**TODAY’S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE**

**TODAY’S BIBLE STORY**

Always Something There to Remind Me
Give Thanks No Matter What Happens
1 Thessalonians 5:18

**TODAY’S BOTTOM LINE**

You always have something to be grateful for.

**MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE**

Give thanks to the Lord, because he is good. His faithful love continues forever.
Psalm 136:1, NIrV

**MONTHLY LIFE APP**

Gratitude—Letting others know you see how they’ve helped you

**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**

**SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction**

15 MIN
Early Arriver
Opening Activity

**LARGE GROUP**

**STORY: Communicating God’s truth in engaging ways**

35 MIN
Welcome/Opener
Worship (“Thank You God” from Can’t Stop Won’t Stop, “[I Want to Say] Thank You” from This Love)
Bible Story
Bottom Line
Prayer
Closer

**SMALL GROUP**

**GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect**

25 MIN
Bible Story Review: Always Grateful (K–1st Grade), Give Thanks (2nd–3rd Grade)
Application Activity: T-H-A-N-K (K–1st Grade), Ups and Downs (2nd–3rd Grade)
Memory Verse Activity: Thank You Tag (K–1st Grade), Shout it Out (2nd–3rd Grade)
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

**HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience**

Parent Cue Card (print or email)
GodTime devotional for kids
Studio252.tv
Parent Cue App

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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

Host enters.

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (30- OR 60-SECOND VERSION)
OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

OPENER
HOST: “Hi, everyone! I’m so glad you’re here at [name of your environment]. My name is [Host’s name], and this month we’re talking about gratitude.

SLIDE: LIFE APP
OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME TRANSITION TO LIFE APP

“Gratitude is letting otters know you see how they’ve helped you.

SLIDE: PICTURE OF AN OTTER

“Well, isn’t that little guy so cute! I don’t think I’ve ever said thank you to an otter. Have you? Actually . . . wait a minute . . .

SLIDE: LIFE APP

“My mistake. It’s OTHERS—not otters. (laughing) That makes SO MUCH more sense!

“Gratitude is letting others know you see how they’ve helped you.

SLIDE: THEME
OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): LIFE APP TRANSITION TO THEME

“Others—as in other PEOPLE. It’s important for us to say thank you. It’s important for us to show how grateful we are.

“To get us on the right track, I thought we could start with some ‘shout-outs!’

Hold up the megaphone.
“Maybe you want to give a shout-out to your Small Group Leader for always being so kind. Or maybe you want to give a shout-out to your friend for telling you a great joke. If you want to give a shout-out—which is basically a ‘thank you’—to someone, just raise your hand! I’ll come over, and you can say it in the megaphone. Here we go!

**AUDIO: PLAY UPBEAT INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC AS HOST RUNS AROUND THE ROOM WITH THE MEGAPHONE**

Allow a few “shout-outs” from kids and leaders. Use a disinfecting wipe to clean the megaphone after each use.

“That was incredible! All of you are really good at showing gratitude. If gratitude is letting others know you see how they’ve helped you, I think we should all do something TOGETHER to let someone know how they’ve helped US. I thought we could make a ‘thank you’ card for [name of the person or people you’re making the card for].

Give a brief (two or three sentences) explanation of who you chose to make the card for and why.

Hold up the over-sized card.

“I’ve got this card here, but it’s not quite finished. I need your help! Let’s play some fun music while we all come up and put our thumbprints inside the letters. Your Small Group Leaders will have the ink pads.

Pass out the ink pads to the leaders.

“So, go to your Leader. Line up and wait your turn, then add your thumbprint to the card. Then, clean up and head back to your seat. Ready? Go!

**AUDIO: PLAY UPBEAT INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC AS KIDS ADD THEIR THUMBPRINTS TO THE CARD**

Set the card on the table. Have Small Group Leaders help kids get ink on their thumbs and leave their thumbprints on the card.

Provide wet wipes or a handwashing station so the kids can clean their hands afterward.

Set the finished card on the easel.

(referencing the finished card) “This is so cool! I know [card recipient’s name] is really going to appreciate getting this from all of us. Thanks for helping! Now, let’s get on our feet and thank God as we sing to Him together.”
WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

WORSHIP LEADER: “Hi, friends! I love it when we come together to worship God. He has done so many amazing things in our lives. Let’s sing and thank Him together. Come on, everybody. Sing with me!

AUDIO: “THANK YOU GOD” / TRACK 9 FROM CAN’T STOP WON’T STOP
OPTIONAL VIDEO: “THANK YOU GOD” LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

WORSHIP LEADER: “Yes! Every day is a gift from God. I love it when we can tell Him how grateful we are. Before we continue in worship, watch this.

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): LIVE LOUD VIDEO FROM GET REEL 2.0

WORSHIP LEADER: “It’s a good thing for us to thank God for all that He’s done for us. As we read in Ephesians 5:20: ‘Always give thanks to God the Father for everything. Give thanks to him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.’ (NIrV) No matter what, let’s choose to be thankful! Let’s sing this new song and thank God now. Sing along with us once you catch on.”

AUDIO: “(I WANT TO SAY) THANK YOU” / TRACK 7 FROM THIS LOVE
OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): “(I WANT TO SAY) THANK YOU” LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO
STORYTELLER: “Hi, everyone! I’ve got a great verse from the Bible to share with you (hold up Bible) that helps us understand why it’s important to show gratitude.

“A long, long time ago, there was a man named Paul. Paul decided to put his faith in Jesus, then he spent his life traveling around and starting new churches. Paul would travel to a city, tell people about Jesus, then help those new followers of Jesus start a church. He would stay and teach them for a while, then he’d travel to the next city to tell MORE people about Jesus.

“One of the cities Paul visited was a place called Thessalonica. Can you say, ‘Thessalonica’?”

KIDS AND STORYTELLER: “Thessalonica.”

STORYTELLER: “That’s great!

“Paul had started a church in Thessalonica, then he left to start a new church somewhere else. But Paul loved the followers of Jesus in Thessalonica, so he continued to check on them. They didn’t have email, phones, or video calls back then, so Paul wrote them letters. In fact, Paul wrote lots of letters to encourage followers of Jesus in different churches. Two of the letters he wrote to the church in Thessalonica are two of the books of the Bible: 1 Thessalonians and 2 Thessalonians.

“Listen to this really important piece of advice from one of the letters Paul wrote to the Thessalonians.

Open the Bible to 1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NIV) and read.

“Give thanks no matter what happens. God wants you to thank him because you believe in Christ Jesus.

“Let me read that again.

“Give thanks no matter what happens. God wants you to thank him because you believe in Christ Jesus.

“Paul wanted the Thessalonians to be grateful. That’s a really good reminder for us, too.”

IT CAN BE HARD TO BE GRATEFUL

STORYTELLER: “We can be grateful to people for the ways they’ve helped us. And we can also be grateful to God for all the ways HE’S helped us. But that isn’t always easy to do, is it? (Pause.) We know we SHOULD be grateful . . . but sometimes we forget.

Pick up the TV remote and the toy car.
“Like when you want to relax and watch your favorite TV show (hold up the remote), but you have to ride around with your mom all afternoon running errands (hold up the toy car). Your mom is doing those things FOR you and for your family—but all you can think about is what YOU wanted to do instead.

Put down the remote and toy car, and pick up the cookie and grapes.

“Or when your little sister eats the last cookie (hold up the cookie), so you get grapes instead (hold up the grapes). I mean, grapes are good . . . but you really wanted that cookie. Maybe it would be hard to be grateful then.

Put down the cookie and grapes, and pick up the calendar and stuffed fox.

“How about when you’re just having a bad day (hold up the calendar)—like if you lose your favorite stuffed animal (hold up the stuffed fox), and you can’t find it? Would that make it hard to be grateful? (Pause for response.) Right. It’s a lot easier to think about everything that’s going wrong. Choosing gratitude can be difficult when things don’t go the way we want them to."

Put down the calendar and stuffed fox.

HERE’S WHY
STORYTELLER: “Remember what Paul wrote in his letter?

Open the Bible to 1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NIrV) and read.

“Give thanks no matter what happens. God wants you to thank him because you believe in Christ Jesus.

“There’s an important clue there at the end of that verse. God wants you to thank Him—why? Because you believe in Jesus.

“You see, we have A LOT of reasons to be grateful to God. Everything good in our lives, including the people we love, it all comes from Him. No matter what’s going on in our lives, there’s something that we can ALWAYS be thankful for, and that’s our relationship with Him. We can be thankful because of what Jesus has done for us.

“The truth is, we’ve all made bad choices. We’ve all done things that are wrong—and that’s called sin. But God is perfect. He has never sinned. If God is perfect, and we sin, then unfortunately, our sin separates us from Him.

Lift your hands so your palms are facing each other, showing the separation.

“That’s why God sent Jesus. He loved us so much that He sent His Son to be our Savior. When Jesus died on the cross, He paid the price for our sin. Because of Jesus, we can be close to God and have a relationship with Him that will last forever.

Clasp your hands together.

“All we have to do is believe. See what I mean? We have A LOT to be grateful to God for!”
GRATEFUL HEARTS

STORYTELLER: “So, what if the next time we start feeling frustrated or angry, we stop and choose to be grateful instead? After all—even when everything seems to go wrong, we ALWAYS have something to be grateful for. We know that God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to be our Savior! When we think about THAT, it’s a lot easier to be thankful for everything else in our lives, too.

“For example . . .

AUDIO: BRIGHT PIANO MUSIC (SUGGESTION: “SUNDAY STROLL” BY BENNY TRESKOW)

“I can be grateful here or there.
“I can be grateful anywhere!
“I can be grateful for TV shows.
Hold up the TV remote.
“I can be grateful for JoJo™ bows!
Hold up the JoJo bow.
“I can be grateful for grapes and cookies.
Hold up grapes and cookies.
“I can be grateful for Star Wars Wookiees.
Hold up the Chewbacca™ action figure/stuffed toy/photo.
“I can be grateful for this fox.
Hold up the stuffed fox.
“I can be grateful for this box.
Hold up the prop box.
“I can be grateful even when I miss the party.
Hold up the party hat.
“I can be grateful for my friend, Charlie.
Hold up the picture of a boy.

“I can be grateful when I’m riding in the car.

Hold up the toy car.

“I can be grateful when I’m near or far.

Point to something far away.

“I can be grateful here or there.

“I can be grateful anywhere!”

**AUDIO: FADE OUT MUSIC**

Close the binder and set it down.

**WRAPPING UP THE STORY**

**STORYTELLER:** “Being grateful is part of following Jesus. Because of Jesus, and how much He loves us, we can have joy, no matter what!

“Remember . . .

**SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE**

“**You always have something to be grateful for.**

“When you start to feel frustrated or mad, when things just aren’t going your way, no matter what happens, you can stop and think about Jesus. You can remember how much God loves you. You can think about how grateful you are to Him—and that will help you be grateful to the people around you, too.

“Let’s pray and thank God now.”

**SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND**

**PRAY**

**STORYTELLER:** “Dear God, thank You for loving us. Thank You for sending Jesus so we can have a relationship with You. Thank you for being a God [Basic Truth] we can trust no matter what. We are so grateful! Please help us live with gratitude to You and to the people around us, too. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”
Host enters as Storyteller exits.

**HOST:** “Wow! If you’re ever having trouble feeling grateful, just think about Jesus. Jesus died to pay the price for our sin so we could be forgiven! Because of Jesus, we get to have a relationship with God that will last forever. God is ALWAYS with us. He will never stop loving us!

“It’s like Paul said in his letter—we can live with gratitude every day because of what Jesus has done for us.

**SLIDE:** BOTTOM LINE

“You always have something to be thankful for.

“No matter what happens—when things are going great, even when you feel scared, angry, or confused—you can be grateful to God and others.

“It helps when we remember to stop and thank God. When we pray, we don’t have to ONLY ask Him for the things we need. We can thank Him for the way He loves us and for all the good things He’s given to us.

“Our memory verse this month is Psalm 136:1. Let’s read it together.”

**SLIDE:** MEMORY VERSE SLIDE

**KIDS AND HOST:** “Give thanks to the Lord, because he is good. His faithful love continues forever.” (Psalm 136:1, NIrV)

**HOST:** “God is so good to us! He loves us, and He is always with us. We can live in a grateful way because of everything He’s done in our lives.

“You can head to Small Group now and talk about that some more. I’ll see you later!”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

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

**SLIDE:** THEME

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**
STORY: COMMUNICATING GOD’S TRUTH IN ENGAGING WAYS (25 MINUTES)

WORSHIP: INVITING PEOPLE TO RESPOND TO GOD (10 MINUTES)

In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you’ll find a general summary of Social Distancing Recommendations, as well as a monthly document detailing possible Large Group Social Distancing Adaptations. Please refer to these documents so you can plan your Large Group experience with health and safety in mind.

1. OPENER/CLOSER

WHAT YOU NEED:
- Host
- Megaphone
- Two poster boards to make a giant “thank you” card (see “What You Do”)  
- Thick black marker
- Washable ink pads for kids to do thumbprints; one for each small group
- Table
- Easel (to display the finished card)
- Disinfecting wipes
- Wet wipes or a handwashing station

MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:
- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room
- Upbeat instrumental music to play during the “shout-outs” and as you create the “thank you” card

LARGE GROUP VISUALS:
- Theme Slide
- Life App Slide
- Theme Background Slide
- Bottom Line Slide
- Memory Verse Slide
- Picture of an otter

OPTIONAL VIDEOS (AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE THROUGH THE 252 MEDIA PACKAGE):
- Theme Loop
- Countdown (30- or 60-second version)
- Theme
- Theme Transition to Life App
- Life App 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.iamicus.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.
- 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.
- Decide who you want to give the over-sized “thank you” card to. This could be someone at your church, community first responders, etc.
- Create the giant “thank you” card by connecting the two pieces of poster board on one side. Outline “THANK YOU” in large block letters, using the thick black marker. (The kids will fill in the letters with their thumbprints.)
- Have the table with the card, inkpads, and wet wipes and/or disinfecting wipes out on the stage,
easily accessible and visible. Host will enter with the megaphone.

2. WORSHIP
WHAT YOU NEED:
• Worship Leader(s)

MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:
• “Thank You God” from Can’t Stop Won’t Stop
• “(I Want to Say) Thank You” from This Love (In Get Reel 2.0 there is a Live Loud video you can show to help teach and encourage worship in our everyday lives. Consider using this segment before doing “[I Want to Say] Thank You.”)

OPTIONAL VIDEOS (AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE):
• “Thank You God” Live Lyrics Video (available through Store.ThinkOrange.com)
• Live Loud Video from Get Reel (available through the 252 Media Package)
• “(I Want to Say) Thank You” Live Lyrics Video (available through Store.ThinkOrange.com) or 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:
• Storyteller
• Bible
• Table
• Prop box containing:
  □ TV remote
  □ Toy car
  □ Cookie (real or plastic)
  □ Grapes (real or plastic)
  □ Calendar
  □ Fox—stuffed animal
  □ JoJo Siwa™ hair bow (or something similar)
  □ Chewbacca™ action figure, stuffed toy, or photo (If using a photo, please make sure it is properly licensed.)
  □ Party hat
  □ Picture of a boy
• Binder with a printed script inside for the “Grateful Hearts” section

MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:
• Bright piano music (suggestion: “Sunday Stroll” by Benny Treskow)

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

- 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.

VIDEO ENHANCEMENTS FOR YOUR ENVIRONMENT
AVAILABLE FOR ADDITIONAL PURCHASE AT STORE.THINKORANGE.COM.

FEATURE PRESENTATION: Everything you need to pull off a dynamic weekly Large Group 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):
- 252 Story brings you the Bible story in a simple and direct way through a professional Storyteller accompanied by engaging visuals.
- Also included: Intro and Outro videos with a character Host. The Intros set up the Bible story, while the Outros connect the story to the weekly Bottom Line. These videos are interchangeable with the live Opener and Closer, so you can use them to bookend either a live Storyteller or 252 Story.

For 252 Preteen (4th and 5th grade):
- In The So & So Show, two Hosts 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 2.0: 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
- Life App and monthly widget promo videos (M.C. Haggis)
- Countdown videos (30 and 60 seconds)
- Music videos for original songs that highlight each Life App
- Retro Reel video to play on your fifth Sunday

SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES
AVAILABLE FOR ADDITIONAL PURCHASE AT STORE.THINKORANGE.COM.

MONTHLY Widget*: SECRET SHOUT-OUTS
Each month, we offer a unique item that helps kids and families apply what they’re learning at home. Available at Store.ThinkOrange.com.

When we’re thankful for someone, we don’t have to keep it a secret. After all, gratitude is about letting others know you see how they’ve helped you. That’s where these fun “secret shout-outs” come in. Families can fill in the prompts to express their gratitude, then stick the notes on the person’s door, seat, or notebook. Imagine how great they’ll feel when they know how grateful you are!
*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