

# Bright Side: Find the Light in the Dark

WEEK  
**ONE**

APRIL 2019

GRADES  
**K-5**

STARTER

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

# 252 KIDS

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**PRELUDE**

**SOCIAL**

**STORY**

**WORSHIP**

**GROUPS**

**HOME**

## BIBLE STORY

**You Raise Me Up**  
Lazarus Raised  
John 11:1-45

## MEMORY VERSE

**"In this world you will have trouble.  
But be encouraged! I have won  
the battle over the world."**  
John 16:33b, NIV

## LIFE APP

**Hope—Believing that  
something good can come  
out of something bad**

## BOTTOM LINE

**Whatever happens, remember  
how powerful God is.**

## BASIC TRUTH

**I can trust God no matter what.**

### PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

For Leaders Only  
Create the Environment  
Monthly Overview

**15**  
MIN

### SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arriver  
Out and In

**25**  
MIN

### STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Welcome/Opener  
Worship  
Communication  
Prayer

**10**  
MIN

### WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

"You Are My Hope" from *Every Beat*  
"Enough for Us" from *Every Beat*

**25**  
MIN

### GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

All the Feels  
God's Power Game  
He's Got the Whole World  
Prayer

### HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

GodTime  
Parent Cue

## GETTING READY

### SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION

CHOOSE ONE OR BOTH OF THESE ACTIVITIES.

#### EARLY ARRIVER

*Made to Move:* an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- An offering container

#### OUT AND IN

*Made to Play:* an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Boxes of tissues; one for each pair of kids

### STORY: COMMUNICATING GOD'S TRUTH IN ENGAGING WAYS

#### OPENER/CLOSER

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Leader
- One kid volunteer
- Colorful masking tape (glow-in-the-dark, if possible)
- Bright LED flashlight
- Blindfold

##### MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS (SFX):

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room

##### LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Theme Slide
- Hope Slide
- Blank Bottom Line Slide
- Bottom Line Slide
- Blank Memory Verse Slide
- Memory Verse Slide

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

- Theme Loop

- Countdown (30- or 60-second version)
- Theme
- Theme Transition to Life App
- Life App Transition to Theme

##### WHAT YOU DO:

- Download and print this week's tech sheet for everyone helping with Large Group.
- Download the slides and have them ready to use. If you do not have CG capabilities, you have Orange's permission to enlarge and print the slides on paper.
- Download the music from a resource such as iTunes® and have it ready to play.
- 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).
- Figure out a plan to make your room as dark as possible this month, as you'll be playing several games that require a dark room. Consider covering windows with dark craft paper or pipe and drape.
- Use the tape to make a wide maze throughout the room. You want it long enough and narrow enough to be challenging and fun, but wide enough that kids won't immediately step out of bounds.
- For years, Orange has established an ongoing partnership with Compassion International. This spring, we're pleased to be able to support Compassion in its mission—releasing children from poverty in Jesus' name—with the "Live Compassion" initiative. Please continue to remind your kids and families that through Compassion, we can bring the hope of Jesus to children in need. If you've already signed up at [compassion.com/orange](http://compassion.com/orange), you've received Live Compassion Prayer Cards for every family in your ministry, and your families have been receiving weekly prompts with specific prayer requests for their Compassion child. They will also have the opportunity to sponsor the child if they desire. If you haven't signed up for this specific

## GETTING READY, CONTINUED

initiative, you can still direct families to compassion.com and encourage them to consider sponsoring a child in need. For design assets and promotional materials, be sure to check the “Live Compassion” folder under your curriculum downloads. Also, be sure to plan a Compassion Sunday in May so you can share your experiences with your whole church. You can find more information at [compassionsunday.com](http://compassionsunday.com).

### BIBLE STORY

#### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Leader
- Bible
- Table
- Broom
- Prop box containing:
  - Bible
  - Giant notepad (memo pad style), with the note already written in (see “What You Do”)
  - Messenger cap
  - Messenger bag
  - “Joe” nametag
  - Box of tissues
  - Clothespin

#### LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Blank Bottom Line Slide
- Bottom Line Slide

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Download the slides and have them ready to use. If you do not have CG capabilities, you have Orange’s permission to enlarge and print the slides on paper.
- Place the table on the stage, but out of the way for the Opener and Worship. Place the prop box and broom on the table.
- Write the following note on one of the pages in the notepad: “Lord, the one you love is sick. Love, Mary and Martha.”

### WORSHIP

#### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Leader(s)

#### MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS (SFX):

- “You Are My Hope” from *Every Beat*
- “Enough for Us” from *Every Beat*

#### OPTIONAL VIDEOS (AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE):

- “You Are My Hope” Dance Moves Music Video (available through the 252 Media Package)

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Download all songs (available on [AmberSkyRecords.com](http://AmberSkyRecords.com)) and have them ready to use. *Note: Make sure your church has obtained licensing rights to play or perform music. You can obtain a license to perform worship music from Christian Copyright Licensing International ([www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com)). It covers over 200,000 worship songs for congregational singing. You are responsible for including the copyright information on all songs reproduced under the Church Copyright License (including song lyrics projected onscreen). This includes the song title, writer credit(s), copyright notice, and your church’s CCLI license number. You can include this information on one of the lyric slides, or you can create a separate slide detailing this information, but the copyright information must appear at least once for each song you play or perform. For example:*
  - “Hallelujah” words and music by John Doe
  - ©2000 Good Music Co.
  - CCLI License # 0000
- A 252 Media Package is available for purchase to go along with each curriculum tier. The Dance Moves Music Video for the monthly worship song is included in the package. For more information, visit [Store.ThinkOrange.com](http://Store.ThinkOrange.com).

## GETTING READY, CONTINUED

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

**FEATURE PRESENTATION:** Creative video options designed to pair with the 252 Kids and 252 Preteen curriculum.

*Available for purchase through Store.ThinkOrange.com.*

Our Large Group scripts are interchangeable with these videos so you can plug and play the way you need to each week.

#### Included in Feature Presentation:

- 252 Story brings you the Bible story in a simple and direct way through a professional Storyteller accompanied by engaging visuals.
- Intro and Outro videos set up the Bible story and then connect it to the weekly Bottom Line. These videos are interchangeable with the live Opener and Closer, so you can use them to bookend either a live Storyteller or 252 Story.

**GET REEL 2.0:** Videos and graphics to enhance your environment for kids and inspire key faith skills.

*Available for purchase separately or through the tiered 252 Media Package.*

#### Included in Get Reel 2.0:

- Faith skills videos to use 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)
- Graphic motion loops with the theme and Life App.
- Themed audio transitions to help you move between segments in your production
- An M.C. Haggis video to help promote the monthly widget
- . . . and more!

#### WIDGET\*: HOPE SWITCH

##### \* WIDGET [WIJ-IT] – NOUN

1. Something unspecific whose name is either forgotten or not known.
2. A device that is very useful for a particular job  
*Origin:* 1925–30; perhaps an alternative form of gadget

Mistakes. Bad news. Tough relationships. Some days the shadows make it tough to look on the bright side. That's when you need some help to find the light in the dark! This glow-in-the-dark light switch cover can remind families that nothing can take away the hope we have in Jesus. Whatever happens, we can choose to believe that something good can come out of something bad.

### GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

#### CHOOSE AS MANY OF THESE ACTIVITIES AS YOU LIKE.

*\* If you don't have time to do all these activities, be sure to do activity #1.*

#### \* 1. ALL THE FEELS

##### [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

*Made to Imagine:* an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "All the Feels Cards" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart; one set for each kid
- Print the "All the Feels Story" Activity Page; one for each small group
- Crayons, colored pencils, or markers

#### 2. GOD'S POWER GAME

##### [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

*Made to Play:* an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

## GETTING READY, CONTINUED

- Red, green, blue, and yellow construction paper; about 10 sheets of each color
- Red, green, blue, and yellow party hats
- Print the “Game Cards” Activity Page on cardstock, cut apart, and shuffle; one set for each small group
- Masking tape
- Oversized or inflatable dice
- Bible
- Set out the construction paper on the floor of your small group area in a giant circle, each color of paper forming  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the circle. This will be a life-sized, circular game board.

### 3. HE'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD

#### [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

*Made to Move:* an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

#### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bibles
- A globe beach ball, a globe plush toy, or a globe drawn on a blue balloon

### PRAYER

#### [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

*Made to Reflect:* an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

#### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Globe from earlier activity
- *Optional:* Music player and a version of the song “He’s Got the Whole World In His Hands”

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week’s GodTime and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resources: **Studio252.tv** and the **Parent Cue** app.

## BIBLE STORY

**You Raise Me Up**  
Lazarus Raised  
John 11:1-45

## MEMORY VERSE

**"In this world you will have trouble.  
But be encouraged! I have won  
the battle over the world."**  
John 16:33b, NIV

## LIFE APP

**Hope—Believing that  
something good can come  
out of something bad**

## BOTTOM LINE

**Whatever happens, remember  
how powerful God is.**

## BASIC TRUTH

**I can trust God no matter what.**



## MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

*Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray that the abstract concept of God's power would start to make sense in kids' hearts. Ask God to help kids understand that they can take comfort in His ultimate power and in the knowledge that no matter what happens, He is always there for them. Pray that God would continue to put people in your kids' lives who can guide them to His presence.*

### 1. EARLY ARRIVER IDEA

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Offering container

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids to small group and show them where to put their offerings.
- As they get settled, ask the group some questions. What is one superpower they would like to have? What problems would they be able to solve with it?
- Use a few of their answers to start a game of "Four Corners."
- Designate a corner of your small group space for each group to run to, and then call out superpowers.
  - For example, the kids that would choose invisibility could run to the corner near the table; those who want to fly can run to the far corner; kids who choose super strength can gather by the door, and those who would have mega-smarts can run to the table.
- If time allows, play with some other categories: favorite meal (tacos, hamburgers, pizza, pasta); favorite character (Iron Man, Queen Elsa, Mr. Incredible, JoJo Siwa); favorite school subject (math, reading, science, art); etc. Play these until it's time to move to the next activity
- For older kids, let one or two of them have a chance to call out the categories.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

15 MINUTES

## BIBLE STORY

**You Raise Me Up**  
Lazarus Raised  
John 11:1-45

## MEMORY VERSE

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## LIFE APP

**Hope—Believing that  
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## BOTTOM LINE

**Whatever happens, remember  
how powerful God is.**

## BASIC TRUTH

**I can trust God no matter what.**



## PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

## 2. OUT AND IN

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Boxes of tissues

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Create pairs within your group, and give each pair a box of tissues.
- On "Go," they have to take turns and pull as many tissues out of their box as they can in one minute with one hand.
- Then time the pairs for a minute as they try to put as many tissues as possible back into the box.
- If you have extra boxes, let kids try to beat their time.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Those tissue boxes were no match for your speed and skill! **[Transition]**

**Let's go to Large Group to hear about people who saw that their troubles were no match for our powerful God."**

*Lead your group to the Large Group area.*

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

## BIBLE STORY

**You Raise Me Up**  
Lazarus Raised  
John 11:1-45

Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

**SFX: Play high-energy music as kids enter.**

**CG: Theme Slide**

**Optional Video (Media Package): Theme Loop**

## MEMORY VERSE

**"In this world you will have trouble.  
But be encouraged! I have won  
the battle over the world."**  
John 16:33b, NIV

*Leader enters, carrying a bright LED flashlight (turned off).*

**Optional Video (Media Package): Countdown (30- or 60-second version)**

**Optional Video (Media Package): Theme**

## LIFE APP

**Hope—Believing that  
something good can come  
out of something bad**

## OPENER

**LEADER:** "Hey, everyone! Welcome to another great day in [your environment's name]. I love seeing you all here today, and it's easy to do that because we have . . . LIGHT! (*Look up at the overhead lights.*) But what happens when the lights go off?"

*Turn off the room lights.*

"Well, then we have to look harder to FIND the light, don't we?"

*Turn on the flashlight and shine it on your face from underneath, like you're telling a story around a campfire.*

## BOTTOM LINE

**Whatever happens, remember  
how powerful God is.**

"Sometimes life can feel dark or scary—like someone turned out all the lights. But the good news is, we don't have to sit there in the darkness. We can find the light in the dark. We can find hope!"

## BASIC TRUTH

**I can trust God no matter what.**

**CG: Hope Slide**

**Optional Video (Media Package): Theme Transition to Life App**

**"Hope is believing that something good can come out of something bad.**

**CG: Theme Slide**

**Optional Video (Media Package): Life App Transition to Theme**

"I've got a fun way for us to do that today. You might have noticed the maze on the floor. Do any of you think you can make your way through this maze without stepping on the tape, while blindfolded? Whoa! That sounds pretty tricky, but it's not impossible, because I've got my super-strong flashlight to guide you. I'll shine it toward you and you can follow me as I move backward. All you need to do is follow the light. Who wants to find the light in the dark?"

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

*Choose a kid with her hand raised. Blindfold the kid and walk her to the starting point.*

"The rest of you, it's your job to make sure that [kid's name] doesn't step on the tape, because if she touches the tape, she's out and it's the next person's turn. You can also help guide her by making some noise. If you see [kid's name] getting close to the tape, make a beeping sound. Let's practice.

*Let the kids practice beeping.*

"Okay, I think you've got it down. Let's get started!

*Stand in front of the kid volunteer and hold the flashlight. Shine it toward her so she can "follow the light" as you guide her through the maze. This may be a little chaotic, as she won't really be able to see where she's going, but the humor will come from you trying to guide her. If she steps on the tape, and if time allows, you can bring another kid up to try. Depending on how long it takes, you can allow as many kids to try the maze as time allows.*

"Wow! It was a bit challenging finding the light in the dark, but you rocked it! Now everyone jump up, because it's time to celebrate our God who always gives us hope."

*Turn on the room lights.*

## WORSHIP

LEADER: "There, that's better! It's tough to find your way around a dark room. Sometimes life can feel dark, too—like when we're scared or worried. In those times, remember God is with you! He can light up the dark. He can help us face our fears by giving us the courage we need. We can **[Basic Truth] trust Him no matter what**, because He is our hope! Let's worship Him together.

**SFX: "You Are My Hope" / track 8 from Every Beat**

"In Psalm 16:5, it says: *Lord, you alone are everything I need. You make my life secure (NirV).* We can have hope in God, because He's promised that He will be with us. He is all we need, so let's keep worshipping Him together.

**SFX: "Enough for Us" / track 7 from Every Beat**

"I always love singing songs to God with you! You can have a seat."

*Move the table out to the middle of the stage so you can access the props.*

## STORY

### SETTING UP THE STORY

LEADER: "When Jesus was on the earth, He had a lot of followers. Most people followed Jesus because they wanted to learn from Him, to be healed, or to see someone ELSE be healed.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

“But the religious leaders followed Jesus for a different reason. They wanted to trap Him. Why? Because they liked being in charge. They were jealous that the people liked Jesus so much. They didn’t like how Jesus made it so simple: that we should love God and love others. On top of that, Jesus was claiming to be God’s Son! The religious leaders were so angry that they tried to arrest Jesus several times. They tried to trick Him with their questions, and they even wanted to throw stones at Him. So Jesus left Jerusalem and went across the Jordan River.

“Meanwhile, something else was going on with some of Jesus’ friends. I thought I’d act it out for you. Let’s pretend I’m one of the characters in the story, okay? I’ll be the messenger.”

*Turn around so your back is facing the kids. Put on the messenger cap and messenger bag and grab the large notepad.*

## NEWS ABOUT LAZARUS

**LEADER:** “The Bible doesn’t say what my name was, but let’s pretend it was . . . Joe. *(Put on the nametag)*. I was most likely a servant in the house of Mary, her sister Martha, and their brother Lazarus. The three of them lived in the town of Bethany, near Jerusalem.

“One day, Lazarus got sick—really, really sick. But Mary and Martha knew that Jesus could heal him, so they sent me with a message to tell Jesus. *(Hold up the notepad.)* But remember—Jesus had just left Jerusalem because the religious leaders wanted to get Him, so I had quite a ways to go.

*Grab the broom, while still holding the notepad, and pretend to ride the broom like a horse across the stage (or across part of the room). Then drop the broom and face the audience.*

“All right! I made it. Once I found Jesus on the other side of the Jordan River, I gave Him the message from Mary and Martha. *(Reading from the notepad)* ‘Lord, . . . the one you love is sick *(John 11:3, NIV)*. Love, Mary and Martha.’

“I was surprised by Jesus’ response when I gave Him the message. Actually, it’s pretty cool because John wrote it down in the Bible *(hold up Bible)* so you could hear it. Listen to what Jesus said about Lazarus.

*Open the Bible to John 11:4 (NIV) and read.*

*“This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God’s glory. God’s Son will receive glory because of it.”*

“That was all Jesus had to say, and He didn’t say He was coming to SEE Lazarus. So I figured when I got back, Lazarus would be all better. I traveled all the way back home.

*Put down the notepad. Grab the broom and pretend to ride it back across the stage (or room) toward the table with the props. Then drop the broom and face the audience.*

“I wasn’t there with Jesus to see what happened next, but apparently, He decided to stay where He was for a couple of days. Then He told His disciples that He wanted to head back to Judea. The disciples weren’t sure that was such a good idea, because that was where just a few days earlier, the religious leaders had wanted to throw stones at Jesus. But Jesus told His disciples something really interesting.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

*Open the Bible to John 11:11 (NirV) and read.*

*“He said: “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep. But I am going there to wake him up.”*

*“Then Jesus went on to explain that Lazarus wasn’t asleep—as in sleeping. Lazarus had actually DIED. This is how I heard that Jesus explained it to His disciples:*

*Open the Bible to John 11:14-15 (NirV) and read.*

*“Lazarus is dead. For your benefit, I am glad I was not there. Now you will believe. But let us go to him.”*

## JESUS ARRIVES

**LEADER:** “As you can imagine, everyone was so sad that Lazarus had died. People came from all around Bethany to comfort Mary and Martha. By the time Jesus and His disciples actually arrived in Bethany, Lazarus had been buried in the tomb for four days!

*“When Martha heard Jesus was approaching, she went out to meet Him. She said:*

*Open the Bible to John 11:21 (NirV) and read.*

*“Lord . . . I wish you had been here! Then my brother would not have died. But I know that even now God will give you anything you ask for.*

*“Martha was brave and truthful. I always liked that about her. But Jesus had an interesting response. He told her Lazarus would rise again. He said:*

*Open the Bible to John 11:25-26 (NirV) and read.*

*“I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even if they die. And whoever lives by believing in me will never die.”*

*“Then Jesus wanted to talk to Mary, so Martha went to get her. Mary had the same thing to say to Jesus—that if He had been there, Lazarus wouldn’t have died! She cried a lot at Jesus’ feet. It was hard to see. Even Jesus started crying.*

*Hold up the box of tissues.*

*“We went through a lot of these that day.*

*“The sisters weren’t the only ones who felt this way, though. Other people were whispering the same thing. If Jesus could make a blind man see, couldn’t He have healed Lazarus? It didn’t make sense. How could He let this happen to His friend?”*

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

## LAZARUS IS RAISED

**LEADER:** “Jesus came to the tomb. It was like a cave with a stone in front. Jesus said to take away the stone, and we were like, ‘Ummmm, are you sure that’s a good idea?’ Remember, Lazarus had been dead for four days now. And not to gross you out, but, um, that was NOT going to smell very good. Martha pointed that out to Jesus, but He said this.

*Open the Bible to John 11:40 (NirV) and read.*

“Didn’t I tell you that if you believe, you will see God’s glory?”

“So we all covered our noses . . .

*Pick up the clothespin and put it on your nose.*

“. . . and they took the stone away.

*Act like you’re rolling a giant (imaginary) stone. Then you can take the clothespin off your nose before you continue.*

“Jesus prayed to God, and then He said, ‘Lazarus, come out!’ (John 11:43 NirV) And THEN (widen your eyes and gasp) Lazarus walked right out of the tomb! Jesus told the people to remove the strips of linen and the cloths he was buried in and let him go.

“It was amazing. It was astounding. It was astonishing. Start spreadin’ the news, people: Lazarus was ALIVE!”

*Turn around with your back to the audience and remove all your messenger props. Turn back around as yourself.*

## WRAPPING UP THE STORY

**LEADER:** “Wow! That was really fun to pretend to be the messenger in that amazing, true story John shared about Lazarus. I love that story because Jesus proved what He had been telling the religious leaders. He proved that He could do the works of God, who is more powerful than anything—even death!

“When Mary and Martha sent the message to Jesus, they probably figured Jesus would come back immediately and heal their brother. But Jesus knew more than they did. He knew that He would be able to show God’s power in an even bigger way if He allowed Lazarus to die and THEN brought him back to life.

“When you and I are going through hard or unexpected things, we need to remember that God has a bigger plan. Whatever happens, remind yourself that God is bigger than you and He knows WAY more. That doesn’t mean you’ll always be able to understand why things happen the way they do. It doesn’t mean tough times won’t be tough. But it does mean that you can trust God, even in the middle of those tough situations. He loves you. He knows what you’re going through. **[Basic Truth] You can trust Him no matter what.**

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

**CG: Bottom Line Slide**

**“Whatever happens, remember how powerful God is.**

**CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide**

“Let’s pray.”

## PRAY

**LEADER:** “Dear God, it’s so good to remember that You made us, You love us, and You care about what happens to us. We know that You are more powerful than anything in this world. Help us to remember that no matter what happens, You are in control. Help us to trust You and remember that You have a good plan for our lives. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

## CLOSER

**LEADER:** “Mary and Martha expected Jesus to heal their sick brother, Lazarus. But Jesus was too late . . . or at least that’s how it seemed. So Lazarus died. But it turned that out God had a different plan—a plan to show the world how powerful He is by bringing Lazarus back from the dead!

“Sometimes the hard things we go through may not be as big as what Lazarus faced, but they’re still hard. Maybe you didn’t get the part you wanted in the school play, or your team didn’t win the championship. Maybe you’re in the dark during a loud, scary thunderstorm. Or maybe it’s something really big, like what Lazarus and his sisters had to face. No matter what it is—no matter how big or small—God is more powerful than it all.

**CG: Bottom Line Slide**

**“Whatever happens, remember how powerful God is. Say that with me.”**

**LEADER AND KIDS: “Whatever happens, remember how powerful God is.”**

**LEADER:** “Let’s say it a couple of more times, like we REALLY mean it.”

**LEADER AND KIDS: “Whatever happens, remember how powerful God is.”**

**LEADER:** “Again!”

**LEADER AND KIDS: “Whatever happens, remember how powerful God is.”**

**CG: Blank Memory Verse Slide**

# 252 KIDS

WEEK  
**ONE**

APRIL 2019

GRADES

**K-5**

STARTER

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

**LEADER:** “Yes! I want all of us to leave here with those words echoing in our ears. I believe it will change how we respond to any hard situation, when we really believe that our God is more powerful than anything we face. In fact, if you’ve never memorized one of our monthly verses before, this is the month that I would challenge you to do it!

“This is something Jesus said to His friends. You can find it in John 16:33. Check it out.

**CG: Memory Verse Slide**

*“In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world,”* John 16:33b (NirV).

“You see? Even when we face hard things in life, we can still trust that Jesus is in control.

“Now let’s head off to Small Group and have some more fun talking about our powerful God!”

*We suggest giving your kids and families a tangible way to bring hope to those in need, by encouraging them and their families to pray for (and possibly sponsor) a child through Compassion International. Take time before dismissal to promote this idea to your kids.*

*Dismiss kids to their small groups.*

**SFX: Play high-energy music as the kids exit.**

**CG: Theme Slide**

**Optional Video (Media Package): Theme Loop**

## TALK ABOUT GOD

BIBLE STORY  
REVIEW

### BIBLE STORY

**You Raise Me Up**  
Lazarus Raised  
John 11:1-45

### MEMORY VERSE

**"In this world you will have trouble.  
But be encouraged! I have won  
the battle over the world."**  
John 16:33b, NIV

### LIFE APP

**Hope—Believing that  
something good can come  
out of something bad**

### BOTTOM LINE

**Whatever happens, remember  
how powerful God is.**

### BASIC TRUTH

**I can trust God no matter what.**



## IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

### \* 1. ALL THE FEELS

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "All the Feels Cards" and "All the Feels Story" Activity Pages; crayons, colored pencils, or markers

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a set of cards.
- Read the feelings on the cards out loud, and then lead the group to decide what color should represent that feeling.
- Using the coloring materials, let kids color the cards so they can show them easily.
- Then read the "All the Feels Story" slowly to the group, encouraging kids to use their cards to show the emotions that the people in the story are feeling or how they would feel themselves in that situation.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

"Jesus' friends had a lot of feelings during this whole time. His friends who were traveling with Him were probably afraid of what would happen if they went toward Jerusalem to visit Mary and Martha. Mary and Martha were obviously sad about their brother and also maybe frustrated or angry that Jesus hadn't done anything to help them. The crowd was confused and upset. But then, when Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, there were even more emotions: joy, excitement, wonder, and maybe even still some fear because it was so unexpected.

"We have times in our lives with a lot of feelings: when we move or change schools, when we have a new brother or sister, when someone we love is sick. But **whatever happens, remember how powerful God is.** Even during troubled times, we can trust that God cares for us and will be with us no matter what. Mary and Martha saw firsthand that Jesus was powerful enough to bring their brother back to life. That wasn't their plan. They wanted Jesus to keep him from getting sick in the first place. But Jesus had a bigger plan to show everyone without a doubt that God is powerful over everything, even death."

**LIVE  
FOR GOD**  
APPLICATION  
ACTIVITY



## PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

### BIBLE STORY

**You Raise Me Up**  
Lazarus Raised  
John 11:1-45

### MEMORY VERSE

**"In this world you will have trouble.  
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### 2. GOD'S POWER GAME

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Construction paper, party hats, "Game Cards" Activity Pages, masking tape, oversized or inflatable dice, Bible

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Set up the game board as described in Getting Ready.
- Make four teams out of your group: red, green, blue, and yellow. Distribute the party hats accordingly so that kids look like giant game pieces.
  - Everyone starts in the middle of the game board, with the teams lined up facing out toward their colors on the board.
  - The first person on the red team rolls the dice. He must answer a question from the card deck before moving. He can consult his teammates if needed.
  - If he is correct, he can move that number of spaces clockwise on the board, *starting with the red squares. (i.e., if kids answer correctly, they walk to the first square of their color, and move in a clockwise direction the number of spaces they rolled.)*
  - Then the dice move to the first player on the green team, and so on.
  - An incorrect answer means they stay put. (Consult John 11:1-45 if there's any debate about whether or not an answer is correct. Let older kids take the lead on this, if possible.)
  - The goal is for all team members of one color to move completely around the board and then back to the center.
  - The first team to do that wins.
  - The other teams can continue playing if you have time.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"A lot of stuff happened in that game. In our lives, we'll have troubles, but we can see how God's power has overcome them. We can remember that God has done incredible things in the Bible, in history, and in our own lives, and then we can choose to trust God even in the middle of our difficult times. **Whatever happens, remember how powerful God is.**"

**[Make It Personal]** (Share an age-appropriate time when you felt God's power in the midst of a difficult situation. Maybe you did well during a nerve-racking job interview, or God kept your home safe in a storm. Any

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25 MINUTES

**LIVE  
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APPLICATION  
ACTIVITY



**PLAY**

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

*time that you can remember God's power working in your life despite your outside circumstances would be great. As time allows, invite kids to share their stories as well!)*

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

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**GROUPS**

HOME

25 MINUTES

**HEAR  
FROM GOD**  
MEMORY VERSE  
ACTIVITY



## MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

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### 3. HE'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Bibles, globe

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Using the Bible Navigation Tips below, look up John 16:33b together with the group and read it out loud.

***Finding verses with a multi-age group:*** Guide all kids to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (*Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.*) When the kids find the table of contents, ask a middle elementary kid (2nd -3rd grade) to find John in the list under "New Testament." When the kid finds John, lead them to look at the page number beside the word and say it aloud, explaining that the number tells them on what page they can find John. Ask older elementary kids (4th-5th grade) to help younger ones find the correct page in their own Bibles. When they all find John, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Ask a kindergartner or 1st grader to find chapter 16, and give time for all the kids to turn the pages to find it. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers, and ask a middle elementary kid to find verse 33 in chapter 16. Then, read the verse aloud slowly, especially for your pre-readers; or ask older elementary kids to read it to the group.

- Then gather the kids in a circle.
- Say the first word of the verse and then toss the globe to a kid across the circle from you.
- Encourage the group to toss the globe around and across the circle, with each person who catches the globe saying the next word of the verse.
- Set aside the globe for the Prayer activity.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Everyone all over the earth has trouble. We all get sick or scared or lonely. (*You can invite kids to share their own examples of this, but be sensitive to children in extreme circumstances.*) But Jesus has rescued all of us by giving us new life when we follow Him. He showed the ultimate example of God's power when He rose again from the dead. We can trust that He can take care of any problem we face. So this week, this month, and this year, **whatever happens, remember how powerful God is.**"

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

**GROUPS**

HOME

25 MINUTES

**HEAR  
FROM GOD**  
MEMORY VERSE  
ACTIVITY



**MOVE**

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

*Optional Discussion Questions for Older Kids*

*If you lead 4th, 5th, or 6th graders, consider asking these discussion questions:*

- Have you ever faced something that was too big for you to handle? Did you try to fix it anyway? If it didn't go well, what could you have done differently?
- Why are we tempted to fix our own problems?
- Read Ephesians 6:10. How can trusting God's power help you when you face a big problem?

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

**GROUPS**

HOME

25 MINUTES

## PRAY TO GOD PRAYER ACTIVITY



## REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

### BIBLE STORY

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### PRAY AND DISMISS

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Globe, music player and the song "He's Got the Whole World In His Hands" (*optional*)

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather the group in a circle and hold the globe.
- Encourage kids to take a few seconds to think of a something the world faces that God's power can overcome.
- Then pass around the globe and invite kids to pray about that problem and ask God to show His power in that situation.
- If using the music player, play the song during this time.
- Then take the globe and close in prayer.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, thank You that You showed Your power when You raised Lazarus. Thank You for being powerful in our lives. We turn our troubles over to you. Amen.

"This week, whether your troubles are big or small, **whatever happens, remember how powerful God is.** God can handle anything this week throws at you!

As adults arrive to pick up, ask kids to tell their parents the Bottom Line for this week. You can send home the "All the Feels Cards" as a reminder to families that whatever happens, they can remember how powerful God is.