

Today's Suggested Schedule—October 2022, Week 1

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: Down in a Hole (Joseph Sold by Brothers and Joseph in Jail) • *Genesis* 37, 39–40

Today's Bottom Line: Hold on because God is with you.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up.* Galatians 6:9 (NIV)

Monthly Virtue: Grit—Refusing to give up when life gets hard

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 ("The Power" from *Everything to Me* and "Never Gonna Give Up" from *Make a Move*)
Bible Story
Bottom Line
Prayer
Closer

SMALL GROUP (25 minutes)

GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Bible Story Review: Ups and Downs
Application Activity: Chalk Prints
Memory Verse Activity: Build a Mountain
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
Devotionals for Kids
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.

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Basic Truth: I can trust God no matter what.

Video (Media Package): Theme Loop

Leader enters, wearing/carrying some climbing clothing or accessories . . . including a backpack with the bedsheet inside (unless you've secured it to the ground already).

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

Video (Media Package): Theme

OPENER

LEADER: "Hello, my fellow climbers! I'm so glad we're all here together as we continue our trek through the Bible—thorough God's Big Story. (*Hold up Bible.*)

"In these pages, there are ups and downs, cliffhangers at every turn . . . and even NOW, the story isn't over! That's right. God's story is continuing right here and now! As we've seen through the Bible so far, life can sometimes take a lot of GRIT. That was important for the people we read about in the Bible, and it's important for us today.

"What is grit?

Video (Media Package): Theme Transition to Virtue

"Grit is refusing to give up when life gets hard.

Video (Media Package): Virtue Transition to Theme

"I've to a great way for us to put our grit into practice today with a fun climbing game. I couldn't bring a real climbing wall into [your environment's name], so I did the next best thing. We've got a climbing FLOOR.

If you have the painted sheet in your backpack, pull it out and have the kids help you spread it out on the floor.

“While I explain how this will work, I need everyone to take off their shoes and put them over here.
(*Motion to the spot where you want their shoes to go.*)

“In just a minute, I’ll start calling out different combinations of colors and hands or feet, then you need to try to place a hand or foot on that color. For example, if I say, ‘Left hand red,’ then you’ll try to put your left hand down on a red handprint. If I say, ‘Right foot blue,’ you’ll try to put your right foot on a blue boot print. Make sense?

Note: If you have a lot of younger kids, you might want to skip the left/right distinction and just say “one hand red,” “one foot blue,” etc.

“If you fall down, or if you take your hand or foot off the print, you’re out. We’ll keep playing until there’s just one player remaining or until time runs out—whichever happens first.

Depending on the size of your sheet and the number of kids you have, you may need to divide into two or three groups and have one group go at a time. Basically, you want enough kids on the sheet to make it interesting but not so many that someone gets hurt.

Note that, depending on the colors you used for your game sheet, you could potentially use a Twister® spinner app to make it easier to call out colors. Or you could just make a list of the different combinations (left hand red, right foot blue, etc.) and randomly read them off a sheet.

If you’re dividing into groups, play until everyone has had a chance to play. If you’re doing an all-play, you can play as many rounds as time allows.

You may want to have a countdown timer at the ready in case the game is stretching on too long.

Recognize any winners you have. Pick up the sheet from the floor and place it on the table to use for the Bible story.

“That was fun! You all showed some real grit—and some real promise as climbers, too! Now that we’re warmed up, it’s time to put those hands and feet to work in a different way as we worship God together. Everyone, on your feet again.”

WORSHIP

LEADER: “Before we sing together, let’s watch this video.

Video (Media Package): *Live Loud Video from Get Reel*

Video (Media Package): *Theme Loop*

“Grit might be a word that you haven’t heard a lot before, but the idea of having grit goes way back. In fact, the apostle Paul wrote about it in Galatians 6:9. Check it out. This is our memory verse for this month.

SLIDE: Memory Verse

“Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don’t give up.”
Galatians 6:9, NIV

“I love that! If we can keep holding on and trusting God, we know it’ll be worth it in the end. Let’s sing this new song and thank God for giving us the power to never give up!

Video (Media Package): *“The Power” Dance Moves Music Video*

Video (Media Package): *Theme Loop*

“It’s true. God gives us the power we need to keep going! When you’re feeling overwhelmed or like you just want to quit, you don’t have to give in. God will give you the strength to keep holding on. Let’s sing about how we’re never gonna give up!

Video: *“Never Gonna Give Up”*

Video (Media Package): *Theme Loop*

“I’m so glad that we can count on God to give us strength and the grit we need each day. You can all have a seat.”

BIBLE STORY

SETTING UP THE STORY

LEADER: “When we go all the way back to the beginning of the Bible (*hold up your Bible*), we can see how God created the whole world—and everything in it! But people turned away and broke their relationship with God. Still, God had a plan.

“God promised a man named Abraham to bless the whole world through his family.

“It took years and years but eventually, God gave Abraham and Sarah a son named Isaac.

Pull out the baby doll and wrap it in the sheet, white side out.

Remove the baby doll from the sheet, and place it back in the laundry basket.

“Isaac grew up and had a son named Esau and a son named Jacob. Then JACOB had 12 sons, including a young man named Joseph.”

JOSEPH’S DREAMS

LEADER: “Joseph was the second-youngest in the family, and he was his father’s favorite son. Jacob loved Joseph so much that he gave him a beautiful, expensive, colorful robe.

Put the sheet around your shoulders, colorful side out.

“When Joseph started having some very interesting dreams, he couldn’t keep them to himself. He just HAD to tell his brothers. Listen to what he told them.

Open the Bible to Genesis 37:7 (NirV) and read.

“We were tying up bundles of grain out in the field. Suddenly my bundle stood up straight. Your bundles gathered around my bundle and bowed down to it.

“Joseph’s brothers were NOT pleased to hear about his dream. They said . . .

Open the Bible to Genesis 37:8 (NirV) and read.

“Do you plan to be king over us? Will you really rule over us?”

“Joseph wasn’t done, though. Another day, he told them about another dream he had.

Open the Bible to Genesis 37:9 (NirV) and read.

“Listen,’ he said. ‘I had another dream. This time the sun and moon and 11 stars were bowing down to me.’

“According to Joseph’s dreams, his mother, father, and brothers would one day bow down to him!”

FROM PIT TO POTIPHAR

LEADER: “As you might imagine, Joseph’s brothers were jealous of him. REALLY jealous. When Jacob sent Joseph to check up on his brothers out in the fields—get this—they tore his robe off him and threw him into an empty well! Yikes!

Throw the sheet off your shoulders and onto the ground.

“The brothers were still deciding what to do with Joseph when they saw a group of traders heading for Egypt.

Pick up the sheet. Quickly tie a couple of loose knots in the sheet, with the white side facing out.

“Joseph’s brothers decided to sell him to the traders. Can you imagine?

Throw the knotted sheet over the front of the table and slowly pull it up, as though you’re using it to pull Joseph out of the well.

Then take out the knots and turn the sheet back to the colorful side.

“The brothers even took Joseph’s special robe back to their father. They put some animal blood on the robe so that their dad would think Joseph was dead.

Toss the sheet—colorful side out—onto the table.

“Poor Joseph was taken all the way to Egypt and sold to a man named Potiphar, who was the captain of the pharaoh’s guards. Joseph didn’t know anyone in Egypt, and he didn’t speak the language. It was not a good situation at all. But God was with Joseph, even in Egypt.

“Joseph worked so hard and did so well that over several years he gained Potiphar’s trust. Eventually, Potiphar put Joseph in charge of his entire estate—his home, his servants, his animals, and all of his possessions.”

Take the sheet and put it—white side out—around your shoulders like a robe again.

FROM POTIPHAR TO PRISON

LEADER: “It seemed things were finally looking up for Joseph . . . until they fell apart, AGAIN. Potiphar’s wife tried to get Joseph to do something wrong. Joseph refused, but as he ran out of the house, he left his cloak behind.

Toss the sheet back on the floor.

“Potiphar’s wife then lied and said Joseph had tried to hurt her, so Potiphar had Joseph sent to prison!

“Now Joseph was on his own . . . enslaved in a foreign land . . . AND stuck in prison for something that he didn’t do! But God was with Joseph, even in prison.

Pick up the sheet and begin to fold it like you’re folding

laundry. Place the folded sheet in the laundry basket with the other items.

“Joseph worked hard in the prison. He took care of chores and helped the other prisoners. The man who ran the jail was so impressed that he put Joseph in charge of everything!

“One day, two new prisoners arrived straight from the royal palace: the pharaoh’s royal baker and his official drink taster. Both of these guys showed up for breakfast one morning looking pretty upset. They had both had strange dreams, but no one could tell them what the dreams meant.

“Of course, Joseph already had some experience with strange dreams, and he knew that God could help him figure out the hidden meaning. So he asked these two men to tell him what they had seen. The men told their dreams to Joseph, and he told them what they meant.

“The drink taster told of seeing a vine that budded and grew bunches of grapes. Then the drink taster squeezed the grapes right into Pharaoh’s cup. Joseph told the man that his dream meant that Pharaoh would release him from prison and give him his job back! Then Joseph asked the man for a favor. He said . . .

Open the Bible to Genesis 40:14 (NIRV) and read.

“When everything is going well with you, remember me. Do me a favor. Speak to Pharaoh about me. Get me out of this prison.

“After this, the baker was probably excited to hear what HIS dream meant. In the baker’s dream, baskets of bread sat on the baker’s head, and birds came and ate the bread.

“Sadly, it wasn’t such good news for the baker. Joseph had to tell him that his dream meant that the pharaoh would release him from prison . . . only to have him killed.

“I know. That’s pretty awful news to have to give someone. But everything happened just as God had revealed to Joseph. The drink taster was released! Maybe now Joseph would be released, too! But . . . the drink taster forgot about Joseph.”

Wrap the sheet around you, white side out, like a blanket and sit hunched over on the edge of the stage or in front of the kids.

Video: Bible Story (Story Lab)

Video (Media Package): Theme Loop

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

LEADER: “So Joseph was still stuck alone . . . in a foreign land . . . in prison, forgotten. That’s where we’ll end the story—for today, anyway!

Stand up and lay the sheet on the table.

“I’ll give you a hint, though. Joseph’s story wasn’t over. And even when everything seemed hopeless and Joseph probably felt all alone . . . even then, God was with him.

“The same thing is true for you and me, too. There are times when we feel alone. There are days when it’s hard for us to hang on. But even on your darkest, hardest days, you can put your trust in God.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] “Hold on because God is with you.

“Let’s pray and thank God for helping us.”

Video (Media Package): Theme Loop

PRAY

LEADER: “Dear God, thank You for this truth—that we can hold on when life gets hard because You are with us. We see how You were with Joseph through the ups and downs of his life, and that shows us that You are with us, too. Each of us in this room has different struggles, and each of us is facing different challenges, but we know that You are there to help us. Give us the strength to hold on, knowing You are with us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

CLOSER

Stand up and leave the sheet behind.

LEADER: “That story was a bit of a cliffhanger, I know, but there’s more to come! And the important thing to know for now is that God was with Joseph, through all the ups and downs of his life.

“God was with Joseph when his dad gave him a special robe.

SLIDE: God's Big Story Timeline

SLIDE: Week 1 Timeline Image

If you're making a timeline of printed images on your wall, take this moment to place today's timeline image on the clothesline.

“God was ALSO with Joseph when he had to go through such awful things later—like being sold by his brothers and being thrown in prison.

“What’s really cool to think about is that, hundreds of years later, God used Joseph’s family to bless the whole world through Jesus!

“We all have to face tough things in life. There will be days when things just don’t go the way we want. But we can hold on because we know God is always there.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] “Hold on because God is with you. Say that with me.”

LEADER and KIDS: **[Bottom Line]** “Hold on because God is with you.”

Share a personal, age-appropriate example of when God was with you during a hard time.

LEADER: “God was with me during that tough time, and God is always with you, too! Even when you can’t see it, God is still at work. When we remember that **[Basic Truth] we can trust God no matter what**, that will help us hold on and face our challenges with courage and grit!

“There are a lot of things we all might be facing right now where we need to remember that God is with us, so let’s head over to Small Group and talk more about that.”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

Video (Media Package): Theme Loop

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
- Climbing clothing/accessories for the Leader to wear/carry
- King size flat white bedsheet
- Four different colors of water-soluble paint (see "What You Do")
- One old boot
- Countdown timer or Leader's phone
- Twister® spinner app or a printed sheet with color/hand/foot combinations
- "Week 1 Timeline Image" printed on cardstock from the LG Assets PDF
- Clothesline and clothespins for the timeline in your room

Music and Sound Effects:

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

Large Group Visuals:

- Theme Slide
- Virtue Slide
- Theme Background Slide
- Bottom Line Slide
- God's Big Story Timeline Slide
- Week 1 Timeline Image Slide
- Week 1 Timeline Image (printable)

Optional Videos (available for purchase through the 252 Media Package):

- Theme Loop
- Countdown (30- or 60-second version)
- Theme
- Theme Transition to Virtue
- Virtue 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. *Note: Legally a song belongs to the songwriter/composer who created it and the publisher who markets it. Performance rights organizations (PROs) license public performances (live or recorded) of their members' music. Usually, but not always, PROs give general permission for performances in worship services. We recommend you obtain permission from the PRO representing the song or the publisher of the song you wish to play. PROs in the U.S. are ASCAP, BMI, and SESAC. For a list of PROs in your part of the world: www.iamusic.com. Look at the copyright on the CD or sheet music to discover the PRO or publisher of the song. It is up to you to make sure your church has permission to perform or play a recording of a song.*

- *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.
- Spread the bedsheet outside or place cardboard underneath it. Paint your hand with the paint, one color at a time, and make a ton of different handprints all over the sheet, leaving room for boot prints as well. You don't want the prints to overlap, and you want to leave a couple of inches of white space between them, but they should be very randomly placed on the sheet and fill up the sheet with color. Repeat the process with a boot. If you use water-soluble paint and wash the boot quickly between paint applications, it shouldn't mess the boot up too much, but we suggest using an old boot just in case.

2. Worship

What You Need:

- Leader(s)

Music and Sound Effects:

- "The Power" from *Everything to Me*
- "Never Gonna Give Up" from *Make a Move*

Large Group Visuals:

- Memory Verse Slide

Optional Videos (available for purchase):

- *Live Loud* Video from *Get Reel* (available through the 252 Media Package)
- "The Power" Dance Moves Music Video (available through the 252 Media Package)

What You Do:

- Download all songs 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). 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
- Dance Moves Music Videos and Live Lyrics Videos are available for many Orange Kids Music songs. For more information, visit 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.

3. Bible Story

What You Need:

- Leader
- Bible
- Table

- Painted bedsheet from Opener
- Laundry basket with a baby doll in it

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 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 and 60 seconds)
- Music videos for original songs that highlight each Virtue
- Retro Reel video to play on your fifth Sunday

Supplemental Resources

Available for additional purchase at Store.ThinkOrange.com.

MONTHLY WIDGET*: Grit Won't Quit Stickers

Each month, we offer a unique item that helps kids and families apply what they're learning at home. Available at Store.ThinkOrange.com.

***widg-et [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

When life gets tough, you've got to show some grit. But you don't have to do it alone! God is always there to help you hold on. These mountain climbing-themed, vinyl cling stickers will help families remember one simple truth: GRIT won't quit! And they're also a great reminder that if we refuse to give up, it'll be worth it in the end (Galatians 6:9). Includes four stickers that'll cling to smooth surfaces but won't leave any "gritty" residue behind. Kids and parents can put a sticker on any object that represents something tough they have to do—like a math book, guitar case, water bottle, or laundry hamper—so they can remember to keep at it and never quit!