

BRAVE

TAKE A NEW STEP

Journey Week 4

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

Jimmy Fallon style Lip Sync Battle -- Select three students to come on stage. They select a song out of a hat and then perform a 1 minute segment of that song (that segment is something they choose). The crowd judges based on teamwork, creativity, and performance. The winner receives the prize.

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:

Give students time to reflect on what their leap is going to be for the week. As they receive their answers, have them write it down on the index card. Along with their leap, have them write down the name of one person they'll share with what they wrote down. **Leader, talk briefly about the importance of team in helping you take these next steps.** Allow time for students to share what they wrote and why if they wish. *The point?* Offers students time to interact with God and one another.

Then go into discussing these questions:

- What stuck out from the talk today?
- What are some things you're afraid of? Why?
- What would you do if you weren't afraid of those things?
- Has there ever been a time when you've helped a friend overcome his/her fear around something? Tell us about it.
- Has there ever been a time when you've overcome a fear you've had? Tell us about it.
- **Leader, reinforce the point that God's power is always readily available to us, and that God wants to help us take this next step.**

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Journey Week 4

Know: Moving forward in your adventure can only happen if you take a leap.

Do: Be brave and take that next step this week.

Scripture: Acts 2:14, 37, 41

- Welcome to week four of the Journey. This has been such an exciting series in looking at how we can experience adventure.
 - God created each of us for a life of adventure.
 - When we start to embark on this adventure, we're going to face resistance.
 - God doesn't expect us to face that resistance alone, offering us his love and power as help.
- Even though we know that God is always going to be there with us, the thought of taking that next step in our adventure can be pretty crazy, sometimes we hesitate to take that step.
 - This happens because we have an enemy that doesn't want us to accomplish the mission that God has called us to.
 - The enemy would rather see us stay in the same old place that we're used to being rather than stepping into the mission God has called us to.
 - If we don't move, we cannot make the impact that God wants us to make.
 - And the enemy will tell us it's okay if we feel comfortable just staying where we're at, that feeling that way is good, but it's a lie.
 - How many of you guys go swimming? **Let students respond.** Okay, great. And how many of you guys try the diving board? **Let students respond.** Right, that's one of the fun challenges of being at the pool. Eventually, you work up to the high diving board, like this kid:
 - **SLIDE:** [clip of diving board video](#)
 - You may have been afraid of it at first, but eventually you tried it, and now you're a pro. But how many of you would try this?
 - **SLIDE:** [clip of Burj Khalifa base jump](#)
 - **Speaker, exaggerate your reaction to this video.** Are those dudes completely insane? They just jumped off of the tallest building in the world. Why would they do something like that?
 - Because they knew they were going to land safely! They wouldn't have jumped if they didn't have their parachutes strapped on or if they weren't wearing their wingsuits.
- The same goes for us on our adventures. We talked all last week about how we have the help of God's power, help that he knows we need. So we don't have to be afraid to take that leap of faith!
 - We've been looking at the life of Peter for the past few weeks to see how he lived bravely in the face of the adventure God called him to. So how did he take that leap of faith?
 - **Speaker, read Acts 2 and be familiar with what happened on Pentecost. Paraphrase the story back to the students, making sure to pay special attention to how Peter took the leap of faith and preached to the gathered**

crowds. Use these slides at the appropriate times in your retelling:

- **SLIDE:** Acts 2:14 -- “Then Peter stepped forward with the eleven other apostles and shouted to the crowd, “Listen carefully, all of you, fellow Jews and residents of Jerusalem! Make no mistake about this.”
 - So Peter led the charge on addressing the crowds, and he was speaking with authority.
- **SLIDE:** Acts 2:37 -- “Peter’s words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apostles, ‘Brothers, what should we do?’”
- **SLIDE:** Acts 2:41 -- “Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all.”
- So because Peter took a leap of faith and told the crowds about the good truth of Jesus being the Messiah, thousands of people experienced life change that day.
 - Peter’s leap of faith enabled him to have an impact.
 - And this was just Peter’s first leap; this led to a whole bunch of other leaps that he took over the rest of his life.
- This week, it’s time for us to take a leap.
 - One question we often like to ask when we’re first getting to know someone is “What would you do if you weren’t afraid?”
 - There are whole subsets of culture focused on being courageous.
 - **SLIDE:** ifuwerentafraid.tumblr.com
 - This blog exists for people to write in sharing what leaps they’d take if they weren’t afraid.
 - When you first take a look at this, you might think, *Oh that’s great, they’re helping to motivate those people to act on what they wrote down.*
 - But are they really?!
 - They’re providing a space for people to connect and share their fears, but what real help are they offering?
 - It’s like your teacher asking you, “How do you plan on getting an A?”, you saying, “I’m going to do all of my homework and study hard.”, and then you going home and playing video games all night.
 - Another thing you’ll notice if you check this site out is that all of the entries are posted by women.
 - We’ve accepted the fact as a culture that it’s okay for women to be afraid, and they can talk about those fears openly. But men aren’t allowed to feel fear, and if they do they definitely can’t talk about it.
 - The truth is, fear is something we ALL deal with, guys and girls alike. And it’s okay! Fear is one of the first things each of us has to resist when we start into a new adventure, and no one should feel ashamed.
 - What you DON’T want to have happen is letting that fear paralyze you.
 - ***Speaker, share a story about something that you’re currently dealing with that you need to trust God and take a leap of faith on. When you’re done with your story, grab an index card from the box on the stage.***
 - There are a bunch of these index cards up here on the stage. They are a sign of you taking a leap this week. We’re going to take a minute here and just close our eyes and talk to God about the leap he wants us to take this week.
 - If you feel Him calling you to take a leap, come up and get one of these cards before you head into your breakout groups. You’ll have time to fill it out and talk about how your adventures are going. ***Wrap up with reflection time and prayer.***

Prep Needs

Large Group Game/Activity

- Song selections printed out on slips of paper
- Playlist of options

Breakout Group:

- *Per group:*
 - Bible
- *Per student:*
 - 1 index card
 - 1 pen

AV Needs:

- BRAVE logo
- Game graphic (optional)
- Bumper Video // Journey video: this can be access from thejourneypartners.org Week 4
- BRAVE logo
- clip of diving board video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P-tYVa_IIPw (just the beginning clip of him diving will be fine)
- BRAVE logo
- clip of Burj Khalifa base jump: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iD4qsWnjsNU> (can be part or all of the video)
- BRAVE logo
- Acts 2:14: "Then Peter stepped forward with the eleven other apostles and shouted to the crowd, "Listen carefully, all of you, fellow Jews and residents of Jerusalem! Make no mistake about this."
- Acts 2:37: "Peter's words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?'"
- Acts 2:41: "Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all."
- BRAVE logo
- ifuwerentafraid.tumblr.com screenshot
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