

# BRAVE

## TAKE A NEW STEP

### Journey Week 2

1. Once students are gathered for service, kick things off with this large group game.

**Truth or Dare Jeopardy** - Create a Jeopardy board in a slideshow (PowerPoint, Keynote) or from poster boards; one category Truth, one category Dare. As the dollar amount increases (5 clues in each category, valued at \$200, \$400, \$600, \$800, and \$1000), so does the level of truth or dare. For example, a \$200 level dare might be "Try to touch your nose to your elbow.", while a \$1000 truth might be "What is the most embarrassing thing that has ever happened to you?" Choose 3 contestants and work your way through each of the 10 clues (5 per category). The person with the highest dollar amount is the one who wins.

2. After the game, transition into the talk with the video linked on the Prep Needs page (page 4).
3. The talk is outlined on pages 2-3.
4. After the talk, split students up into breakout groups/small groups with their leaders and take a look at the following material:

***Start off Breakout Group with this Activity:***

By A Thread -- In this game, the person playing must thread a series of 7 sewing needles that are placed in a small block of styrofoam. While this is happening, the rest of the people in the group are distracting the person as much as possible without touching them. They have 60 seconds to place the thread through as many needles as possible. You can play this multiple times.

*The point?* This game ties back to the point of focusing during a challenge.

***Then go into discussing these questions:***

- What do you think it means to be brave?
- Would you call yourself brave? Why or why not?
- Have anyone ever been in a situation where you felt like things were taking a turn for the worse and you wanted to give up and quit? Tell us about it.
- Peter was able to walk on water as long as he focused on Jesus even though there were tons wind and the waves were splashing around? How does his story apply to our lives today?
- Think about a tough situation in your life right now. How do you want Jesus to help you there this week? ***Have a story here if students need time to process this question.***

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**Know:** When we're on adventure, tough stuff is going to happen.

**Do:** Stay focused on Jesus to get through those tough times.

**Scripture:** Matthew 14:24, 27-30; Matthew 19:26

- We're in the second week of this Journey that everyone's taking together to discover what being brave looks like.
  - Last week we talked about how we're all called to adventure, and how we need to prep for that adventure.
- This week, we're going to look how to be brave even when things go wrong
  - How many of you have ever wanted to do something awesome before, and then somewhere along the way thought, "Never mind, there's no way I can do this, it's too hard"?
  - Or maybe the thing stopping you isn't yourself, but a situation or another person. These things definitely don't make it any easier to move forward with the adventure you are on.
  - Regardless of what your story is, you will face tough times in life.
    - Difficulties are something that everyone faces.
      - **SLIDE:** Harry Potter and the Order had to face [Voldemort](#).
      - **SLIDE:** Narnia had to deal with the [White Witch](#).
      - **SLIDE:** Katniss had to outsmart the [Capitol](#).
- **Presenter re introduce Peter to the audience.**
  - Things to remember about Peter:
    - He was a fisherman.
    - He said yes to a crazy encounter with Jesus.
    - That caused him to start a new adventure.
    - He walked directly with Jesus, but even he faced a number of tough times as he was discovering more of what his mission involved.
  - In this part of Peter's story, he and the disciples are crossing the Sea of Galilee in the middle of the night when they start to have a tough time of it.
    - **SLIDE:** Matthew 14:24 -- "Meanwhile, the disciples were in trouble far from land, for a strong wind had risen, and they were fighting heavy waves."
  - Cue Jesus, doing what Jesus does and walking on water. The disciples see him as he approaches the boat, but they think he's a ghost.
  - What happened next was crazy:
    - **SLIDE:** Matthew 14:27 -- "But Jesus spoke to them at once. 'Don't be afraid,' he said. 'Take courage, I am here!'"
    - **SLIDE:** Matthew 14:28 -- "Then Peter called to him, 'Lord, if it's really you, tell me to come to you, walking on the water.'"
      - Is this guy serious? "Hey, we're in the middle of the storm, I think I'm going to get out of the boat." **Speaker, make sure it's fully communicated just**

***how crazy this is.***

- Jesus calls for him, so Peter decides to literally test the waters.
  - **SLIDE:** Matthew 14:29 -- “So Peter went over the side of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus.”
- At this point in his story, Peter’s seen Jesus do some pretty crazy stuff... healing people, driving out demons, you name it.
- But do you really think he woke up that morning thinking, “*Oh man, what am I going to do today? Maybe, I don’t know, defy the laws of physics? That sounds fun!*”
- But Peter didn’t make it all the way to Jesus.
  - **SLIDE:** Matthew 14:30 -- “But when he saw the strong wind and the waves, he was terrified and began to sink.”
- ***Speaker, paraphrase the rest of that story out (complete story found in Matthew 14:22-36). Make sure hit these parts of the story.***
  - His faith wavered when he took his eyes off Jesus and focused on the waves.
  - Jesus didn’t let Peter drown.
  - When they step back into the boat, Jesus calms the storm.
- Just like Peter, we will all face situations on our mission where we feel like things are taking a turn for the worse; maybe it even feels impossible.
  - When we hit those times in our life, we have one of three choices to make:
    - 1) Ignore the call to adventure and stay put.
      - But God has called us to a life of adventure; we were created for it.
      - The only reason Peter is even in this part of the story is because he originally said “yes” to Jesus.
    - 2) Give in to fear and miss out.
      - Fear is something that the enemy uses to resist our call to adventure.
      - Imagine if Peter was too scared to get out of the boat -- “Nah, I’m good Jesus, I’ll stay here.”
    - 3) Embrace the tension and walk boldly in the face of that resistance.
      - This is exactly what Peter chose to do, but he was only able to walk in the face of the resistance he was dealing with when he stayed focused on Jesus.
      - It wasn’t until he noticed the wind and waves that he began to sink.
  - What storm are you in right now?
    - Is there a situation in your home... in your school... on your team... where you’ve thought about the adventure that God is calling you to go on, and it just seems impossible?
    - ***Speaker, talk about a struggle that you’ve faced that you felt was going to be impossible, but then you saw how God brought you through it. Transition your story into this verse:***
      - **SLIDE:** Matthew 19:26 -- “...with God everything is possible.”
  - Let’s take a minute here to think about the resistance each of us may be currently facing. We all have three choices: ignore the call, give in to fear, or walk in the face of the resistance.
  - Peter walked in the face of his resistance by focusing on Jesus.
- ***Speaker, close out in prayer, specifically asking for guidance around being able to stay focused on Jesus and walk in the face of any resistance we’re encountering.***

## Prep Needs

### **Large Group Game/Activity**

- Poster boards to make your Jeopardy board (if not being constructed on a PowerPoint or Keynote)

### **Breakout Group:**

- *Per group:*
  - Bible
  - 1 foam block
  - 7 sewing needles, stuck into the foam block

### **AV Needs:**

- BRAVE logo
- Truth or Dare Jeopardy slides (if being made in a PowerPoint or Keynote)
- Bumper Video // Journey video: can be found on [thejourneypartners.org](http://thejourneypartners.org) Week 2
- BRAVE logo
- Voldemort: [http://images.bwbx.io/cms/2014-02-10/0210\\_asia\\_feud\\_630x420.jpg](http://images.bwbx.io/cms/2014-02-10/0210_asia_feud_630x420.jpg)
- White Witch: <http://images2.fanpop.com/image/photos/10300000/Jadis-jadis-queen-of-narnia-10395463-1600-1066.jpg>
- Capitol: <http://images.rapgenius.com/50776fe9de03d6538b2bb168b13bfd11.600x300x1.jpg>
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- Matthew 19:26: "...with God everything is possible."
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