

## Today's Suggested Schedule—May 2021, Week 5

*Note: This version of the curriculum is designed especially for churches with fewer leaders and kids. You may want to use it if you have just one or two leaders and if you combine all your kids in both Large and Small Group time.*

**Today's Bible Story:** Gotta Live (Widow's Mite) • Mark 12:41-44

**Today's Bottom Line:** Practice living for God.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises to help for the life you are now living and the life to come.* 1 Timothy 4:8, NIV

**Monthly Life App:** Commitment—Making a plan and putting it into practice

**Basic Truth:** I can trust God no matter what.

### **PRELUDE:** Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

### **SMALL GROUP (15 minutes)**

#### **SOCIAL:** Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arriver

Opening Activity

### **LARGE GROUP (35 minutes)**

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

#### **WORSHIP:** Inviting people to respond to God

Welcome/Opener

Worship ("Give a Little Kindness" from *This Love* and "Follow You" from *Can't Stop Won't Stop*)

Bible Story

Bottom Line

Prayer

Closer

### **SMALL GROUP (25 minutes)**

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

Bible Story Review: Under the Surface

Application Activity: Footsteps

Memory Verse Activity: Golden Foot

Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

### **HOME:** Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)

GodTime Devotional for Kids

Studio252.tv

Parent Cue App

## **LARGE GROUP: Story (25 minutes) • Worship (10 minutes)**

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

**Today's Bible Story:** Gotta Live (Widow's Mite) • Mark 12:41-44

**Today's Bottom Line:** Practice living for God.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises to help for the life you are now living and the life to come.* 1 Timothy 4:8, NIRV

**Monthly Life App:** Commitment—Making a plan and putting it into practice

**Basic Truth:** I can trust God no matter what.

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

*Leader enters, wearing running attire and carrying the prop box.*

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

## **OPENER**

**KARA:** "Hello, everyone! It's great to see you here at [your environment's name], especially since it's our last training day of the month!

"Yes, all month we've been training for a 5K. We might not be training for a REAL race, but we've definitely followed a plan to grow stronger in our relationship with God. And we've for sure put in some serious practice! You might say we've been rocking our commitment.

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

**"Commitment is making a plan and putting it into practice.**

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

"You all have done a fantastic job with our training challenges these past few weeks. And don't worry—if you've missed some weeks of our training, or if you're new, you're here at the perfect time. I've got one more challenge for you, and this might be our most exciting one yet!

"First, let's divide into two teams.

*Divide the kids into two even teams and stand them behind the table. Make sure that the kids are adequately spaced out as they stand in line. Place the two bowls of pennies on the table and hand a plastic spoon to each kid.*

"As you can see, each team has a container of pennies, and each player has a spoon.

*Demonstrate the game as you explain it.*

“When it’s your turn, you’ll scoop up as many pennies as you can with ONLY your spoon. No hands! You’ll then race to the jar on the other side and drop them in. What makes it extra tricky is that you can’t bend over. You have to drop the pennies from waist height. After you drop them, head back to your team and air-tag the next player.

“If you’re the next person in line, you can’t start until you get tagged. So you’ve got to be patient. Each of you has the same number of pennies in the starting bowl, and you’re not allowed to pick up any pennies that you drop, so be careful! When the timer goes off, the team with the most pennies in their jar, wins!

“On your mark, get set, GO!

## 5 **AUDIO: Fun music**

*Set a timer on your phone for one, one and a half, or two minutes (depending on how many kids you have in your environment). You want every kid to have at least one turn before time runs out.*

*Watch the teams closely to make sure they don’t start before their teammate air-tags them or try to pick up fallen pennies. When you get down to ten seconds on the clock, count down out loud.*

“Three . . . two . . . one . . . time’s up! Spoons down! It’s time to count and see who dropped in the most money.

*If you’re able to discern which jar is fuller just by looking at it, do so. Otherwise, do a quick count and celebrate the winning team.*

“Way to go, everyone! This will actually come in handy for our Bible story later. Let me collect your spoons then let’s sing and worship God together!”

*Collect the plastic spoons.*

*Note: If you’d like to use these same pennies for the Bible story, you can have someone distribute them into the plastic bags during Worship. They should put more coins in each bag than the number on the card (with the exception of the bag for the “widow,” which should have exactly two coins).*

## WORSHIP

**KARA:** “In James 1:17 (*NirV*), we read that ‘*Every good and perfect gift is from God.*’ It’s true—everything we have comes from God! Our strength, our love, our commitment . . . we owe it all to Him! We’ve experienced God’s kindness for ourselves, and every day, we can choose to give some kindness away to others. Let’s sing this together.

### 6 **AUDIO:** “Give a Little Kindness” / track 8 from This Love

“I’m so thankful that **[Basic Truth] I can trust God no matter what.** Because of that, I know I can follow God and live His way every day. Let’s sing this song and tell Him that every step we take, we’ll follow Him!

### 7 **AUDIO:** “Follow You” / track 5 from Can’t Stop Won’t Stop

“That was awesome. You can have a seat.”

### 8 **SLIDE:** Theme Background

## BIBLE STORY

### 9 **Video:** Bible Story

*If you’re using a new set of coins for the Story that you pre-bagged before Large Group, walk to the two jars from the opening game. Pour all of the coins from one jar into the other jar. Then bring the empty jar center stage and set it down.*

## SETTING UP THE STORY

**KERRI:** “All of you will get to play a part in today’s story. I’ve got bags of coins for each of you. (*Hold up one of the bags.*)

“Inside your bag, you’ll see some coins and a card with a number on it. That number tells you how many coins you’ll need to drop in the offering jar when I tell you. (*Reference the empty jar on stage.*) But for now, I want you to set your bag on the ground in front of you and not touch it until I tell you it’s time. Cool? Cool.

*Hand out the bags. Give the bag with just two coins to the girl you pre-selected to play the widow.*

“When Jesus rode into Jerusalem the week before Passover, the crowds were excited. But the religious leaders . . . were not. In fact, all week they sent men to try to trap Jesus with trick questions. But every time, Jesus gave them a wise answer that caught them off guard.

“Jesus knew that the religious leaders were a pretty prideful bunch. They only wanted people to listen to THEM. Jesus even warned the crowds about them. He said . . .

*Open the Bible to Mark 12:38-40 (*NirV*) and read.*

*“Watch out for the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in long robes. They like to be greeted with respect in the market. They love to have the most important seats in the synagogues. They also love to have the places of honor at dinners. They take over the houses of widows. They say long prayers to show off.”*

### **BIG GIVERS**

**KERRI:** “One day, Jesus and His disciples visited the temple. Jesus sat across from the place where people were bringing their temple offerings. He watched the crowd put money into the offering boxes. Many rich people gave large amounts.

“This is where I need your help! Everyone, grab your bag of coins and line up. Time to give your offering.”

*Make sure the girl with two coins is at the back of the line.*

*As needed, prompt the kids to give the number of coins written on their card. As they drop the coins in the jar, comment on their offering. Thank them, exclaiming, “How generous!” etc. Excuse the kids back to their seats after they give.*

### **THE WIDOW’S MITE**

*When you get to the last girl in line, get everyone’s attention.*

**KERRI:** “Look, everyone. We have one more person here to give her offering. (Pause.) But it looks like she doesn’t have as much to give as everyone else.

*The girl drops her two coins into the jar.*

*“(to the girl) Wow! Oh my goodness, that’s AMAZING! You are so incredibly generous. I’m seriously blown away by your gift! This is more than anyone else has given! Thank you, so much! You can have a seat.*

*Dismiss the girl to her seat.*

*(to everyone) “I know what you’re probably thinking. How did she give the most of anyone? She only gave two coins!*

“Well, let’s hear how this all happened as we read it in the book of Mark.

*Open the Bible to Mark 12:41-42 (NirV) and read.*

*“Jesus sat down across from the place where people put their temple offerings. He watched the crowd putting their money into the offering boxes. Many rich people threw large amounts into them. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins. They were worth only a few pennies.”*

### **JESUS EXPLAINS**

**KARA:** “It might seem like just a couple of coins isn’t a big deal. But Jesus saw what this woman gave, and He was blown away by her offering. He asked His disciples to come to Him. Listen to what He told

them.

*Open the Bible to Mark 12:43-44 (NirV).*

*“He said, ‘What I’m about to tell you is true. That poor widow has put more into the offering box than all the others. They all gave a lot because they are rich. But she gave even though she is poor. She put in everything she had. That was all she had to live on.’*

“Let’s think about this for a second. Some of you came up and gave a lot of coins. But all of you had even more coins left in your bag, right? *(Walk into the audience and hold up one kid’s bag.)* Well, even though [girl’s name who played widow] only had two coins, she gave them all!

*Walk to the girl who played the widow.*

“Jesus knew that those two coins were all that the woman had to live on . . . and she had decided to give them as an offering to God. It was a way that she could worship God and show how much she trusted Him. She was a widow, which means her husband had died. She must have been through a lot of difficult things in her life. But still, she chose to trust God . . . and live for Him.

“Can everyone pass me their bags? Thanks for helping with the story!”

*Collect the bags.*

### **WRAPPING UP THE STORY**

**KARA:** “Even though the wealthy people gave impressive amounts of money, Jesus knew they had a lot of money to begin with . . . so it was easier for them to give some of it away. *(Pick up one of the coins from inside the jar.)* For them, it was simply . . . *(drop the coin back into the jar)* a drop in the bucket.

“But the poor widow had almost nothing . . . and she chose to give everything. Jesus saw what was in her heart. He knew that what she had done was an act of worship to God. He could see that her pennies were worth far more than the rich men’s gold.

“This woman showed us what it means to truly LIVE for God. And we can follow her example!

## **10 SLIDE: Bottom Line**

“Let’s **[Bottom Line]** practice living for God.

“Will you pray with me?”

## **11 SLIDE: Theme Background**

### **PRAY**

**KERRI:** “Dear God, thank You for all that You’ve given us. We know that every good thing we have comes from You. We want to live every day as a way to worship and honor You. Help us remember that there are so many ways we can practice living for You . . . with the way we give, with the way we treat others, with the way we spend our time, and with the way we trust You. Please give us the strength and wisdom to practice living for You every day. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.

## CLOSER

**KERRI:** “That story is a great example of how to live for God. The widow gave everything she had, because she wanted to honor God and show how much she loved Him.

“And remember, Jesus Himself gave us the best example of what it looks like to live God’s way—to love God and love others with everything we have.

## 12 **SLIDE: Bottom Line**

**[Bottom Line]** “Practice living for God. Say that with me.”

**LEADER and KIDS:** **[Bottom Line]** “Practice living for God.”

**KARA:** “We can live for God every day when we put what we believe into action. So before you do something, first stop and ask yourself if it will honor God. Look at the way Jesus lived and treated people, and follow His example. After all, the way we live our lives can help others see how much Jesus loves them, too.

“We’ve got a really good plan to follow as we grow stronger in our relationship with God.

## 13 **SLIDE: Four Faith Skills**

“We can take time to **HEAR** from God by reading the Bible or maybe a GodTime card or other devotional.

“We can **PRAY** and spend time connecting with God—anytime, anywhere!

“We can **TALK** to others about what we believe and ask questions.

“All of this helps us **LIVE** our lives in a way that honors God. It helps us do what matters most: love God and love others.

“Now let’s get in one last training move as we lunge our way to Small Group!”

*Dismiss kids to their small groups.*

## 14 **Optional Video (Media Package): Theme Loop with Music**

## GETTING READY

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for this week.

**STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways (25 minutes)**

**WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God (10 minutes)**

### 1. Opener/Closer

#### What You Need:

- Leader
- Runner's outfit
- Someone to put the pennies in bags for the story, after the game (*optional*)
- Table
- Leader's phone
- Prob box containing:
  - Two large, clear jars
  - Two large plastic bowls
  - Lots of pennies; or you could use toy coins that you buy in bulk (see "What You Do"); you can also reuse these pennies for the Story if you wish
  - Plastic spoons (one for each kid)

#### Music and Sound Effects:

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

#### Large Group Visuals:

- Theme Slide
- Life App Slide
- Theme Background Slide
- Bottom Line Slide
- Four Faith Skills 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 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® and have it ready to play.
- *Optional:* Download a countdown video from a royalty-free site. Load it into your presentation software and have it ready to play during the Opener. You could also keep time on a smartphone or watch. *Note: Some presentation software such as ProPresenter® have a countdown clock built into the program that you can overlay on a still image.*



- 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).
- If possible, use pennies, since they'll make a more satisfying sound when the kids drop them in the jar. But you could also use toy coins which you can buy in bulk.
- Divide the pennies into the two bowls. Set the bowls on the table. On the other side of the room, place the two clear jars on the floor.
- You may want to have two sets of pennies: one for the Opener and one for the Story. In that case, you'll want to pre-bag the pennies as described below. But if you want to use the same pennies for both the Opener and the Story, ask someone to bag them up during Worship. This person will need to put more pennies in each bag than the number on the card, and make sure that one bag only has two coins (for the "widow").

## 2. Worship

### What You Need:

- Leader(s)

### Music and Sound Effects:

- "Give a Little Kindness" from *This Love*
- "Follow You" from *Can't Stop Won't Stop*

### What You Do:

- Download all songs and have them ready to use.
- Dance Moves Music Videos and Live Lyrics Videos are available for many Orange Kids Music songs. For more information, visit [Store.ThinkOrange.com](http://Store.ThinkOrange.com).
- A 252 Media Package is available for purchase to go along with each curriculum tier. The *Live Loud* faith skills video and the Dance Moves Music Video for the monthly worship song are included in the package. For more information, visit [Store.ThinkOrange.com](http://Store.ThinkOrange.com).

## 3. Bible Story

### What You Need:

- Leader
- Pre-selected girl who can act as the widow in the story
- Bible
- Resealable plastic sandwich bags (one for each kid)
- Lots of pennies; or you could use toy coins that you buy in bulk (see "What You Do")
- Index cards with numbers (one for each kid; see "What You Do")
- Container to hold all the bags
- One glass jar from the Opener

### 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.
- Pre-select an older girl to play the role of the widow. Sometime before Large Group, explain what you'll need her to do. Explain that she'll get the bag with only two pennies in it. She'll need

to be last in line when everyone gets up to put their pennies in the jar. Then, after you get everyone's attention, she'll drop her pennies in—one at a time.

- Write different numbers on index cards. One index card should say 2 (for the “widow”). All other cards should have a number between 5 and 10. Put one index card in each plastic bag, making sure you have enough bags for all kids (plus extras, just in case).
- If you'd like to pre-load the bags in advance—i.e. using a different set of pennies for the Opener and the Story: divide the pennies into the plastic bags, filling them as much as possible. Make sure that each bag has more pennies than the number that's on the card. For example, if the card says 10, the kid will be putting 10 pennies in the jar, and they'll need to have some pennies left over (since they're not giving all they have, like the widow). Make sure the widow's bag (the one with the number 2) has exactly two pennies.
- If you're having someone load the bags during worship, ask them to fill the bags as described above. Make sure they understand what to do so they can do it quickly.

## Video Enhancements for Your Environment

*Available for additional purchase at [Store.ThinkOrange.com](http://Store.ThinkOrange.com).*

**FEATURE PRESENTATION:** Everything you need to pull off a dynamic video storytelling experience, including video Bible presentations to complement 252 Kids and 252 Preteen curriculum. Our Large Group scripts are interchangeable with these videos so you can plug and play the way you need to each week.

For 252 Kids (kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade):

- *252 Story* brings you the Bible story in a simple and direct way through a professional Storyteller accompanied by engaging visuals.
- *Also included:* Intro and Outro videos with a character Host. The Intros set up the Bible story, while the Outros connect the story 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*.

For 252 Preteen (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade):

- In *The So & So Show*, two Hosts 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
- Life App and monthly widget promo videos (M.C. Haggis)
- Countdown videos (30 and 60 seconds)

- Music videos for original songs that highlight each Life App
- Retro Reel video to play on your fifth Sunday