



KINGDOM QUEST

LARGE GROUP GUIDE

DAY 3

DAY 3 OPENING SESSION

5:45 - 6:00 CREW LEADER CONNECTION (15 MINS)

6:00 - 6:10 JUMP START (10 MINS)

6:10 - 6:40 OPENING SESSION (30 MINS)

Props Needed: HULA HOOPS ARE SET UP, ONE ON EITHER SIDE OF THE GAME SQUARE. king game piece in left hoop, large cross prop (large enough to stretch across the game square) is propped up on stage so that it's visible, but not the key focus

VIDEO: COUNTDOWN

SLIDE: THEME

6:10-6:15 HOST WELCOME

HOST 1 enters reading the Strategy Guide.

HOST 2 enters looking a bit defeated, dragging his feet.

HOST 2: It's over. I've run the simulations. I've checked the leaderboards.

We only have one life left. One mistake, one bad move, one "oops" and it's Game Over. We'll never make it to the Kingdom. All of our hard work has been for nothing!

HOST 1: *Looking up from the Bible.* I don't think it was ever supposed to work like that. Otherwise, I never would have stood a chance getting to where I am. You're still looking at this like some high-score contest. I've been reading the Strategy Guide, specifically the parts about the King Himself...

HOST 2: *Interrupting* No, you don't get it. If we fail this... we lose everything.

Starting to pace. I should've trained harder. Memorized more. Had a better strategy.

HOST 1: Just curious, do you at least remember what we've already learned?

HOST 2: Of course I do! I remember everything that increases my chances of winning!

HOST 1: Let's get our audience to say our Bottom Lines together.

DAY 3 OPENING SESSION

SLIDE: DAY 1 BOTTOM LINE

HOSTS + KIDS: Jesus invites us to follow Him!

SLIDE: DAY 2 BOTTOM LINE

HOSTS + KIDS: Jesus helps us trust Him!

HOST 1: Exactly. And both of those were true... even when we messed up.

looks at screen

SLIDE: DAY 3 BOTTOM LINE

HOST 1: And look, it says because of JESUS I am saved, not because of your perfect score or how hard you've worked.

HOST 2: *Skeptical.* "Saved" usually means you're rescued from a losing game.

But this is not about us being rescued... if we make one more mistake it will end everything!

SLIDE: LEVEL 9

HOST 1: I don't know yet.

But if I've learned anything from this game so far, it's that I trust the King more than I trust the scoreboard.

Let's press the button.

both walk forward to press the button together.

SLIDE: LEVEL 9 WELCOME

Welcome back to Level 9 of Kingdom Quest. You have one life remaining to complete the final two levels. Today will be your hardest challenge yet, some might even call it ... impossible. Prepare yourselves and roll the game cube when you are ready.

HOST 2: repeating the words, uneasy **"The hardest yet... impossible?"** Yeah... that sounds about right.

worship team enters.

DAY 3 OPENING SESSION

HOST 1: We may not be able to beat this level... But we can still worship the King!
Remember it's not about winning or earning anything. We worship just because He's worthy.

HOST 2: *Quiet, unsure but willing ...okay.*

HOST 1: *To audience:* Let's prepare for this challenge in the best way ever... by worshipping together!

host(s) exits to side/backstage

6:15-6:25 WORSHIP

WORSHIP LEADER: Welcome back to Day 3 of VBS! Tonight we get to see how Scout and Champ (hosts 1 and 2) will do in the most important challenge of their lives. Let's worship with them. Remember, you can worship however you like, as long as you're not a distraction to your friends around you! This first song is about the joy and peace that comes from being close to Jesus! Stand to your feet and worship with us!

VIDEO: SONG 1 - CLOSER

VIDEO: SONG 2 - OVER & OVER

SLIDE: THEME

worship team exits quickly. hosts enter.

HOST 2: You were right, that did get me excited to start this challenge!
walks up and tosses the game cube

SLIDE: GAME CUBE

SLIDE: THE IMPOSSIBLE GAP

In "The Impossible Gap" you must enter the King's Gate. You must cross the great divide to reach the King. You have 30 seconds to leap from one safe landing to the next. Miss your mark, and you fall into the abyss. Land true, and you shall be welcomed into the Kingdom Gate!

HOST 1: Okay, this is it. The Impossible Gap. We have to jump from here to there to enter the Kingdom Gate and win the tournament. That's... that's at least ten feet! No one can jump that far! It's, well, it's IMPOSSIBLE!

DAY 3 OPENING SESSION

HOST 2: Let's try not to read too much into the name, huh? That's the "Kingdom Gate." we've done everything the right way so far. I know the King wants us to enter so there must be a way! I'll use my "Super Jump" technique! I have the Theme Verse memorized, so if I say the verse, then jump, I should have all the power needed to get across! *"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life.'" John 14:6* Tries to jump, fails miserably, and falls in the middle. Both hosts freeze as they look to the screen.

**SLIDE: RED "X" SOUND ALL 3 HEARTS CROSSED OUT
FADES TO GAME OVER**

HOST 2: *Walks to front of stage and sits on the floor, devastated.* That's it.. Game over. I couldn't do it. I wasn't good enough. I guess the Kingdom Quest ends here.

6:25-6:30 BIBLE STORY

HOST 1: *Thoughtful, like he's beginning to put pieces together. ...or maybe this is the part where we finally understand it.* Walks over to sit next to Host 2.

Because I've been reading the Strategy Guide... and there's a moment just like this. A moment where everything looked like it was over.

Where it felt like there was no way forward.
Holds up Bible slightly.

And that's exactly where Jesus stepped in.

HOST 2: *Confused, looking up.* Wait... what do you mean?

HOST 1: I mean the story doesn't end when we lose. I'm beginning to think that's actually where the real story begins.

Let me show you.
Opens Bible to very beginning.

Do you remember how the Bible begins?

SLIDE: GOD CREATED

HOST 2: *Thinking out loud.* Sure. In Genesis... God created everything.

Everything was good. Perfect.

He made people to know Him... to be with Him... to be part of His Kingdom.

HOST 1: But then... we messed it up.

SLIDE: WE SINNED

HOST 2: Right. We Sinned. We chose our way instead of God's way.

HOST 1: And that created a gap. *Points to the gap on the stage.* One that we can't cross on our own.

HOST 2: *Comprehension dawning.* An impossible gap!

HOST1: But listen to what Jesus did!

This is from Luke chapter 23.

SLIDE: BIBLE STORY PICTURE 1

HOST 1: ³³ The soldiers brought them to the place called the Skull. There they nailed Jesus to the cross. He hung between the two criminals. One was on his right and one was on his left. ³⁴ Jesus said, "Father, forgive them. They don't know what they are doing."

³⁵ The people stood there watching. The rulers even made fun of Jesus. They said, "He saved others. Let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One."

³⁶ The soldiers also came up and poked fun at him. They offered him wine vinegar. ³⁷ They said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself."

³⁸ A written sign had been placed above him. It read, This is the King of the Jews.

SLIDE: BIBLE STORY PICTURE 2

³⁹ One of the criminals hanging there made fun of Jesus. He said, "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself! Save us!"

⁴⁰ But the other criminal scolded him. "Don't you have any respect for God?" he said. "Remember, you are under the same sentence of death. ⁴¹ We are being punished fairly. We are getting just what our actions call for. But this man hasn't done anything wrong." ⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

DAY 3 OPENING SESSION

HOST 2: *Leans in, reads final line: ⁴³ Jesus answered him, "Today you will be with me in paradise."*

Looks up, confused. Wait... that's it? Paradise is Heaven, the Kingdom of God!

HOST 1: Because Jesus did something for him. Listen to the rest:

⁴⁴ It was now about noon. Then darkness covered the whole land until three o'clock. ⁴⁵ The sun had stopped shining. The temple curtain was torn in two. Looks up.

To Host 2: So did Jesus lose?

HOST 2: No! He rose again in three days!

HOST 1: Yes! Jesus took the criminals place. Jesus took the punishment... the "Game Over"... not just for him, but for all of us.

SLIDE: JESUS SAVES

*Walks over and picks up the cross, placing it over the gap and continues:
Jesus didn't just die...He made a way.*

HOST 2: The cross is the BRIDGE! It is the WAY!

SLIDE: JESUS IS THE WAY

HOST 1: *Steps onto cross. We can't jump the gap. We cross it by choosing to trust Jesus with our lives and following Him.*

HOST 2: *Hesitant, then stepping forward. So... we don't earn it by skill or how good we are. We just believe He is God, He created us and loves us and sent Jesus to be our rescue plan. To take our place so we can cross the impossible gap.
Walks across the cross.*

SLIDE: VICTORY

HOST 2: *Realization, clear and simple. I've been trying to earn my way in...
But Jesus already made a way in. Because of Jesus... I am saved!*

DAY 3 OPENING SESSION

SLIDE: DAY 3 BOTTOM LINE

HOST 1: *To audience.* Say it with us!

BOTH + KIDS: Because of Jesus, I am saved!

HOST 2: I've been trying to win a game that He already won for me. I'm not just a finalist... I'm saved! Because of Jesus, I am saved!

worship team enters.

HOST 1: That's the greatest thing anyone has ever done for us! Let's go tell the worship team!

WORSHIP LEADER: Let's sing another song as we think about how awesome it is that God loves us so much that he sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross so that we can choose His Kingdom. We can ALWAYS praise God because He loved us enough to save us!

VIDEO: SONG 3 - KING OF MY HEART

SLIDE: THEME

STAGE HOST enters and dismisses preschool

6:35-6:40 MISSIONS HIGHLIGHT

HOST 1 OR 2: Recap the "what" and "why" of our missions giving. Give offering instructions.

VIDEO: DAY 3 MISSIONS

SLIDE: THEME

6:40 PRAYER/DISMISSAL

Children's Minister/HOST enters and gives dismissal instructions.

6:45-7:50 ROTATIONS

DAY 3 CLOSING SESSION

7:50-8:00 MINI JUMP START

8:00-8:15 CLOSING SESSION

8:15 DISMISSAL

VIDEO: COUNTDOWN

SLIDE: THEME

8:00-8:05 HOST RECAP

host enters. Consider using a call and response chant to call attention.

HOST 1: Welcome back, friends! I've loved learning about the greatest story ever tonight - The Gospel of Jesus and how He saves us! Let's say our Bottom Line together!

SLIDE: DAY 3 BOTTOM LINE - BECAUSE OF JESUS, I AM SAVED!

HOST 2: Yes! And there's one more very important thing we learned in our small groups today too.

SLIDE: WE CHOOSE

HOST 1: It's all a choice! God loves us and created a way, but we have to choose to follow Jesus. That means being willing to set aside choosing our own way, and committing to a life where we learn every day what it means to love God, obey God, and become more like Him every day!

HOST 2: You know, I've been saying our theme verse all week but I think I'm just now really understanding it. Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. There was nothing that we were going to do to get to the Kingdom of God without Jesus.

HOST 1: Yep, we can't earn our way into God's Kingdom. We have to say yes when Jesus calls us, let Him help build our faith so we trust Him and realize that Because of Jesus, we are saved. Let's read our theme verse together:

SLIDE: THEME VERSE

"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life.'" John 14:6

HOST 1: Let's see how we're doing in our missions challenge tonight!

Day 3 - Closing Session

SLIDE: MISSIONS

HOST 1 OR 2: Gives missions/giving update

worship team enters

HOST 1: Wow, that is a LOT of people who get to hear that because of Jesus we are saved! I think we should go ahead and praise God for that through worship!

8:10-8:15 WORSHIP

WORSHIP LEADER: I'm so thankful for what Jesus did for us! Let's sing this song out about how God calls us to follow Him and see that He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life!

VIDEO: SONG 4 - OUR GOD IS HOLY

SLIDE: TOKEN CHALLENGE

8:15 PRAYER/DISMISSAL

Children's Minister/HOST enters and gives dismissal instructions.

SLIDE: GOODBYE_MOTION