi by staying with her as she traveled back to Bethlehem. Ruth also showed kindness by gathering food to take care of Naomi. And that’s not all! Boaz showed kindness to Ruth by letting her gather grain in his field.

“This story reminds us how important kindness can be. Sometimes we forget to be kind to the people who are closest to us—like our close friends and family. But the truth is, our kindness to our friends and family matters a LOT. It can make a big, big difference.

“Remember:

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

“Be kind to the people closest to you.

“Let’s pray and ask God to help us do that.”

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND



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PRAY

STORYTELLER: "God, thank You for the story of Naomi, Ruth, and Boaz. Thank You for reminding us how important it is to be kind to everyone—including the people closest to us. Sometimes it feels easier to be kind to people we barely know than it is to be kind to a brother or sister who frustrates us. So help us remember to ask for Your help so that we can kind. Help us to **[Basic Truth] treat others the way we want to be treated.** We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."



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CLOSER

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

HOST: "I love hearing how Ruth showed kindness to Naomi. Ruth could have gone home to her family and been taken care of. But she chose to love and serve Naomi. Ruth's kindness showed Naomi that she was important and valuable, and that God cared for her.

"In the end, it's pretty cool to think that Ruth ended up as part of Jesus' family tree!

"Here's what we need to think about today:

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

"Be kind to the people closest to you.

"Sometimes it can feel easier to be kind to friends—or even strangers—than it is to be kind to our families. We see our family members all the time, so it's natural that we feel frustrated or annoyed with them from time to time. But even when we feel that way, we can STILL choose kindness.

"Maybe it's as simple as not trying to get the last word when you're having a little argument with your brother or sister. You can just *(take a breath)* . . . let it go.

"Or maybe just say thank-you to your mom or dad or grandparent when you sit down to dinner. They took the time to cook for you, and it would make them feel so good to know you appreciate their hard work!

"Sometimes we might even disagree with our close friends, or we might say something that hurts their feelings. We can show kindness by saying we're sorry, and showing them that their friendship is important to us.

"Let's say our Memory Verse, Colossians 3:12."

SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE

HOST AND KIDS: *You are God's chosen people. You are holy and dearly loved. So put on tender mercy and kindness as if they were your clothes. Don't be proud. Be gentle and patient. (NirV)*

HOST: "There it is—*Be gentle and patient.* That's how you bring kindness to your relationships with everyone, including the people who are closest to you. You can head to Small Group now and talk some more about Ruth's amazing example of kindness!"

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

monthly worship song are included in the package. For more information, visit Store.ThinkOrange.com.

and direct telling of the Bible story by a professional Storyteller.

3. BIBLE STORY

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Storyteller
- Bible
- Table
- Large prop box containing:
 - Picnic basket
 - Paper map (the actual location doesn't matter)
 - Walking stick
 - Lots of artificial wheat stalks
 - Umbrella
 - Water bottle (full of water)
 - Baby doll, wrapped in a blanket

LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Theme Background Slide
- Bottom Line 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.

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.

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

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 (Melv and Greg)
- 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