

BRAVE

TAKE A NEW STEP

Journey Week 3

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

Piece It Together - Call 6 students and 5 volunteers up to stage. Separate students into two teams of three. Each team will receive a closed box with an assortment of parts (the parts of a flashlight). Each team will have 2 minutes to empty the box, assemble the parts. Here's the catch: they're not provided with batteries. Two of the 5 leaders on stage have batteries that they received beforehand. Whichever team finishes first has to figure out which leaders have the batteries and use them to power the flashlight. Whichever team turns their flashlight on first 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:

Each student will receive a sponge. Students will write about what adventure they're on and one way how they've seen God's power in that already, or one way how they hope to see God's power. *The point?* The sponge will serve as a visual reminder of the illustration from the lesson that the closer they grow to God, the more they'll be able to soak in his power and love.

Then go into discussing these questions:

- In the story we just heard Jesus asks Peter to feed a lot of people with only a little bit of food. How would you have felt if Jesus had asked you to feed a crowd of people? What would you have needed to be able to pull this off?
- Has there been a time in your life where you feel like you've experienced God's power? Tell us about it.
- Is anyone currently on an adventure in their lives right now? How is it going? Where do you need to rely on God's power more? **Leader have a story from your life ready if students need more time to process.**
- **Leader, take the remaining time of group to do the activity and check out some verses that support what we talked about today. Have a student look up and read each of these:** Mark 10:27, Proverbs 3:5-6, Joshua 1:9. **Leave a bit of time for discussion after each verse is read.**

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Know: We have the help of God's power at every point of our adventure.

Do: Document how you see God's power this week.

Scripture: Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 10:27; Proverbs 3:5-6; Joshua 1:9

- Welcome - to week three of the BRAVE Journey.
 - Let's hit a quick recap of what we've talked about so far:
 - God calls each of us to a life of adventure.
 - Life isn't always easy, but we can face the resistance and get through the tough times of our adventure by staying focused on Jesus.
 - A lot of times, we try to face resistance and follow Jesus on our own. But we're not called to that.
- To really face resistance, we need to rely on God's power.
 - Trying to follow Jesus without the help of God's power is just like trying to turn on those flashlights without the batteries.
 - Peter was a guy who lived seeing, and learning to rely on, God's power.
 - Peter was one of Jesus' inner circle.
 - Used to be a fisherman, then decided to follow Jesus.
 - This decision caused crazy things to happen, like walking on water.
 - Another instance of Peter experiencing God's power happened with Jesus feeding the 5,000.
 - **Leader, read Matthew 14:13-21. Familiarize yourself with the story, and then paraphrase it back to the students, using the following AV support.**
 - **SLIDE:** [picture of a crowd](#) (this pic represents the size of 5,000 men, plus if each of them was married with one child = 15,000)
 - **SLIDE:** Matthew 14:15 -- "... it's already getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves."
 - **SLIDE:** Matthew 14:16 -- "But Jesus said, 'That isn't necessary--you feed them.'"
 - Clearly Peter and the disciples couldn't feed that crowd on their own. They needed to follow Jesus and rely on God's power for the miracle to happen.
- The best part about living like this is the fact that we don't have to be perfect; we can continue to rely on God's power even when we mess up.
 - We see *this* played out in Peter's life as well.
 - Jesus had just gotten arrested and dragged away to court. Peter followed at a distance.
 - People began to recognize Peter and asked if he was a friend of Jesus.
 - Peter ended up denying that he knew Jesus three times.
 - Here's the kicker: Jesus knew that Peter was going to deny him; he predicted it.

- And even though Peter had that weak moment, Jesus still loved Peter, and forgave him.
 - Jesus gave Peter the power to keep following bravely even though he messed up.
 - He gives us that same power too.
 - **Speaker, share a story of a time that you braved a situation because you were relying on God's power. Do your best to make it something the students will be able to relate to with where they're at in life now. Then transition into the following points.**
- Relying on God's power *is* what makes us brave. Think of it like this:
 - **Speaker, grab sponge.** We're this sponge.
 - **Point to the tub of water.** This tub of water is God's power. To experience God's power in our lives at the fullest, we need to allow ourselves to be completely immersed. **Submerge the sponge into the tub of water.**
 - We can become completely immersed by spending more and more time with God.
 - It's like your best friend. You probably see that person, or at least talk to that person, almost every day, right? That's how they got to be your best friend.
 - It's the same with God. The more time we spend talking with him and listening to him, the closer we get to him, being filled more and more with his power.
 - **Pick sponge out of the water.** And when we're faced with something that puts us under pressure (**squeeze sponge**), we see God's power. When we stand up in the face of that resistance and live bravely (**squeeze sponge**), we see God's power. Even when we cave to that temptation and mess up (**squeeze sponge**), we see God's power through Jesus' forgiveness.
- Where do you need to see God's power?
 - You can be brave where you are right now by trusting God to work through you.
 - your school
 - your neighborhood
 - your team
 - your family
 - even to a complete stranger
 - As you see God's power helping you this week, document that in some way.
 - Journal or write about it
 - Snap a pic & post it to Instagram
 - However you choose to document it, share the story with someone.
 - We're going to take a moment to reflect on where we need to be brave and rely on God's power.
 - Everyone close your eyes. Listen along to the words and talk to God about what it specifically looks like for you to live bravely.
 - **SLIDE: Take A Minute / Trust video** (students will listen to the words of the video for reflection; those who choose not to close their eyes will be able to watch
 - **Speaker, after the video, leave a minute for silent reflection, then pray out.**

Prep Needs

Large Group Game/Activity

- 2 larger boxes
- 2 flashlights, disassembled into parts to be placed in boxes
- Batteries for flashlights, packaged apart from flashlight parts

Breakout Group:

- *Per group:*
 - Bible
- *Per student:*
 - 1 sponge
 - 1 Sharpie marker

AV Needs:

- BRAVE logo
- Countdown clock for game
- Bumper Video // Journey video: you can find this on thejourneypartners.org Week 3
- BRAVE logo
- Picture of a crowd:
http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/53/US_Navy_011011-A-8525L-043_An_audience_of_approximately_15,000_people_fills_the_parking_lot,_parade_field_and_lower_parade_field_at_the_Pentagon_River_entrance_on_Oct._11,_2001.jpg
- Matthew 14:15: "... it's already getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves."
- Matthew 14:16: "But Jesus said, 'That isn't necessary--you feed them.'"
- BRAVE logo
- Take a Minute / Trust video: you can find this on thejourneypartners.org Week 3
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