

# 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. Crown David
2. Thankful Game
3. What Do You Hear?

## 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. Silent Tambourine
2. Praise Cube
3. Raise Your Voice
4. David Danced
5. Thankful Book
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](http://ParentCue.org)



### Today's Bible Story

## David Praises God

2 Samuel 6:12-15; Psalm 144:9-10  
I can praise God.

### 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."**

Psalm 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.**

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Hi, friends! My name is [YOUR NAME]. I am SO happy to see you today because we get to worship and celebrate God together.

"We get to say 'Yay, God!' because God is SO good.

"God is so good that He made all the beautiful flowers that we get to enjoy. Let's pretend to smell a pretty flower.

→ **Pretend to hold up and smell a flower.**

"Now say, 'Yay, God!' with me. Ready?

**CHILDREN and WORSHIP LEADER:** "Yay, God!"

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "God is SO good that He gave us friends that we can play with. Give a friend next to you a high five.

→ **Give a high-five to a preschooler close to you.**

"Now say, 'Yay, God!' with me. Ready?

**CHILDREN and WORSHIP LEADER:** "Yay, God!"

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "And God is so good that He gave us people who love us. Give yourself a great big hug!

→ **Give yourself a hug.**

"Now say, 'Yay, God!' with me. Ready?

**CHILDREN and WORSHIP LEADER:** "Yay, God!"

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Friends, God is SO good, and God loves you SO much! So, let's sing and celebrate our 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!

→ **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?

10 MINUTES

# Worship

10 MINUTES

# Bible Study Prayer

- 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 Intro Sketch

- A small table is in the storytelling area
- Host enters as Worship Leader exits. Host carries the prepared picnic basket of instruments and sets the basket on the small table

**HOST:** "Hi, friends! My name is [YOUR NAME]. Welcome to [YOUR ENVIRONMENT'S NAME OR STORY TIME]!"

"We are going to have a very special picnic right now. It's a ...

- Pull out the preschool xylophone from the picnic basket and hold it up for children to see.

"... musical picnic!

- Play several notes on the xylophone excitedly.

"Making music is so much fun.

- Gesture to preschool xylophone.

"If you know this instrument, shout it out! (LISTEN.) That's right. It's a xylophone!

- Play "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" on the xylophone as you sing. Encourage the children to sing with you.

**CHILDREN and HOST:** (SINGING)

"Twinkle, twinkle little star,  
How I wonder what you are.  
Up above the world so high,  
Like a diamond in the sky.  
Twinkle, twinkle little star,  
How I wonder what you are.

10 MINUTES

# Worship

10 MINUTES

# Bible Study Prayer

- Pull out the preschool rain stick from the picnic basket and hold it up for children to see.

"This instrument is super-special.

- Slowly turn the rain stick back and forth.

"It's a rain stick! Doesn't that sound like a rainstorm? Hold on ...

- Pull out the slide whistle from the picnic basket and hold it up for children to see.

"Oh, wait until you hear this!

- Blow on the slide whistle, sliding it up and down a few times.

"It's called a slide whistle!

- Play the slide whistle again. Then, put it down and pull out the ribbon stick as you continue talking.

"This doesn't make music, but it helps you dance to the music!

- Wave the ribbon stick in the air as you twirl around.

"Can you hold up your pretend ribbons and dance with me!

- Continue to wave the ribbon stick and twirl around.

- Set down the ribbon stick.

"Whew! Making music is so much fun! And that reminds me of a true story from the Bible, found in the book of 2 Samuel! [STORYTELLER'S NAME] is going to come tell us all about it. See you soon!"

## ③ Bible Story

- The table and instruments from Intro are still in the storytelling area.
- Note: The King David volunteer is an exaggerated mime. Every action is a little bigger and much more expressive than Storyteller.

**STORYTELLER:** "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 W5 01

10 MINUTES

# Worship

10 MINUTES

# Bible Study Prayer

Today's true story from the Bible begins with a king named David.

→ **King David volunteer enters. He is wearing a crown.**

"David loved God.

→ **King David volunteer does the ASL sign for "love": Cross arms over chest.**

"And he wanted to praise God..."

→ **King David volunteer lifts his hands in praise.**

"... to show God he was thankful. Praising God is just thanking God for who God is and what God has done.

"Oh, let's ask King David this question together: How do you praise God? Say that with me. Ready?"

**CHILDREN and STORYTELLER:** "How do you praise God?"

→ **King David volunteer's face lights up, and he dances with his hands raised in praise. He is trying to get you to**

**SLIDE** → Story Image W5 02

**STORYTELLER:** "Oh, King David DANCED! We can read in the Bible that David danced with "all his might" (2 SAMUEL 6:14 ESV).

"Have you ever been so happy you started to dance? Me too!

"Can you show me how YOU would dance if you danced with all your might like King David? Let's stand up and dance!

**AUDIO** → Upbeat preschool worship music for about 10 seconds

→ **Have a little dance party with the children and the King David volunteer.**

"Wow! Those were some great dance moves. You can sit down now.

→ **King David volunteer taps you on the shoulder and points to his mouth. He mimes singing and shouting, trying to get you to guess.**

**SLIDE** → Story Image W5 03

"Oh, another way David and God's people, the Israelites, praised God was with their voice. Hmm, what can you do with your voice?"

10 MINUTES

# Worship

10 MINUTES

# Bible Study Prayer

→ **King David volunteer mimes singing.**

"Oh, sing! Can you sing? La, la, la, la, la!"

→ **King David volunteer taps you on the shoulder and mimes shouting in celebrating.**

"Ah, can you shout: 'Thank You, God'?"

**CHILDREN and STORYTELLER:** "Thank You, God!"

→ **King David volunteer picks up an instrument from Intro and plays it for you, trying to get you to guess.**

**SLIDE** → Story Image W5 04

**STORYTELLER:** "Oh, wow! David and the Israelites also praised God by making music with instruments, too!"

"Can we all pretend to play a trumpet? Let's do it together, ready?"

→ **Pretend to hold a trumpet or simple horn next to your mouth. King David volunteer joins in.**

**CHILDREN and STORYTELLER:** "Doot, doot, doo!"

**STORYTELLER:** "Let's do that together one more time."

**CHILDREN and STORYTELLER:** "Doot, doot, doo!"

**STORYTELLER:** "David danced to praise God..."

→ **King David volunteer dances with hands lifted in praise.**

"David and the Israelites used their voices to praise God."

→ **King David volunteer mimes singing and shouting.**

"And King David and the Israelites played instruments to praise God too."

→ **King David volunteer plays his instrument, but then abruptly and urgently starts gesturing and pointing to the children.**

**(TO KING DAVID VOLUNTEER.)** "What? The children? The children can do what?"

→ **King David volunteer lifts his hands in praise and points to heaven, trying to get you to understand.**

**(TO KING DAVID VOLUNTEER.)** "Oh, the children can praise God too!"

10 MINUTES

# Worship

10 MINUTES

# Bible Study Prayer

→ **King David volunteer gives you and the children an enthusiastic two thumbs-up.**

**(TO THE CHILDREN.)** "Of course! You can praise God too! Just like King David.

"How would you like to praise God? You can play an instrument ... sing ... or dance!

"On the count of three, show me how you can praise God. One ... two ... three!

→ **Listen and encourage children to respond.**

"Great job! There are all kinds of ways we can praise God and say, 'Thank You, God, for everything.'

**(TO KING DAVID VOLUNTEER.)** "And thank you, King David, for helping us today!

→ **King David volunteer waves and exits.**

**(TO THE CHILDREN.)** "All this thanking and praising reminds me of our Memory Verse.

"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.)**

"Let's say it together with all our might just like King David.

"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.)**

"Great job, friends! I love all the different ways we can thank God for everything.

"Who can thank God for everything?"

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

**STORYTELLER:** "Yes, **[BOTTOM LINE]** I can thank God for everything. Pick up and close Bible.

→ **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!"

10 MINUTES

# Worship

10 MINUTES

# Bible Study Prayer

## ③ Prayer

**STORYTELLER:** "Dear God, you are SO good! You love us and give us everything we need. Thank you for everything. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen."

"I'll see you next time. Bye!"

→ **Host enters as Storyteller exits, carrying Bible.**

## ⑤ Outro Sketch

→ **Host enters as Storyteller exits. Host carries prepared picnic basket from Intro.**

**HOST:** Wow! David praised God by dancing with "all his might" (2 **SAMUEL 6:14 ESV**). And David and God's people, the Israelites, said 'Thank You' to God with their voices and instruments. And we can praise God, too.

"I think I (**POINT TO SELF**) got the story. Did you (**POINT TO CHILDREN**) get it? If you did, say, 'Got it!' Get it?" (**CUP ONE HAND BEHIND EAR.**)

**CHILDREN and HOST:** "Got it!"

**HOST:** (**GIVE TWO THUMBS-UP.**) "Good!"

"David gave thanks to God with his whole heart. I can thank God for everything by playing these instruments!"

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

→ **Host dismisses small groups and exits.**



## 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

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**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: Intro/Outro Sketch

**What You Need**

- ☐ Small table
- ☐ Preschool xylophone
- ☐ Rain stick
- ☐ Slide whistle
- ☐ Ribbon stick
- ☐ Picnic basket

## Intro/Outro Sketch

Choose an adult or teenager who relates well to preschoolers to tell the Intro Sketch. If possible, use the same person for an entire month, as the Host role stays the same each month.

**What You Do**

1. Put the small table in the storytelling area.
2. Put all of the props inside the picnic basket.

### APlay

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## PLANNING

# Getting Ready: Bible Story

**What You Need**

- ☐ Bible
- ☐ Volunteer for King David
  - Option: Cardstock

**Music and Sound Effects:**

- ☐ Upbeat preschool worship music

**Large Group Visuals**

- ☐ Story Image W5 01
- ☐ Story Image W5 02
- ☐ Story Image W5 03
- ☐ Story Image W5 04

## 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](https://bit.ly/FL_GoingOnAPicnic)