

For Parents!

I Can Have Courage Because God Has A Plan!

From Professor Playtime's
Christmas Shop of Wonders
Lesson 1



LEADERSHIP TRAIT - COURAGE

Great leaders have the courage to follow God's plans, even when His plans are different from their own plans.

LEADERSHIP LESSON

Your children will learn that even when they face difficulties, they can still have courage because God has a plan.

LEADERSHIP STORY:

The Christmas story through the eyes of Mary. (Luke 1:26-38)

WHAT DO I DO?

Have your children read the Leadership Story. Next, have your children watch the Leadership Video and complete the Child Leadership Questions. If you want to do the Optional Family Activity, have the whole family watch the Leadership Video, then lead your family through the Optional Family Activity.

OPTIONAL FAMILY ACTIVITY: TALES OF BRAVERY

Mary was brave and accepted God's plan for her. She didn't completely understand God's plan, but she courageously accepted it. Tell your children of a time in your life when you were scared to do something. Explain to them how you overcame that fear. Have your children make a list of fears. Discuss ways they can be brave when they face those things or any circumstance that might make them scared. Encourage your children to be brave and accept whatever plans God has for them.

MEMORY VERSE:

Help your child memorize this verse.

"This is my command - be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:9 (NLT)

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Main Point: I Can Have Courage Because God Has A Plan!

Materials Needed:

- A Bible
- The Leadership Video - *I Can Have Courage Because God Has A Plan*
File name: Elevate_COUDRAGE_PPSW_L1_ICanHaveCourageBecauseGodHasAPlan.mp4
- A pen or pencil

Read the Leadership Story about the angel telling Mary that she would be the mother of Jesus in Luke 1:26-38. When you are finished, watch the Leadership Video. Then, read the items below and write your responses in the space provided.

1. At first, Pastor Mike was afraid to put together his gift. What was the gift?
2. What did Pastor Mike find that made him not afraid anymore?
3. Pastor Mike named two things that it would be good to have a plan for. What were they?
4. It is a good idea to have a plan. But sometimes plans have to change. Who was the girl in the Bible Story and what were her plans for her life?
5. Someone came to speak to Mary. Who was it?
6. What did the angel say would happen to Mary?

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7. Being the mother of Jesus could change Mary's plans in good ways and in bad ways. What were some of the bad things that might have happened?

8. There were plenty of reasons for Mary to be afraid. Fill in the blanks of Mary's response to the angel.
"I am the Lord's _____. May everything you have _____ about _____ come _____."

9. Unscramble the letters below to show what it took for Mary to choose to follow God's plan.
E R O C U G A

10. Circle the correct underlined word in the sentence below.
Mary knew that God's plans for her life were better/worse than her plans for her life.

11. If God's plans are better than our plans, whose plans should we want to follow?

12. Listed below are some situations where the plans you have for your life will need to change. Below each situation, write, "God's plan is better. I will have courage."
 - You have to move to a new town because your parents got new jobs.

 - You have to change schools.

 - Your best friend moves away.

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Mary knew that God's plans would be better than hers, so she could have courage and follow them. When things change in your life and you have to change your plans, remind yourself that God's plans are best and that you should have courage to follow God's plans. Get note cards or small pieces of paper and write, "I Can Have Courage Because God Has A Plan" on them. Place them where you will see them each day. If you have a calendar where you write plans for the future, place one card there. Other suggestions for locations to place the cards are below.

- By your bed so you see it as you go to bed and as you get up in the morning.
- On your mirror in the bathroom so you see it as you brush your teeth each day.
- By the light switch in your room so that you see it each time you turn on or off the light.
- By the closet or dresser so that you see it each time you get dressed.

Seeing the cards around the house will help you remember that God's plans may be different from your plans at times, but God's plans are always better.

Memory Verse: Ask your parents to help you memorize this verse.

"This is my command - be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9 (NLT)

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Main Point: I Can Have Courage Because God Has A Plan!

1. A model train.
2. A set of plans.
3. Building something. Going on a trip.
4. Mary. Marry Joseph.
5. The angel, Gabriel.
6. That she would be the mother of Jesus.
7. Joseph could have left her. Her family could disown her. People could kill her.
8. Servant. Said. Me. True.
9. Courage.
10. Better.
11. God's.