

Large Group Leader Guide

Today's Suggested Schedule

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

1. Grain Movers ⚠️ ALLERGY
2. Family Portrait
3. Put it in the Basket

Large Group (20 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- Worship ("I Wanna Thank You" and "Just Wanna Thank You" from All Good)
- Bible Story
- Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. Memory Verse with Motions
2. Follow the Line
3. Pass the Thanks
4. Collecting Food
5. Thank God for Family ⚠️ ALLERGY
6. Journal and Prayer

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Memory Verse Card
- Parent Cue Card (print or email)
- [Parent Cue App](#) and ParentCue.org



Today's Bible Story

Ruth, Naomi, and Boaz

Ruth 1-2

I can thank God for family.

Key Question

Who can thank God for everything?

Bottom Line

I can thank God for everything.

Memory Verse

"I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart."

Psalms 111:1 ESV

EveryChild Tips



Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.

10 MINUTES

Worship

10 MINUTES

Bible Study Prayer

① Worship

→ **Worship Leader enters.**

LEADER: "Hi, friends! My name is [YOUR NAME], I am SO happy to see you!"

→ **Do the ASL sign for 'thank you' as you speak: Move flat hand forward from chin.**

"Thank you for coming today!"

"That's the sign for (MOVE FLAT HAND FORWARD FROM CHIN) 'thank you.' Can you do that with me?"

CHILDREN and LEADER: (MOVE FLAT HAND FORWARD FROM CHIN.)
"Thank you!"

LEADER: "When someone shares their favorite toy with you, what do you say?"

CHILDREN and LEADER: (MOVE FLAT HAND FORWARD FROM CHIN.)
"Thank you!"

LEADER: "When someone helps you tie your shoes, what do you say?"

CHILDREN and LEADER: (MOVE FLAT HAND FORWARD FROM CHIN.)
"Thank you!"

LEADER: "Yes! When someone is kind and loving to us, we can be kind and loving to them and say..."

CHILDREN and LEADER: (MOVE FLAT HAND FORWARD FROM CHIN.)
"Thank you!"

LEADER: "And I know someone very special who is kind and loving to us-God!"

[BASIC TRUTH] "God loves me, and God loves you SO much! Let's tell God, 'Thank you.'"

CHILDREN and LEADER: (MOVE FLAT HAND FORWARD FROM CHIN.)
"Thank you, God!"

LEADER: "Now, let's stand up so we can sing and celebrate God!"

→ **Lead children in singing "I Wanna Thank You."**

"Great singing, friends! Now let's learn some of God's words from the Bible. (OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK.) Are you ready? Watch me say the words from the Bible and do the motions, and then you can do them with me!"

10 MINUTES

Worship

10 MINUTES

Bible Study Prayer

→ **Note: A video of the Memory Verse Motions is available in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.**

'I will give thanks (MOVE FLAT HAND FORWARD FROM CHIN) to the LORD (POINT UP) with my whole heart,' (TAP HEART TWICE) Psalm 111:1. (OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK.)

"Can you do that with me?"

→ **Lead children to say the Memory Verse with Hand Motions once or twice.**

"Great job, friends! We can thank God (POINT UP) with our whole heart. (TAP HEART TWICE.) And we can thank God by singing this song!"

→ **Lead children in singing "Just Wanna Thank You."**

"Thanks for worshipping and celebrating God with me! [TRANSITION] And now it's time to turn around (SPIN AROUND) ... sit down (SIT DOWN) ... shake the wiggles out (WIGGLE HANDS) ... so we can hear (CUP HANDS BEHIND EARS) what the story's all about!"

② Bible Story

LEADER: "Hello, friends! I'm [YOUR NAME], and I can't wait to tell you a true story from the Bible.

→ **Open the Bible for children to see, then set it down.**

SLIDE → Story Image W1 01

"Today's true story from the Bible begins with a woman named Naomi. Naomi was very sad because her husband and sons had died, and she was left alone with her sons' wives. So, Naomi decided to move back to the town where she grew up. The town was called Bethlehem.

But look!

SLIDE → Story Image W1 02

"This is Ruth! Ruth had been married to Naomi's son. Ruth said, 'I'm your family, Naomi! Wherever you go, I will go. Wherever you live, I will live.' (PARAPHRASED FROM RUTH 1:16)

"Wow! God gave Naomi family to help her.

→ **Do the ASL sign for 'thank you' as you speak: Move flat hand forward from chin.**

"Thank You, God! Can you say that with me?"

10 MINUTES

Worship

10 MINUTES

Bible Study Prayer

- **Do the ASL sign for 'thank you' as you speak: Move flat hand forward from chin.**

CHILDREN and LEADER: "Thank You, God!"

LEADER: "Naomi was so happy that she and Ruth were family and that she had someone to walk with her to Bethlehem.

"Let's pretend to walk to Bethlehem with Naomi and Ruth. Follow me!"

- **Lead the children to walk around the room.**

"We're almost there! Just a little farther.

- **Lead the children back to their original spots.**

"Phew! We made it!"

"When Naomi and Ruth got to Bethlehem, they took care of each other. They were hungry, so Ruth went to go look for food to eat.

SLIDE → Story Image W1 03

"Not far from where they lived, there was a man named Boaz. Boaz had people working in his fields gathering all the grain.

"The fields were like big gardens, and the grain that grew in the fields was used to make bread.

"As the workers picked the grain, they would leave some on the ground for people who needed food. So, Ruth began to pick up the grain so she could take it home to Naomi.

"Let's pretend to pick up the grain with Ruth. Pick up the grain and bring it to me!"

- **Pretend to pick up grain from the floor. Thank the children as they bring it to you.**

"Oh, thank you for being such hard workers! Let's have a seat now, so we can hear what happens to Ruth next.

SLIDE → Story Image W1 04

"Boaz saw Ruth picking up the grain, and he found out that Naomi was part of his family! So, Boaz decided to take care of Ruth and Naomi and made sure they had plenty of food to eat!"

"Wow! God sent more family to help.

10 MINUTES

Worship

10 MINUTES

Bible Study Prayer

→ Do the ASL sign for 'thank you' as you speak: Move flat hand forward from chin.

"Thank you, God. Say it with me.

→ Do the ASL sign for 'thank you' as you speak: Move flat hand forward from chin.

CHILDREN and LEADER: "Thank You, God!"

LEADER: "When Ruth went home to Naomi with good food to eat, Naomi was so thankful!"

SLIDE → Story Image W1 05

"God gave Naomi a new family. He gave her Ruth and Boaz! And God gives us people to call family too. All families can take care of each other and are a part of God's plan.

→ Do the ASL sign for 'thank you' as you speak: Move flat hand forward from chin.

"We can thank God for our families. We can thank God for everything! Who can thank God for everything?"

CHILDREN and LEADER: [BOTTOM LINE] "I can thank God for everything!"

LEADER: "Yes, [BOTTOM LINE] I can thank God for everything.

→ Pick up and close Bible.

[TRANSITION] Our story time is over, but we're not through. Let's talk to God because God loves you!"

③ Prayer

LEADER: "Dear God, thank You for giving us families that take care of us. Help us to take care of others, too. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

[TRANSITION] "And now it's time for more Bible fun. There's more to learn. Come on, everyone!"

→ Lead your small group to the first activity.

PLANNING

Getting Ready: Worship

What You Need

- ☐ Worship Leader(s)

Music and Sound Effects

- ☐ "I Wanna Thank You" (available through [Store.ThinkOrange.com](https://store.thinkorange.com))
- ☐ "Just Wanna Thank You" (available through [Store.ThinkOrange.com](https://store.thinkorange.com))

Optional Videos

Available for purchase.

- ☐ "I Wanna Thank You" Dance Moves Music Video (available through [Store.ThinkOrange.com](https://store.thinkorange.com))
- ☐ "Just Wanna Thank You" Dance Moves Music Video (available through [Store.ThinkOrange.com](https://store.thinkorange.com))

Worship

A Worship Leader and live instruments are recommended to sing along with the music tracks. Encourage children to be active during worship by incorporating the appropriate hand motions.

What You Do

1. Prepare all songs and have them ready to use.
2. Visit <https://store.thinkorange.com/collections/music-first-look-scope-cycle-2025-2026> for Music Scope and Cycle purchases.
3. Check out the Ministry Leader Guide for more information.

APlay

Get the most out of your curriculum with **APlay**! [JoinAPlay.com](https://joinaplay.com) is an all-in-one media organization and presentation tool. Experience all of your Orange Curriculum media assets, now pre-built and fully customizable. No more sorting through multiple download folders.

APlay is free with your curriculum subscription and packed with features to help your weekly experience run smoother. APlay gives you more time to focus on what truly matters - more ministry, less media management with Apple TV-based media solutions.

PLANNING

Getting Ready: Bible Story

What You Need

- ☐ Bible
- *Option: Cardstock*

Large Group Visuals

- ☐ Story Image W1 01
- ☐ Story Image W1 02
- ☐ Story Image W1 03
- ☐ Story Image W1 04
- ☐ Story Image W1 05

Story

Choose an engaging adult to tell the Bible Story. This person should be able to command the attention of preschoolers and control the group through animated storytelling. These scripts are written to be “told” and not “read.” Advance preparation is necessary.

What You Do

1. Download the Large Group Visuals to display on a device or screen or copy on cardstock.

Supplemental Resources

WONDER! LOOK AT GOD’S STORY

First Look offers weekly videos to engage preschoolers with the Bible Story. Join our Bible storytellers, Clubhouse friends, and, of course, Ollie the Owl to discover the wonder in God’s story. Available in your media files and APlay.

First Look Pinterest Page

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies.

bit.ly/FL_GoingOnAPicnic