



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

You'd Better Think
David Spares Saul's Life
1 Samuel 24

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.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Think before you act.

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction
Early Arriver
Opening Activity

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

God's power has given us
everything we need to lead
a godly life.
2 Peter 1:3a, NIV

LARGE GROUP

35
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways
WORSHIP: Inviting People to Respond to God
Opener
Worship ("Sing Your Praise" and "I'm So Grateful")
Bible Story
Bottom Line
What's Our Part in the Story?
Prayer

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Self-control—Choosing to do what's
best even when you don't want to

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect
Bible Story Review: Who Wants to Be King? (*k-1st grade*),
Take Over Review (*2nd-3rd grade*)
Application Activity: Think Before You Act (*k-1st grade*), Think
Then Act (*2nd-3rd grade*)
Memory Verse Activity: Rely on God (*k-1st grade*), Take It
Away (*2nd-3rd grade*)
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.

HOME: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience
Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
Devotionals for Kids
Parent Cue App



WEEK
THREE
OCTOBER 2024

LARGE
GROUP
K-5

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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David Spares Saul's Life
1 Samuel 24

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Think before you act.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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MONTHLY VIRTUE

Self-control—Choosing to do what's
best even when you don't want to

BASIC TRUTH

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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

Host enters.

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME INTRO

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

OPENER

HOST: "What's up, everybody? Today is a great day. You're here . . . I'm here . . . we're ALL here for some big-time game show fun! All month we're finding out how God can help us stay in control and do what's right. "Today's game will be a fun one. It's called 'Dip In!'"

SLIDE: "DIP IN!"

"I'll need five brave adult volunteers, who don't have any food allergies, to come up and play.

Bring five adults on stage. These could be Small Group Leaders, Worship Leaders, Tech Volunteers, etc. Ideally, pre-select the leaders and confirm that they'll be okay to play the game. Give each of them a blindfold to put on.

"As you can see, these amazing leaders will all be blindfolded. For each round of the game, they'll eat a chip that has been dipped. They'll take a bite and then try to guess what KIND of dip their chip has been dipped in. The first one to raise their hand and tell me the correct kind of dip wins the round.

"We can cheer for our contestants, but it's important that we don't say what the dip is out loud. I know that'll take a lot of self-control!

(To the leaders) "Contestants, please wait patiently while we prepare your first chip.

AUDIO: FUN, INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC



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SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

Put on the food service gloves. Dip a chip for each leader in the first type of dip (salsa), making sure the audience can see what you're using for the dip. Then set a dipped chip on the plate in front of each contestant.

Note: Worship Leaders can help with the chip dipping and setting the chips on the plates.

"Contestants, you may now taste your chip.

Contestants taste their chips.

"If you think you know what it is, raise your hand, and I'll call on you.

Call on the leader who raises their hand first. If they answer correctly, they win the round. (If they answer incorrectly, call on the next contestant to raise their hand, and so on.)

Play as many rounds of the game as time allows. When the game's over, give each leader a bottle of water.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

"Well, that was amazing! I'm sure our contestants will never forget this exciting episode of "Dip In." Now let's all stand up and get ready to move, dance, and sing as we worship God!"



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10 MINUTES

WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Hi, everyone! I'm super excited to sing and worship God with all of you today. I know that this is new for a lot of you. Oftentimes we have praise and worship at summer camp - but not in our classrooms all the time. But now that we have this amazing theater, we can praise and worship God every weekend. Why don't you stand with me as we worship, and right before we sing our first song, I want to read you a verse from the Bible. It comes from the Gospel of Luke. Luke chapter 19.

Chapter 19 describes Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, where he rode into town on a donkey. People everywhere worshiped and praised Jesus. While this was happening, the religious leaders got upset and told Jesus to tell the people to be quiet.

Jesus replied:

"I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."

Jesus is the Son of God. He will be worshiped because he deserves our worship. If we don't worship, then even the rocks and all of creation will cry out to worship him.

So this morning, we're not going to let the rocks cry out. Let's raise our voices and sing LOUD and PROUD to worship our King!

[VIDEO: "SING YOUR PRAISE" LIVE LYRICS](#)

Guys, that was awesome! I love hearing your voices! Thank you for raising your voices to praise the name of Jesus!

I want us to sing one more song. If we sit and think about it, there's a lot of things to thank God for, isn't there? Honestly, it's easy to be grateful. For our lives. For our parents. For the weather. For the food.

This morning, I'm grateful to be here at church with you. I'm thankful for this new space to worship the Lord in. Let's sing this next song and express our gratitude to Jesus.

[VIDEO: "I'M SO GRATEFUL" LIVE LYRICS](#)

PRAYER: Close in prayer



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BIBLE STORY

VIDEO: "THE STORY BEFORE THE STORY"

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Storyteller crouching on the stage while King Saul sits on bench in front corner.

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: Okay, this is awkward. My name is David. Me and my friends are stuck in this cave. Shhhhh. You gotta be quiet, shhhhh. See that guy over there. That's King Saul. He's my mortal enemy. He's trying to kill me. We used to be friends. His son was my BFF. But for 10 years now, this guy has been trying to kill me. I've literally been running for my life. I've hidden everywhere you can imagine. I've hidden in a tree. I've hidden behind a rock. I've hidden under a rock. I've hidden in a field. I've hidden in a house. I've hidden in a field. I've hidden in a cave - like the one I'm hiding in right now.

Wing it with more dialogue.

DAVID'S BIG CHANCE

STORYTELLER: My friends think that right now is a great opportunity. What better time to attack your enemy than when they're vulnerable.

LET'S TALK IT OUT

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER:

"Even though Saul was still his enemy, David had peace knowing that he had stayed in control. He had chosen to stop and trust God instead of choosing to hurt Saul. "We need to stop and think when we feel like we're about to lose control. We need to take a minute . . . take a breath . . . and choose to trust God. We need to think before we act! That's what we need to remember today:

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

"Think before you act. Say that with me."

STORYTELLER AND KIDS: "Think before you act."

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

Host enters.



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25 MINUTES

WHAT'S OUR PART IN THE STORY?

HOST: "It must have been tough for David to stay in control in that situation. I mean, his men were all telling him that this was his big chance to get Saul! But David stopped and trusted God. That's why he was able to stop and choose self-control."

SLIDE: VIRTUE

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME TRANSITION TO VIRTUE

"Remember—self-control is choosing to do what's best even when you don't want to."

SLIDE: THEME

VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

STORYTELLER: "Like David, we can choose self-control when we stop to think . . . and when we ask God to help us do what's best."

HOST: "Let's say your mom asks you to clean your room. Instead of stomping around and complaining, you could pause and take a deep breath (*take a deep breath*) . . . then do what she's asked you to do with a good attitude."

STORYTELLER: "Or maybe you're tempted to sneak a cookie from the pantry even though it's right before dinner. Stop and think—is this the wise choice? You can ask God to help you stay in control."

HOST: "That's right. God's Spirit can help you choose self-control. And remember, you can think about Jesus and the way HE chose self-control. He had all the power in the world, but He chose to show love instead of trying to get back at the people who were trying to stop Him."

STORYTELLER: "Let's pray and ask God to help us think before we act."

PRAYER

STORYTELLER OR HOST: "Dear God, we're so glad to know that You're always with us, and that You can help us stay in control. Show us how we can act like David in this story. Give us the wisdom to stop and think before we act. Help us trust You so we can do what's best . . . instead of doing what we feel like doing, or even what other people say we should do. Please help us to remember that *[Basic Truth]* we need to make the wise choice . . . and that You can help us! 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