



TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Love One Another/Philip and the Ethiopian Official

John 13:34-35, Acts 8:26-40

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Love others the way
Jesus loves you.

KEY QUESTION

How can you love like Jesus?

MEMORY VERSE

"Whoever believes in me . . .
rivers of living water will flow
from within them."

John 7:38, NIV

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way
I want to be treated.

LARGE GROUP

COME TOGETHER TO RECAP EVERYTHING YOU'VE LEARNED AS YOU PREPARE TO DISMISS KIDS TO THEIR FAMILIES. (5-10 MINUTES)

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS ENTER.

VIDEO: MAKE WAVES THEME LOOP

Host is on stage, welcoming the kids as they enter.

VIDEO: MAKE WAVES HYPE VIDEO

OR

VIDEO: MAKE WAVES 30- OR 60-SECOND TIMER

OPENER

VIDEO: MAKE WAVES THEME LOOP

HOST: "Friends! It's amazing to be back here with you. This is our time to find out how we can 'make waves' and share God's love with others.

"You see, amazing things can happen when God's Spirit is working through you.

SLIDE: MAKE WAVES THEME DEFINITION

"You can 'make waves,' because **what you do today can change the world around you!**

VIDEO: MAKE WAVES THEME LOOP

"We've talked about how each of us is made in God's image. God created us with a purpose. We get to share God's love with others. On top of that, God sent Jesus to be our Savior! NOTHING is more important than your relationship with Jesus. You can trust Him with your whole life!

"I've got another fun game to start off our time together—and this one's a real splash. You'll play with your small group as your teammates. Are you ready for . . . 'Splash Bucket'?"

SLIDE: "SPLASH BUCKET"

"Everyone, go ahead and line up behind your group's tape line.

Point to the tape lines on the floor that are labeled with the name/number of each small group (just like the previous day's game). Each group should line up behind their tape line, facing their team's bucket full of water.



Note: These tape lines should be at different lengths depending in the age of the kids (for example, the distance to the bucket for kindergarteners should be much shorter than for 5th graders). You may also want to make the game more difficult for older kids by having them throw the balls backwards, with their eyes closed, etc.

"As you can see, your group has a bucket full of water right there in front of you. You've also got a bucket of tennis balls. You'll take turns . . . and when it's your turn, you'll stand behind the line and try to bounce a tennis ball into the bucket.

Demonstrate by trying to bounce a tennis ball into a bucket.

"Just throw one tennis ball—and then head to the back of the line so you can wait for your next turn.

"Small Group Leaders, you can go ahead and stand behind your team's bucket. You're the catcher . . . so if your teammates miss, you can catch the tennis balls and roll them back to the front of the line.

"When time's up, we'll check and see which team has the most tennis balls in their bucket! Are you ready to play? *(Pause for response.)* All right, let's see if you can make a splash. Ready, set, BOUNCE!

VIDEO: MAKE WAVES 60-SECOND TIMER

Comment on the action as the kids bounce the tennis balls. Remind them of the rules if needed (one throw per person, go to the back of the line after you throw, etc.).

When time is up . . .

SLIDE: "SPLASH BUCKET"

"All right, Small Group Leaders. Please take a look at your team's bucket and see how many tennis balls are inside. Raise your hand if your group got at least one—and keep your hands up. *(Pause for response.)* Two points? *(Pause for response.)* Three? *(Pause for response.)*

Keep going until you narrow it down to the group with the highest total.

"You are amazing splash-bouncers—all of you! Way to go!

VIDEO: MAKE WAVES THEME LOOP

"Before we spend some time singing and praising God together, let's clean up! You can toss the tennis balls in your team's bucket—the dry one, not the one with the water. Ha! Then you can bring all the buckets up here.

Show the kids where to take their buckets.

"Thanks for helping, everyone. Stay on your feet so we can dance and sing!"



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LARGE GROUP
OPENER

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

ROTATIONS

HOME

WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter. Host exits—or he/she can go into the audience to participate.

WORSHIP LEADER: “Hello, everybody! It’s great to see you. I’m excited that we have this chance to worship God together. In this first song, we get to sing about how much we trust God with our lives. We can be thankful and content because we know that God is always with us. Let’s sing this to God—with everything we’ve got!

VIDEO: “WHAT I CHOOSE” LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

“Let me hear you say, ‘I want to love like You.’ *(Pause for response; repeat if needed.)* That’s great! Every day, we can show love to other people because we know how much God loves US. As we read in 1 John 4:19, ‘We love because he loved us first.’ *(NirV)* We can ‘make waves’ and show love in everything we do. Let’s sing about that now.

VIDEO: “LOVE LIKE YOU” LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

“That was so fun! I love to sing and dance and worship God with all of you. You can have a seat.”

Worship Leaders exit.



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INTRO VIDEO

VIDEO: MAKE WAVES ELEMENTARY INTRO VIDEO, DAY 4

Storyteller enters. As the Intro Video is playing, Storyteller sets up the table and places the 10 beach buckets on top (face down).

BIBLE STORY (LIVE OR VIDEO)

NOTE: If you choose to tell the Bible story live, use the script below. We have also provided a Bible story video, with the same content, that you can show here in place of the live Bible story script.

OPTIONAL VIDEO: MAKE WAVES ELEMENTARY BIBLE STORY VIDEO, DAY 4 (IF YOU CHOOSE TO USE IT IN PLACE OF THE LIVE BIBLE STORY SCRIPT)

SETTING UP THE STORY

SLIDE: BLANK THEME

Storyteller enters.

Note: The kiddie pool (with water) should already be pre-set on one side of the stage. The balloons and toy vehicle should be hidden behind a curtain.

STORYTELLER: "Hi, everyone! (Hold up Bible.) We've got a great story to look at today that definitely made waves!

"Just before Jesus was arrested and sent to die on the cross, He was spending time with His friends, the disciples.

Go behind the curtain where you've hidden the balloons. Bring out the Jesus face balloon and the disciples face balloons.

"Let's see . . . we've got Jesus.

Hold up the Jesus balloon in one hand, so His face is visible.

"And we've got the disciples.

Hold up the disciples balloons in your other hand, as one big bunch.

"Jesus took the time to tell His friends exactly what it means to follow Him. He gave them a new command—a new purpose for their lives. And what Jesus said to them is also true for you and me today. It's the single biggest thing we can do to 'make waves' in the world around us! Are you ready to hear it? (Pause for response.)

"Jesus told His friends:

SLIDE: JOHN 13:34



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Read from the screen.

“Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you.” (John 13:34, NIRV)

SLIDE: BLANK THEME

Place the Jesus balloon and the disciples balloons back behind the curtain.

“When Jesus died on the cross and then came back to life, His friends knew what they had to do. They left Jerusalem and started telling others about Jesus.

“One of those Jesus-followers was a man named Philip.

Go behind the curtain and bring out the Philip balloon.

PHILIP MEETS THE OFFICIAL

STORYTELLER: “Philip was a leader in the early days of the church. He was traveling around to different places, telling people about Jesus.

Carry the Philip balloon around the stage.

(As Philip) “Hello, there! I have great news! Jesus is God’s Son! He’s the Savior of the world! Isn’t that amazing?”

Go back to center stage.

(As yourself) “One day, an angel of the Lord appeared and spoke to Philip.

Go behind the curtain and bring out the angel balloon (in your other hand).

“The angel told him:

SLIDE: ACTS 8:26

Read from the screen.

“Go south to the desert road. . . . It’s the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (Acts 8:26, NIRV)

SLIDE: BLANK THEME

“So that’s what Philip did. He started traveling on the desert road. *(Walk in place.)* On the way, he met a man—an official from Ethiopia.

Put the angel balloon behind the curtain, and bring out the Ethiopian official balloon. (You should now have the Philip balloon in one hand, and the Ethiopian official balloon in your other hand.)



"This man had a very important job. He was in charge of ALL the queen's wealth. He had traveled all the way to Jerusalem so that he could worship God, and now he was on his way home. He was sitting in his chariot.

Go behind the curtain and bring out the toy vehicle. (This could be a tricycle, a remote-control car, or a kids' ride-on vehicle.)

Place the vehicle on one side of the stage, opposite from the kiddie pool. Clip the Ethiopian official balloon onto the vehicle (for example, onto one of the handlebars).

"The Ethiopian official had decided to read Scripture from Isaiah the prophet.

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

STORYTELLER: "God's Spirit told Philip to stay near the chariot . . . so that's what Philip did.

Stand next to the vehicle, while still holding the Philip balloon.

"Philip heard the Ethiopian official reading out loud, from Scripture. Philip recognized that the words came from Isaiah.

As you read from the screen during this next exchange, move the Philip and Ethiopian official balloons (by pulling their strings) to make them "talk."

SLIDE: ACTS 8:30

Read from the screen.

"Do you understand what you're reading?" Philip asked.

SLIDE: ACTS 8:31

"How can I?" he said. "I need someone to explain it to me." (Acts 8:30-31, NIV)

SLIDE: BLANK THEME

"So the man invited Philip to sit with him.

Clip the Philip balloon to a different part of the vehicle (such as the other handlebar).

"This is what the man was reading:

Walk behind the vehicle and hold up the Bible in front of the Ethiopian official balloon, so it looks like the official is reading it. Read the passage from Acts 8:32 (which is quoting Isaiah 53:7).

"He was led like a sheep to be killed. Just as lambs are silent while their wool is being cut off, he did not open his mouth." (Acts 8:32, NIV)



Set the Bible down.

“The official asked Philip who the prophet Isaiah was talking about. In other words, WHO was led like a sheep to be killed?”

“Philip explained that Isaiah was talking about the Savior—the One who God had promised to send someday. And now Jesus, the Savior, had COME! Philip started with the Scripture from Isaiah and shared the good news about Jesus. He told the man how God had sent Jesus to rescue us.

MAKING A SPLASH

STORYTELLER: “Philip and the man from Ethiopia traveled along the road together.

Push the vehicle (with the two balloons) across the stage, toward the kiddie pool. (If it’s a battery-powered vehicle, use the remote or gas pedal.)

“Soon, they came to some water.

Stop the vehicle next to the kiddie pool.

“The official told Philip:

SLIDE: ACTS 8:36-37

Read from the screen.

“Look! Here is water! What can stop me from being baptized?” (Acts 8:36-37, NIV)

SLIDE: BLANK THEME

“The two men went down into the water . . .

Unclip both balloons and bring them down to the water level of the kiddie pool.

“. . . and Philip baptized his new friend.

Dunk the Ethiopian official balloon in pool. Then quickly clip the Ethiopian official balloon back onto the vehicle.

“Get this—when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord took Philip away!

Put the Philip balloon behind your back.

“The Ethiopian official didn’t see Philip again, but he joyfully went on his way.

Walk to center stage.



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LARGE GROUP
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“And Philip was seen next at the town of Azotus.

Hold the Philip balloon in front of you.

“From then on, Philip continued to travel around and tell people about Jesus.

Clip the Philip balloon onto a part of the stage (or you can put it behind the curtain).

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “Philip really showed what it meant to love others like Jesus did. Philip helped the Ethiopian official when he couldn’t understand the words from Isaiah. He helped the man understand why Jesus came, and he helped the man put his faith in Jesus. Philip ‘made waves’ and changed this man’s life forever!

“If you think about it, Philip really lived out what Jesus had told His friends:

SLIDE: JOHN 13:34

Read from the screen.

“Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you.” (John 13:34, NIV)

“Jesus’ words for His friends are so important that they can change the way WE live today. They can change the way we treat people. They can help us ‘make waves’ and truly change the world!

“It all comes down to this one simple idea:

SLIDE: DAY 4 BOTTOM LINE

“Love others the way Jesus loves you.”

“Let’s pray and ask God to help us live that way every day.”

SLIDE: BLANK THEME

PRAY

STORYTELLER: “God, thank You for reminding us today about what’s MOST important. It’s what Jesus told His friends to do, and it’s what we can do too. We can choose to love others the way Jesus loves us! Please show us how we can live that way with our friends and family. Help us to be like Philip—ready to show love, and ready to help others get to know You better. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

OUTRO VIDEO

VIDEO: MAKE WAVES ELEMENTARY OUTRO VIDEO, DAY 4

Storyteller exits.



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THEME SONG

Worship Leaders enter.

WORSHIP LEADER: "It's cool to think of all the ways we can show love to other people! In everything we do, we can take our cue from Jesus and remember how much He loves US. Then we can 'make waves' and share His love with the world AROUND us. Let's sing 'Making Waves' together. I want to hear you! Come on!"

VIDEO: "MAKING WAVES" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

"Great job, friends! You can have a seat."



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CLOSER

SLIDE: BLANK THEME

Host enters as Worship Leaders exit.

HOST: “That was SO fun! I love that song. And I love thinking about all the ways we can ‘make waves’ and share Jesus’ love with others!”

“I know I’m so thankful that someone showed love to me and helped ME learn about Jesus. I’m so thankful to all of your awesome leaders who are doing that for you. I’m thankful for all the people that have shown love to me in my life, in a million different ways.

“They really get what Jesus was saying—that we should love others the way He’s loved us. And sometimes that just comes down to thinking about what people NEED . . . or what would make their day better. We can do something thoughtful for them . . . spend time with them, doing something they love . . . or just listen and be a friend. We can take action and show love. We can **[Basic Truth] treat others the way we want to be treated.**

“Here’s our challenge. It’s the same challenge Jesus gave His friends so long ago.

SLIDE: DAY 4 BOTTOM LINE

“Love others the way Jesus loves you.”

“Say that with me.”

HOST AND KIDS: “Love others the way Jesus loves you.”

HOST: “Fantastic! In Small Group you’ll get to talk with your friends about what it means to **Love others the way Jesus loves you.** Think about how someone has shown love to you. What are some ways you can do that for someone else?”

“I know you’ve got some great ideas to share! I’ll see you later!”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

Note: If you used the video for the Bible story instead of telling it live, take a moment to lead everyone in a prayer before dismissal. (See the prayer at the end of the scripted story for an example.)

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

VIDEO: MAKE WAVES THEME LOOP



GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

1. OPENER/CLOSER

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Host
- Beach buckets filled about halfway with water (one water bucket per small group)
- Beach buckets with several tennis balls (one tennis ball bucket per small group)
- Masking or gaffer's tape
- Marker

MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room

LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Make Waves Theme Loop Video
- Make Waves Hype Video OR 30- or 60-Second Timer
- Make Waves Theme Definition Slide
- "Splash Bucket" Slide
- Make Waves 60-Second Timer (for the game)
- Blank Theme Slide
- Day 4 Bottom Line Slide

WHAT YOU DO:

- Download and print the tech sheet for everyone helping with Large Group.
- Download the slides and 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.
- Tape a line on the floor for each small group to stand behind, as they try to bounce the tennis balls into their team's bucket. Use the marker to write the name/number of each group on their tape line. (These can be the same tape lines that you used the previous day.)
- As you're placing the tape lines and buckets, think about how you can even the competition by making it easier for the younger kids and tougher for the older kids. For example, you could have the older kids throw from farther away, throw backwards, close their

eyes, etc.

- Pre-set the tape lines and buckets ahead of time. Place the buckets full of tennis balls next to the tape lines, and place the buckets full of water a short distance away (with varying distance depending on grade level).

2. WORSHIP

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Worship Leader(s)

LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- "What I Choose" Live Lyrics or Dance Moves Music Video
- "Love Like You" Live Lyrics or Dance Moves Music Video
- "Making Waves" Live Lyrics or Dance Moves Music Video

WHAT YOU DO:

- Download the videos and have them ready to use.

3. BIBLE STORY

WHAT YOU NEED:

If you're telling the story live instead of on video, you'll need the following:

- Storyteller
- Bible
- Curtain (or other kind of panel, screen, etc.) that can conceal the balloons and the toy vehicle
- Several balloons, filled with helium and tied to strings, in a variety of primary colors; each balloon should have a hand-drawn face for the character (see "What You Do"):
 - Jesus
 - Disciples (i.e. a bunch of several balloons; doesn't have to be 12)
 - Philip
 - Angel
 - Ethiopian official
- Five balloon weights



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GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Two clips/spring clamps at the bottom of the balloon strings (for Philip and the Ethiopian official)
- Permanent marker
- Toy vehicle (such as a tricycle, a remote-control car, or a kids' ride-on vehicle)
- Kiddie pool filled with water
- (For the live story) Attach weights the bottom of each balloon, with the exception of the disciples (in that case, just one weight for the whole bunch). Also attach clips/spring clamps for the Philip and Ethiopian official balloons, so you can easily attach and detach them to/from the toy vehicle.
- (For the live story) If you're using a battery-powered vehicle, make sure it's charged and ready to go!

LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Make Waves Elementary Intro Video, Day 4
- Blank Theme Slide
- John 13:34 Slide
- Acts 8:26 Slide
- Acts 8:30 Slide
- Acts 8:31 Slide
- Acts 8:36-37 Slide
- Day 4 Bottom Line Slide
- Make Waves Elementary Outro Video, Day 4

If you're using the Bible story video instead of telling the story live, you'll need the following:

LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Make Waves Elementary Intro Video, Day 4
- Make Waves Elementary Bible Story Video, Day 4
- Make Waves Elementary Outro Video, Day 4

WHAT YOU DO:

- Download the slides and 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.
- (For the live story) Set up a curtain, pipe-and-drape panel(s), a screen, or some other way you can conceal the balloons and toy vehicle until the Storyteller reveals them during the story.
- (For the live story) Pre-set a kiddie pool filled with water on one side of the stage.
- (For the live story) Inflate the balloons with helium. Then use the permanent marker to draw SIMPLE faces on the balloons to represent the people in the story. The balloons will essentially look like emojis (with facial hair!). The angel can just be a smiley face with a halo. Make sure you give the ink plenty of time to dry.