



## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

**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

**I Saw the Light**  
Jesus Is the Light of the World  
John 8:12

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is the light of the world.

### MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**"Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven."**  
Matthew 5:16, NIV

### MONTHLY VIRTUE

**Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's needs**

### 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**  
MIN

#### **SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction**

Early Arriver  
Opening Activity

### LARGE GROUP

**35**  
MIN

#### **STORY: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways** **WORSHIP: Inviting People to Respond to God**

Opener  
Worship ("Love Like You" from *Make a Move*, and "This Little Light" from *This Little Light*)  
Bible Story  
Bottom Line  
What's Our Part in the Story?  
Prayer

### SMALL GROUP

**25**  
MIN

#### **GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect**

Bible Story Review: Ancient Light  
Application Activity: Tea Light Tag  
Memory Verse Activity: Signal Light  
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

### HOME: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

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



WEEK  
**FIVE**  
SEPTEMBER 2024

LARGE GROUP  
**K-5**  
STARTER

PRELUDE      SOCIAL      **STORY**      WORSHIP      GROUPS      HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

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### MONTHLY VIRTUE

**Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's needs**

### BASIC TRUTH

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

## LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

**AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS KIDS ENTER.**  
**SLIDE: THEME**  
**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**

Leader enters.

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN**  
**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME INTRO**  
**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**

## OPENER

**LEADER:** "Hi, everyone! It's another great day here at [your environment's name]. We're having fun shining our lights this month. Why? Because we're learning what Jesus said about how we can shine HIS light everywhere we go. We can do that by treating people with love and compassion.

"Here's what Jesus said in our Memory Verse, Matthew 5:16. Say it with me.

**SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE**

*"Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 5:16, NIV)*

**SLIDE: THEME**  
**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**

"Yes—great job! We've got another fun game today that has to do with shining our light. This one involves a puzzle that you'll work together to complete. But, of course, there's a twist. Who can guess what it is? (Pause.) If you guessed that you'll be putting the puzzle together in the dark, you are correct!

"Half of you will have flashlights, while the other half of you will be actually working on the puzzle—all at the same time. Every 30 seconds, you'll hear a buzzer like this.

**AUDIO: BUZZER**

Note: You may not need a buzzer sound effect if you're using a phone timer that will sound when time's up.



WEEK  
**FIVE**  
SEPTEMBER 2024

LARGE GROUP  
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25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

“When the buzzer goes off, if you’re working on the puzzle, you’ll have to drop the piece right where you are and switch with your partner who’s holding the flashlight. Then you’ll hold up the light for THEM to work on the puzzle for 30 seconds. And you’ll keep switching back and forth throughout the game.

“You’ll have three minutes total to finish the puzzle. If you can complete the entire puzzle, as a team, before the final timer, you win!

“Are there any questions? All right, let’s partner up.

*Number off the kids, 1-2, 1-2, etc. If you have an extra kid, have a volunteer step in to play and even things out . . . or you can let that kid be in charge of yelling “switch!” every time the buzzer goes off.*

*Have all the 1s stand around the table with some space in between them. Hand a mini-flashlight to all the 2s and have them go stand by a 1. Make sure everyone knows who their partner is so there’s no confusion when the lights go down.*

“Okay, it’s about time for us to get the lights turned off and get started. Remember, if you have a flashlight, shine it for your partner as they work on the puzzle.

**LIGHTS: OFF (OR AS DIM AS POSSIBLE)**

“Are you ready? Three . . . two . . . one . . . GO!

**AUDIO: FUN MUSIC—THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE GAME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (30-SECOND VERSION)—FOR EACH ROUND**

*If you’re not using an on-screen countdown, set a timer on your phone for 30 seconds.*

*Comment on the action as the 1s put together the puzzle while the 2s shine their flashlights.*

**AUDIO: BUZZER (IF NEEDED)—FOR EACH ROUND**

*When the buzzer/timer goes off, yell “switch.” Make sure the 1s drop the puzzle pieces right where they are and switch places with their partner.*

*Continue this process through six rounds total.*

*When you’re in the last round, let the kids know, and count down from 10 for the final 10 seconds. If the kids finish the puzzle before time is up, you can stop the countdown clock and celebrate with them. If they don’t finish, turn on the lights and see how close they came, and celebrate!*

**LIGHTS: NORMAL**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**

“Amazing! I loved how you kept shining your lights for each other so you could work on the puzzle together. Nice teamwork, everyone. Now let’s shine Jesus’ light as we sing. Everyone up on your feet!”



WEEK  
**FIVE**  
SEPTEMBER 2024

LARGE GROUP  
**K-5**  
STARTER

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

## WORSHIP

**LEADER:** "There's nothing like the love God has for us. God loved us so much that Jesus came to be our Savior. Every day, we can choose to live with compassion and show love to the people around us. Let's lift our voices as well and tell God, 'We want to love like You.' Here we go!"

**AUDIO:** "LOVE LIKE YOU" / TRACK 9 FROM MAKE A MOVE

"Before we continue singing, let's watch this video."

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

"We can let our light shine by showing the kind of love and compassion that Jesus has given us. As Paul wrote in Ephesians 3:18: *'May you have power together with all the Lord's holy people to understand Christ's love. May you know how wide and long and high and deep it is.'* (NirV) Jesus' love fills our hearts and makes us want to shine. You might feel like your light is small. But even a small light makes a big difference on a dark night! Let's shine our lights and worship our Savior!"

**AUDIO:** "THIS LITTLE LIGHT" / TRACK 9 FROM THIS LITTLE LIGHT

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE):** "THIS LITTLE LIGHT" DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

"Way to let your light shine, everyone! You can have a seat."



WEEK  
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SEPTEMBER 2024

LARGE GROUP  
**K-5**  
STARTER

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

## BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

### SETTING UP THE STORY

**LEADER:** "I'll need your help with today's story. I'll turn the lights off in just a minute, and you'll be in charge of lighting up these story illustrations as I share them with you.

*Reference the story illustrations on the clothesline.*

"First, everyone make sure you're all sitting in a straight line. (Note: You can have the kids sit in multiple rows if needed.) Anytime I say 'switch,' pass the flashlight to the next person. When the flashlight gets to the end of the row, the last person gets a turn and then passes it back to the person who passed it to them.

*Note: If you do have multiple rows, explain to the kids how to handle the flashlight when it gets to the end of a row, and how to get it back to the beginning.*

"When the flashlight gets to you, here's what you'll do. You'll shine the light on the next picture on the clothesline.

*Shine the flashlight on one of the story illustrations on the clothesline.*

"I'll get us started, and then I'll pass the flashlight to you.

LIGHTS: OFF (OR DIM)

"Today we're talking about some of Jesus' words that were recorded in the book of John (hold the flashlight up to your Bible) . . . which is one of the four Gospels that describe the life of Jesus. John was one of Jesus' closest friends, and he wrote down what he saw and heard to help us understand Who Jesus truly is: the Son of God.

"John shared about several miracles that Jesus did, and he also wrote down specific things that Jesus said about Himself.

### IN THE BEGINNING

**LEADER:** "But John didn't start his story of Jesus with the manger and shepherds and angels.

*Shine the flashlight on the fourth picture on the clothesline: Jesus in the manger.*

"John began with the VERY beginning.

*Shine the flashlight on the picture #1: the world.*

"John wrote that God created everything in the whole universe THROUGH Jesus. From before the dawn of time, Jesus has been the source of all life . . . and light. Listen to this.

*Open the Bible to John 1:1-5 (NirV) and read (using the book light).*

*In the beginning, the Word was already there. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. All things were made through him. Nothing that has been made was made without him. Life was in him, and that life was the light for all people. The light shines in the darkness. But the darkness has not overcome the light. (NirV)*



WEEK  
**FIVE**  
SEPTEMBER 2024

LARGE GROUP  
**K-5**  
STARTER

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

*Hand the flashlight to the first kid and tell them to keep the light on the first picture until you tell them to switch.*

"Light shows up throughout God's story. (Hold up Bible.) Hundreds of years before Jesus was born as a baby, the prophet Isaiah wrote of a bright light to come. Switch!

*Kid moves the flashlight to picture #2: the light.*

"Here's what Isaiah wrote:

*Open the Bible to Isaiah 9:2 (NIRV) and read (using the book light).*

*The people who are now living in darkness  
will see a great light.*

*They are now living in a very dark land.  
But a light will shine on them. (NIRV)*

"When Jesus was born, God's people were still waiting for that light. Switch!

*Kid moves the flashlight to picture #3: king's crown.*

"Many of them expected a king who would defeat their enemies. Switch!

*Kid moves the flashlight to picture #4: Jesus in the manger.*

"But Jesus arrived as a baby. He grew up as a carpenter, or builder. Switch!

*Kid moves the flashlight to picture #5: Jesus teaching.*

"As Jesus began to travel and teach, He started to shine God's light in a very different way. Switch!

## **JESUS BRINGS LIGHT**

*Kid moves the flashlight to picture #6: bride and groom.*

**LEADER:** "John wrote about the time that Jesus turned water into the very best wine so a wedding celebration could continue. Switch!

*Kid moves the flashlight to picture #7: man dancing with a crutch.*

"Jesus spent time with people who were considered outcasts and showed them God's love. He healed a man who had been sick and unable to walk for 38 years! Switch!

*Kid moves the flashlight to picture #8: loaves and fish.*

"Jesus fed more than 5,000 people using just five loaves of bread and two small fish. Switch!

*Kid moves the flashlight to picture #9: Jesus walks on water.*





WEEK  
**FIVE**  
SEPTEMBER 2024

LARGE GROUP  
**K-5**  
STARTER

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

"He even walked on water!

"All of these signs and miracles help people to see Who Jesus really is. Anytime that Jesus saw a need, He did something about it. Switch!

*Kid moves the flashlight to picture #10: religious leaders frowning.*

"The religious leaders weren't happy with Jesus. The people were following Him instead of them. And Jesus didn't back down when the religious leaders challenged Him.

"One day, Jesus talked to a group of people about the light He brought to the world. He said:

*Open the Bible to John 8:12 (NirV) and read (using the book light).*

*"I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in darkness. They will have that light. They will have life." (NirV)*

"Jesus was telling the religious leaders—and everyone else—that He is God's Rescuer, sent to bring light to a dark world.

### **LIGHT OF THE WORLD**

**LEADER:** "So . . . what does it mean for us that Jesus is the light of the world? Switch!

*Kid moves the flashlight to picture #11: light shining on a path.*

"Jesus brings light to GUIDE us in the right direction. We need Jesus to help us make wise choices. Switch!

*Kid moves the flashlight to picture #12: light shining on a kid growing.*

"The light that Jesus brings can also help us GROW. His light can show us the places where we can grow to become more like Him. Switch!

*Kid moves the flashlight to picture #13: light shining on a kid bowing in prayer.*

"And the light of Jesus meets our GREATEST NEED. Who knows what that is? *(Pause.)* Yes, we need a Savior. We've all done wrong things that hurt others and break our relationship with God. This is called sin, and it isn't something we can fix on our own. It's like living in the dark. But Jesus came to take the consequences of our sin and bring us back into relationship with God. Switch!

*Kid moves the flashlight to picture #14: heart with light.*

"When we turn away from the wrong things we've done and choose to follow Jesus, it's as if He shines a bright light into our hearts . . . and our lives.

### **WRAPPING UP THE STORY**

**LEADER:** "Remember what Jesus said:

*Open the Bible to John 8:12 (NirV) and read (using the book light).*



WEEK  
**FIVE**  
SEPTEMBER 2024

LARGE GROUP  
**K-5**  
STARTER

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

*"I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in darkness. They will have that light. They will have life." (NirV) Switch!*

*Kid moves the flashlight to picture #15: **Jesus is the light of the world.***

**SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE**

**"Jesus is the light of the world.** Say that with me."

**LEADER AND KIDS: "Jesus is the light of the world."**

**SLIDE: THEME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**

**LIGHTS: NORMAL**

*Get the flashlight back.*

## WHAT'S OUR PART IN THE STORY?

**LEADER:** "We ALL need the light of Jesus in our lives. Every single one of us has done wrong things that hurt others and break our relationship with God. But God saw our need . . . and God sent Jesus to be light in our darkness. When we choose to follow Jesus, we can live with God forever!"

"And we don't just need the light of Jesus one time. We need it over and over . . . every day of our lives. We need wisdom when we have to make tough decisions. And it's not just about how to respond to others. We need Jesus' light in our lives to see how WE need to change and grow too!"

"God saw our need and did something about it. When God sent Jesus to be our Savior, it was the perfect example of compassion. And when we live like Jesus, we too, will have compassion."

**SLIDE: VIRTUE**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME TRANSITION TO VIRTUE**

"Remember, compassion means **caring enough to do something about someone else's needs.**"

**SLIDE: THEME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): VIRTUE TRANSITION TO THEME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**

"Let's pray and ask God to help us have compassion and shine Jesus' light."

## PRAYER

**LEADER:** "Dear God, thank You for seeing our biggest need—our need for a Savior. Thank You for sending Jesus to be the light of the world. It's the biggest act of compassion the world has ever known! We want to show compassion to





WEEK  
**FIVE**  
SEPTEMBER 2024

LARGE GROUP  
**K-5**  
STARTER

**PRELUDE**      **SOCIAL**      **STORY**      **WORSHIP**      **GROUPS**      **HOME**

25 MINUTES

others too. We want to shine Jesus' light everywhere we go. Please help us do that . . . even when it's hard. We are so thankful that You are with us, and that **[Basic Truth] we can trust You no matter what.** We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

*Dismiss kids to their small groups.*

**AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT.**

**SLIDE: THEME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**



WEEK  
**FIVE**  
SEPTEMBER 2024

LARGE GROUP  
**K-5**  
STARTER

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

## 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
- Table to work a puzzle
- A simple puzzle meant for younger elementary kids (i.e. 24 pieces)
- Mini-flashlights (one for every two kids)
- Leaders' phone

##### MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter the room
- Fun music for the game
- Buzzer (provided)

##### LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Theme Slide
- Memory Verse Slide

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

- Theme Loop
- Countdown
- Countdown (30-second version)
- Theme Intro

##### 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.
- Refer to week 1 to confirm that your church has appropriate licensing to perform or play music and sound effects in your kids' environments.
- *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 has 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).
- Place the table on the stage or in front of where the kids usually sit. Open up the puzzle box and scatter the pieces on the table.

#### 2. WORSHIP

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Leader(s)

##### MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

- "Love Like You" from *Make a Move*
- "This Little Light" from *This Little Light*

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

- *Live Loud* video from *Get Reel* (available through the 252 Media Package)
- "This Little Light" Dance Moves Music Video (available through the 252 Media Package)

##### 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
- Bible, with a book light



WEEK  
**FIVE**  
SEPTEMBER 2024

LARGE GROUP  
**K-5**  
STARTER

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

## GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

- Bible Story Illustrations, printed from the LG Assets PDF
- Heavy-duty string, removable plastic hooks, and clothespins (or other way of hanging the pictures on a clothesline or other horizontal surface)
- Large flashlight

### MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

- Upbeat music to use as kids exit the room

### LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Theme Background Slide
- Bottom Line Slide
- Theme Slide
- Virtue Slide
- Bible Story Illustrations (printable)

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

- Theme Loop
- Theme Transition to Virtue
- Virtue Transition to Theme

### 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.
- Confirm that your church has appropriate licensing to perform or play music and sound effects in your kids' environments (see above under Opener).
- Print the Bible Story Illustrations and figure out how you'd like to display them. They should be placed in order, horizontally, on a clothesline or something similar. One option would be to use removable plastic hooks on a wall or piece of furniture, tie a heavy-duty piece of string around each hook, then pin each printed illustration on the string with a clothespin.

### 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 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 that will help kids learn basic faith skills. Use these videos in your FX (Family Experience), Large Group, or midweek programming, or share them with families in your church according to the terms of the 252 Enhanced Licensing Agreement.

*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:

- Motion graphics, including loops
- Themed audio transitions
- Virtue and monthly widget promo videos (Melv and Greg)
- Countdown videos (30 seconds, 60 seconds, and 5 minutes)
- Dance moves music video for an additional worship song related to the monthly virtue
- Retro Reel video to play on your fifth Sunday