



God Gives Us Courage – Joshua Leads the Israelites

Deuteronomy 34; Joshua 1

God Statement: God is Our Leader

KEY VERSE: “Be strong and brave...I am the Lord your God. I will be with you everywhere you go..”
(Joshua 1:9, NIRV)

CHECK-IN

Classroom Teacher

(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)

As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.

EXPLORE ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(15 minutes)

The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.

DISCUSS: God is Our Leader

In today's lesson, we are going to learn about how God is our Leader.

SAY:

Do you remember what our God Statement was last week? God is with us, that's right! We're learning all about how God is our leader and what kind of leader He is. The first thing we've learned is that God is always with us!

Well, we've got another God Statement we're going to learn about this week, ready? God gives us courage. Let's say that together... God gives us courage! Courage is a big word. What do you think courage means? Those are great descriptions. We're going to find out more about courage in our lesson later, but first we're going to make something to help us remember that God gives us courage.

MAKE:

To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they can do this activity!

God Gives Us Courage Scroll

Supplies: half sheet brown construction paper, markers, string

Say: *Today we get to make a special craft that will remind us that God gives us courage! We get to learn about a special person in our story today. God gave him courage and He gives us courage too!*

Directions: Pass out a paper halve to each child. Show them how to crumple the paper and uncrumple it. Repeat this process so the paper looks old and weathered. Have children smooth out their paper and help them write the words "God gives us courage" in the center. Allow the children to decorate the page. Have them roll the top and bottom to make a "scroll" and then help add a piece of string to the top to hang the scroll.



LARGE GROUP

(25 minutes)

Each week, Large Group will consist of an introduction, worship, the Bible lesson, worship response, and the blessing.

BIBLE CHALLENGE

Host

Use this time to get kids engaged in large group and introduce/review the current Bible Challenge.

Books of the Bible Song

Our current Bible Challenge is for kids to memorize the Books of the Old Testament right now. Use the song provided in the PowerPoint to help the kids practice the song each week. Encourage kids to take a “Bible Challenge” card home to remind them to practice at home as well!

As kids begin to learn the song, invite kids up to come show what they know during Large Group.

******After Bible Challenge, transition the power point to the “Worship” slide. Invite the worship leader up to lead the group in worship.******

WORSHIP & CHLOE’S RULES

Worship Leader & Host

WORSHIP

While the video is playing the opening worship songs, encourage the kids to sing and dance along. Don’t forget to set the example by participating alongside them!

Feel free to modify your worship time for what works best for your age group. You can find different ways to encourage the kids to participate by giving them instruments or showing them simple hand motions. You can also limit how many songs you choose to play, if it seems like the kids are not able to stay focused the entire time.

CHLOE’S RULES

Once everyone has found their seat, play Chloe’s Rules in the PowerPoint provided. If needed, reinforce the rules after the video plays.

****** After Worship & Chloe’s Rules, transition the PowerPoint to the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder slides.******

MAIL TIME & WARDROBE OF WONDER

Host

MAIL TIME!

Find the Mail Time envelope in your curriculum supplies.

Pick one child to hide the envelope and another child to find it. Give the first child about 30 seconds to hide the envelope while the other child closes his/her eyes. After the envelope is hidden, the second child can search for the envelope while the class says “hot” or “cold” to give them clues if they’re getting closer or further away.

Have the two kids stand in front of the class and hold the verse page (inside the envelope) so everyone can see it.

Use the Key Verse Motions Video on Plex (or sent in weekly email) to learn the motions prior to Large Group.

**“Be strong and brave. Do not be afraid. Do not lose hope. I am the Lord your God.”
(Joshua 1:9b, NIRV)**

WARDROBE OF WONDER

The Wardrobe of Wonder is an opportunity to get the younger kids engaged in the lesson by playing a guessing game to determine what the “What’s It” is inside the wardrobe each week.

Choose one child to “spy” on the What’s It by peeking inside the wardrobe. Remind the other children to look away and to not peek. Have the peeker whisper the identity of the What’s It in the host’s ear to ensure he/she saw it correctly.

What’s It: Piece of Armor

Now, invite the class to raise their hand and guess the identity of the What’s It by asking yes-or-no questions about it. Allow the child who peeked to help answer the questions. Once the children have guessed correctly, retrieve the What’s It from the wardrobe and allow the class to look at it/pass it around. Thank the volunteer and allow them to sit back down.

ASK:

Hmm... what does this look like? What would you use this item for? You’re right! I think it’s a **piece of armor**. Who usually wears armor? Soldiers, that’s right. Why do you think it’s in our wardrobe today? I bet we will find out soon. Do you know what time it is? It’s time for us to dive into God’s Word together!

**** After the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder, Younger Kids classes transition to the Bible Story video where the kids will hear about the lesson for the day.****

BIBLE STORY

Lesson Video

Remind the group before starting the video to follow the expectations for Large Group.

THIS WEEK’S LESSON: God Gives Us Courage – Joshua Leads the Israelites

Encourage kids to listen and engage with the lesson as they watch the teaching video.

****After the video finishes, turn on soft worship music (with or without lyrics) to transition into Worship Response. This should be background music to help set the tone for a quiet reflection time with God.****

WORSHIP RESPONSE

Host

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids

through the time.

Supplies: coloring pages, crayons/pencils

God made Joshua the new leader of Israel. How do you think Joshua felt about that?

Pause for responses.

God knows our hearts so well. He knows what we need. Joshua needed some courage. He would have to do many hard things. God reminded him to be strong and courageous.

You have some hard things in your life. Maybe there are scary things you must do. Can you do hard things? Can you be courageous? We can only do hard things with God's help. Think about something hard that you have to do.

- Can you stand up for someone who is getting picked on?
- Can you be kind to the person no one seems to like?
- Can you be strong when you have a bad dream?
- Can you be strong when you have a hard test?

God's words to Joshua can be a good reminder for us, too.

Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9

You can take some time to color one of these coloring sheets with that verse on it. Think about where you can be strong and courageous and pray that God will remind you and help you to do it.

Turn on soft worship music while kids color their verse pages. Encourage kids to sit quietly and talk to God as they color. After a few minutes, gather everyone back together to close time in prayer.

******After Worship Response, transition the power point to the Compassion & Offering slides.******

COMPASSION & OFFERING

Host

Before closing large group, take a moment to highlight and discuss each campus' Compassion sponsor child. Explain a little about the Compassion child's life and the impact their offering has for this child (info should be provided on cards in classroom). Then remind kids that if anyone brought offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

Ask a child to come up and pray for the offering and their Compassion child.

****After Compassion & Offering, transition the power point to the “Announcement” slide. The host will discuss any current announcements.****

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Host

Take this opportunity to cover any announcements for the kids, such as upcoming events or reminders, like bringing food donations for Feeding Families. Use the slides provided in the Power Point to display important announcements.

****After Announcements, transition the power point to the “Blessing” slide. The host will lead the class in receiving the blessing for the day.****

BLESSING

Host

Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.

Friends, always remember that God is with you wherever you go. He will help you be strong and courageous.

SMALL GROUP

Classroom Teachers

(10 minutes)

The Small Group discussion is a chance for the kids to discuss what they’ve just learned and to challenge them to think deeper.

Younger Kids:

This time is optional for younger kids, depending on if you feel like the kids are still listening and participating well.

1. **Briefly retell the Bible story (Deuteronomy 34, Joshua 1).**

What did God promise the Israelites after Moses died? (a new leader)

2. **Who was the new leader that lead the Israelites through the wilderness? (Joshua)**
3. **What did God call Joshua to be? (Strong and Courageous)**
4. **Have you ever felt super afraid or nervous for something big happening? (trip, school test, etc.) Did you feel courageous when you made it through that event?**

5. God calls us to trust in Him, just like He called Joshua to trust in Him in our story. Do you trust God to help you be strong and courageous too?

Close small group in prayer.

RESPOND ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(10 minutes)

DISCUSS:

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity.

PLAY – Freeze Dance

Supplies: classroom Plex music

Directions: Get the kids moving and active by playing freeze dance. Encourage the kids to do their best dance moves, but be sure to freeze when the music stops. If they move when the music is paused, they are out.

CHECK-OUT

Classroom Teacher

(end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in the Respond Activities or the classroom games and to

JOSHUA 1:9



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For the LORD your GOD is with you wherever you go.

WEB

**BE STRONG AND
COURAGEOUS**

DO NOT BE AFRAID
DO NOT BE
DISCOURAGED

The Lord

**YOUR GOD
IS WITH YOU
WHEREVER
YOU GO**

JOSHUA 1:6-9



Be
Strong
and
Courageous

Joshua 1:6

