

WEEK

ONE

SOCIAL

Opening Activity



What You Need

- ☐ "Brave Actions" Activity Page
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Opaque Bag

① What You Do

Pray for your group before they arrive → Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time. Recall a time when God gave you the courage to do something you didn't think you were ready for. Thank God for being with you through the Holy Spirit and sending the Holy Spirit to help you take the next step! Ask God to help the kids trust Him when they feel nervous or unsure. Whether it's a big change or something small, pray that kids would know God is with them even when they don't feel ready.

1. Gather the kids in a circle.

Talk Together

1. Explain and demonstrate how to play:
 - "Inside the bag are action cards! One at a time, each of you will come up, pull a card, and act it out. The challenge is that there's NO talking allowed! You can move and make sound effects—but no words! The rest of us will try to guess what brave travel action you're doing."

Play Together

1. Invite the kids to take turns performing brave travel actions without speaking while the group guesses what it is.
2. Continue playing until all cards have been guessed.

Talk Together

1. If time allows, ask:
 - "Where's your favorite place to go?"
 - "How do you feel when you go somewhere new?"

② What You Say

"Whoa! You acted out those scenarios like pros! Sometimes, something new can feel both exciting and kinda scary. That's totally normal! But the incredible part is that we're never alone! God is always with us, and we'll see that in today's true story from the Bible! **[TRANSITION]** We'll meet a leader who had to guide God's people on a long journey with many twists, turns, and challenges. But that leader chose to trust that God was with him, and with God's help, he did some seriously epic things. Let's go find out more!"

Transition → Lead your group to the Large Group area.

Inclusive Pro Tips



Offer for kids to act it out with a buddy.

GROUPS 1/4

Moses' Journey



Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Location Signs" Activity Pages
- ☐ "Review" Activity Page
- ☐ Flashlight
- ☐ Device for Playing Music
- ☐ Painter's Tape



Inclusive Pro Tips

Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

Before you begin, provide a visual introduction to all of the "Location Signs" to help kids who might benefit from structure and transition awareness.

Offer sedentary movement options like clapping or swaying arms side to side

① What You Do

1. Before you begin, tape the 'Burning Bush' sign from the "Location Signs" Activity Pages in your group area. (This will be your finish line.)
2. Use the painter's tape to mark a start line for the kids to stand behind on the other end of your group space.
3. Inform the kids that they will be traveling to three different places to follow Moses' journey.

Move Together:

1. The Burning Bush

- Instruct the kids to line up on the other end of your group space, facing the 'Burning Bush' sign.
- Say, "When I shine the flashlight ON the sign, slow hop forward. When I turn the flashlight OFF, freeze in place!"
- Hit "freeze" three times (turn the flashlight off) to ask questions from the "Review" Activity Page.
- End by keeping the flashlight on so that every kid reaches the 'Burning Bush' sign by slow hopping.

1. The Plagues

- Direct the kids to travel back to the start line.
- Replace the bush and 'Burning Bush' sign with 'The Plagues' sign.
- Say, "When you hear the music, frog hop towards me! When the music stops, freeze in place!"
- Stop the music three times to ask questions from the "Review" Activity Page.
- End by keeping the music on so that every kid reaches 'The Plagues' Sign by frog hopping.

1. The Red Sea

- Replace the 'The Plagues' sign with the 'The Red Sea' sign.
- Divide the kids into two teams: 'God's People' and 'The Egyptians.'
- Say, "If you're one of God's people, walk quickly to 'The Red Sea' sign! When I say 'Freeze!' freeze in place."
- Let "God's people" travel a bit, and then shout, "Freeze!"
- Say, "Now, if you're an Egyptian, chase behind God's people by hopping on one foot! When I say 'Freeze!' you must freeze in place."
- Say "Freeze!" three times to ask questions from the "Review" Activity Page.
- End the game by declaring God's people safe!

Continued on the next page. →

GROUPS 1/4

Moses' Journey



Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Location Signs" Activity Pages
- ☐ "Review" Activity Page
- ☐ Flashlight
- ☐ Device for Playing Music
- ☐ Painter's Tape

Inclusive Pro Tips



Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

Before you begin, provide a visual introduction to all of the "Location Signs" to help kids who might benefit from structure and transition awareness.

Offer sedentary movement options like clapping or swaying arms side to side

② What You Say

"Wow! What an incredible story! Moses didn't think he was ready to lead God's people, but God showed him over and over how He would help. And Moses trusted God and went to talk to Pharaoh, even though he was scared. Have you ever felt like you weren't ready for something? Maybe starting a new grade, speaking in front of your class, or doing something for the first time? **(PAUSE FOR ANSWERS.)** Moses felt that way too.

"But God didn't just give Moses a task. God gave Moses everything he needed to be brave—including telling Moses that He Himself would be with him! God showed His power through the plagues, protected His people during Passover, and made a miracle happen when He parted the Red Sea! And the entire time, when doing all of those powerful things, God Himself went with Moses.

"And there's something else that's awesome in this story! God has been planning His rescue for a long, long time, and He gave His people, and us, a picture in this story. Passover was a big picture pointing to Jesus! **Jesus** is the Lamb of God who gave His life to save us. It's His blood that saves us forever so we can be closer than close to God again!

"And one of the ways we are closer than close to God is that when we choose to follow Jesus, the Holy Spirit comes to live inside of us. God Himself is with us all of the time. He is with us and He helps us—just like He went with Moses and helped him. So, whenever you feel scared or not ready, remember: **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can give you courage when you don't feel ready."

GROUPS 4/4

Pray and Dismiss



Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

☐ *Optional: Index Cards and Pencils*



Inclusive Pro Tips

Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

If any kids prefer to whisper to you instead of share aloud, allow them to do so. Let them hold a beanbag silently as a reminder that God hears their prayers!

Offer adaptive seating or fidget tools to all kids.

① What You Do

1. Invite the kids to sit in a circle..

Talk Together:

1. Say: "Close your eyes and think quietly about something you feel unready for—something hard or scary you might face at school, home, or in a friendship."
2. Give the kids a few moments to think.
3. Say: "Now, take a moment to ask God to remind you He is with you. And then, ask Him to give you the courage you need to face that situation. Remember, you don't have to do it alone. This is your moment to invite God in. God wants to give you courage when you don't feel ready!"
→ *Optional: Provide index cards and pencils for kids who'd prefer to write or doodle their prayer.*
4. Close in prayer.

② What You Say

"Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus and giving us the gift of the Holy Spirit. Thank You for promising to always be with us. When we feel nervous, unready, or scared, please remind us that You're right there! Please fill us with courage. And remind us that we can face anything with You. We pray these things in Jesus' name, Amen."

Transition → As adults arrive to pick up, ask the kids to show them their walking sticks and share how just like a walking stick goes with us every step of the way, God does too

WEEK

TWO

SOCIAL

Opening Activity

What You Need

- ☐ Painter's Tape



Inclusive Pro Tips

Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

For an option with less movement, allow kids to describe the challenge instead of acting it.

Pair kids so they can act it out with a buddy.

If a kid doesn't want to be a "Brave Explorer," they can still help guess or whisper the challenges to other kids.

① What You Do

Pray for your group before they arrive → Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time. Thank God for already knowing each of their worries and the things they're facing. Whether they need courage at school, on the playground, or in their own homes—ask God to help the kids understand they never have to be brave alone because He is with them. Thank God for sending the Holy Spirit to help us and remind us of God's presence and His promises. Pray that God's Spirit would give the kids courage when they need it!

- Before you begin, use the tape to create a wide, curvy path with a clear start and finish line.
- Choose one kid to be the "Brave Explorer" for the first round.

Play Together

- Demonstrate and explain how to play:
 - You will quietly tell the "Brave Explorer" one of the challenges listed below so that no one else in the group hears the challenge.
 - The "Brave Explorer" is not to say the challenge out loud. Instead, they are to lead the entire group down the taped path using motions and sound effects to act it out!
 - The rest of the group is to follow along, copy the actions, and guess what the challenge is.
 - Reveal the correct answer, and then choose another "Brave Explorer."
- Continue rotating until all the challenges have been guessed.
- [MAKE IT PERSONAL]** Join in the game! Be a "Brave Explorer" or shout out fun guesses to help break the ice.

Challenges

- Jumping from building to building: Take big leaps.
- Crossing a wobbly bridge: Pretend to balance carefully as if walking on a shaky rope bridge.
- Climbing a tall mountain: Use big arm and leg movements to "climb" up steep rocks.
- Wading through a swamp: Pretend to step through thick, sticky mud.
- Sailing through a storm: Pretend to hold onto a ship's wheel and sway back and forth.
- Jumping over hot lava: Leap from one "safe" spot to another to avoid the imaginary lava.
- Sneaking past a sleeping lion: Tiptoe quietly and freeze if the lion "stirs."
- Escaping a swirling tornado: Run in zigzags and duck down to take cover.
- Crawling through a dark cave: Stay low and carefully crawl through the "narrow" tunnel.
- Marching through a jungle: Push aside tall "plants" and swat away "bugs" as you move forward

Continued on the next page. →

SOCIAL

Opening Activity

What You Need

- ☐ Painter's Tape

**Inclusive Pro Tips**

Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

For an option with less movement, allow kids to describe the challenge instead of acting it.

Pair kids so they can act it out with a buddy.

If a kid doesn't want to be a "Brave Explorer," they can still help guess or whisper the challenges to other kids.

② What You Say

"That was so fun! Guessing the challenges was tough, but you nailed it! **[TRANSITION]** That reminds me of our true story from the Bible today. We're going to hear about some really brave spies. They weren't brave because they were the strongest, but because they knew God was and He was with them. So they trusted God with their big, brave mission. Let's go!"

Transition → Lead your group to the Large Group area.

GROUPS 1/4

Eye Spies Recap



Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Story Review" Activity Page
- ☐ Index Cards
- ☐ Markers
- ☐ Timer



Inclusive Pro Tips

Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

Repeat the question multiple times and give all kids time to process and think about the answer.

① What You Do

1. Divide the kids into teams of 3-4.
2. Give each team two index cards and a marker.
3. Instruct them to write large letters on the index cards:
 - Card 1: "A" on one side, "B" on the other
 - Card 2: "C" on one side, "D" on the other

Play Together:

1. Say, "Here's how we'll play: I'll read a question about the Bible Story with four possible answers (A, B, C, or D). Each team will have 15 seconds to quickly discuss and choose an answer together. When the time is up, your team is to hold up the card with the letter of your chosen answer!"
2. One by one, read the questions and choices out loud from the "Story Review" Activity Page.
3. Set the timer for 15 seconds, and start it you've read all of the multiple-choice answers.
4. Award points for correct answers and celebrate teamwork!

Continued on the next page. →

GROUPS 1/4

Eye Spies Recap

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Story Review" Activity Page
- ☐ Index Cards
- ☐ Markers
- ☐ Timer



Inclusive Pro Tips



Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

Repeat the question multiple times and give all kids time to process and think about the answer.

② What You Say

"Can you imagine being sent on a secret mission? That's what happened when 12 spies went to explore the land God had promised His people. It was exciting, and also a little scary. For 40 days, they saw two big things—the land was amazing with lots of food, but the people and their cities were BIG and strong!

"Most of the spies came back and said, 'Nope. No way! The people are too big!' BUT Joshua and Caleb trusted that God was with them and that He was bigger and stronger than any people they faced. They focused on God, and their view of Him got bigger and bigger, while their fears got smaller and smaller. And that helped them have courage even when everyone else was afraid.

"God was with Joshua and Caleb, and He is also with you. When you choose to follow Jesus, He gives you a helper, the Holy Spirit, who lives in you. So you are never alone, and you don't have to work up courage on your own.

"This week, you might end up around people who are nervous, or scared to do the right thing. But you don't have to be! Focus and focus on God, ask the Holy Spirit to help you, and to give you the courage to face the difficult things you're facing. Remember, **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can give you courage when others are afraid."

NOTE: Look for opportunities to have conversations about what it means to make a decision to follow Jesus! **(IF YOU NEED HELP WITH WHAT TO SAY, ASK YOUR MINISTRY LEADER.)**

GROUPS 3/4

Puzzle Race

Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ "Verse Pieces" Activity Page



Inclusive Pro Tips

Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

Work in pairs or as a whole group.

① What You Do

1. Give each kid a Bible.
2. Direct the kids to look up Psalm 56:3 using the Bible Navigation tips below.
3. Repeat the verse together several times.
4. Take a moment to explain any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.

Move Together:

1. Review the verse motions from Week 1.
- The NlrV is:
- When I'm afraid, (Make a frightened face.)
 - I put my trust (Cup hands together.)
 - in you. (Point both fingers to the sky.)
 - Psalm 56:3 (Hold hands like an open Bible.)
- The NIV is:
- When I am afraid, (Make a frightened face.)
 - I put my trust (Cup hands together.)
 - in you. (Point both fingers to the sky.)
 - Psalm 56:3 (Hold hands like an open Bible.)

Play Together:

1. Divide the kids into two teams.
2. Give each team a mixed-up set of puzzle pieces from the "Verse Pieces" Activity Page.
3. Say, "When I say 'Go!', your team is to race to put the puzzle together. Once the verse is in order, recite it out loud as a team."

Continued on the next page. →

*Finding verses with 2nd-3rd graders

- ① Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. **(HOLD UP A BIBLE OPENED TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS TO SHOW THE KIDS WHAT THE PAGE LOOKS LIKE.)**
- ② When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list.
- ③ When they find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page.
- ④ When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the correct chapter.
- ⑤ Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

GROUPS 3/4

Puzzle Race

Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ "Verse Pieces" Activity Page



② What You Say

"Awesome job, everyone! I loved seeing you all work together. Psalm 56:3 was written by a man named King David. Sometimes people were chasing David, so he had plenty of experience with fear. But instead of letting fear take over, David made a choice. He said, 'I put my trust in You, God.' And guess what? You can do the same. This verse reminds us that when we feel nervous, afraid to stand up for what's right, or even left out, we can trust God! We can stop, breathe, and ask God to give us courage. This week, when everyone around you is afraid, choose to take a step and trust God **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can give you courage when others are afraid."

Inclusive Pro Tips



Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

Work in pairs or as a whole group.

GROUPS 4/4

Pray and Dismiss



Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

☐ Optional: Index Cards and Pencils



Inclusive Pro Tips

Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

Be mindful of kids who may not want to pray out loud. Assure them that God hears every prayer—even the ones that aren't spoken aloud!

① What You Do

1. Invite the kids to sit in a circle.
2. Remind the kids that prayer is a conversation they can have with God anytime, anywhere, about anything!
3. Ask: "What do you need courage for this week?"
 - For example, kids might say: "to stand up for a classmate who's being mistreated," or "to apologize to a friend."
 - Optional: Set out index cards and pencils for kids who might prefer to write or doodle their prayer requests.
4. Close in prayer, pausing to pray for each kid by name.

② What You Say

"Dear God, thank You for each of my friends here today. **(NAME EACH KID IN YOUR GROUP AND PRAY A SENTENCE PRAYER FOR EACH ONE AS THE HOLY SPIRIT LEADS YOU.)** Fill us with courage! You, God, are bigger than anything we face! That means You are bigger than any fear. Help us believe that You are the biggest! Give us courage to do and say what's right and stand up for what You would even when other people are afraid. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Transition → As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to share this month's Memory Verse, Psalm 56:3, and why it matters!

WEEK

THREE

SOCIAL

Opening Activity



What You Need

- ☐ Prepared Bag with nine Bingo Cards Inside
- ☐ "Brave Acts Bingo" Activity Page
- ☐ Pencils



Inclusive Pro Tips

- Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.
- Be mindful of any kids who might not have had certain experiences yet. Affirm all responses!
- Allow kids to work in pairs if needed.

① What You Do

Pray for your group before they arrive → Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time. Thank God for the kids in your group and the unique ways He has made them! Recall a time God gave you the courage to help someone in need. Thank God for sending the Holy Spirit to guide you. Ask God to help you remind the kids that they don't have to be afraid to help others because God is always with them. Pray that the kids would understand that helping others is not about getting attention, but about sharing God's love with others. Ask God to help the kids recognize when He is leading them to take action.

1. Give every kid a "Brave Acts Bingo" Activity Page and a pencil.
2. Say, "We're going to play a game that helps us think about all the different ways people can be brave, even when they feel afraid."

Connect Together

1. Pull one Bingo card from the bag and read it aloud.
2. If a kid has done that act of bravery before, invite them to mark that square on their board.
3. Keep drawing cards until someone gets three in a row (across, up and down, or diagonally).
4. Pause and ask:
 - "What does it take to be brave in these situations?"
 - "How do you think God helps you be brave when you're helping someone else?"

② What You Say

"That was so fun! Guessing the challenges was tough, but you nailed it! **[TRANSITION]** That reminds me of our true story from the Bible today. We're going to hear about some really brave spies. They weren't brave because they were the strongest, but because they knew God was and He was with them. So they trusted God with their big, brave mission. Let's go!"

Transition → Lead your group to the Large Group area.

GROUPS 1/4

Spy Mission Escape



Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Review Questions" Activity Page
- ☐ "Course Challenges" Activity Page
- ☐ Painter's Tape
- ☐ Various Obstacle Course Items

Inclusive Pro Tips



- Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.
- Repeat the question multiple times and give all kids time to process and think about the answer.

① What You Do

1. Before you begin, using the "Course Challenges" Activity Page, create a challenge course to represent the spies' journey. Feel free to add your own ideas.
2. Use the painter's tape to create a start line and a finish line for the challenge course.
3. Inform the group that they will move through each challenge in a single line.
4. When a kid goes through a challenge first, instruct them to wait for the entire group to pass through that challenge.
5. After each challenge, ask one kid a review question:
 - If the kid answers correctly, instruct the group to move forward to the next challenge.
 - If the kid answers incorrectly, instruct the group to freeze for a few seconds before moving to the next challenge.
6. Once all the challenges are completed and questions are answered correctly, instruct the kids to stand on the finish line. Declare that the team has reached the "safe zone" (finish line), just like the spies escaping Jericho.

② What You Say

"Rahab showed amazing courage, didn't she? She hid the spies, even though it was risky. Why do you think she did that? **(PAUSE FOR ANSWERS. SHE HAD HEARD STORIES OF THE ONE TRUE GOD AND WANTED TO BE A PART OF HIS TEAM, HIS FAMILY.)** Rahab trusted God to help her, and God was good—He kept her and her family safe.

"Rahab's courage didn't just save her family—it also brought her into God's family! Did you know that Rahab became part of Jesus' family line? **(PAUSE FOR REACTIONS.)** It made God so happy that Rahab trusted Him and was brave! When you face a tough situation or need to help someone, remember: **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can give you courage to help someone in need."

GROUPS 2/4

Courage-In-Action Chain

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Long Strips of Cardstock
- ☐ Tape or Stapler
- ☐ Markers
- ☐ Pencils

Inclusive Pro Tips



- Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.
- Allow kids to draw instead of write.



① What You Do

1. Give each kid a strip of cardstock and a pencil.
2. Instruct the kids to write a situation where they might need courage to help someone.
 - Some suggestions might include: seeing a new kid sitting alone at lunch, including someone who is being left out, standing up for someone being teased, assisting a friend who spills their lunch.
3. Set out the markers.
4. On the back of the strip of cardstock, instruct the kids to use the markers to write or draw how God can help them have courage in that situation.
5. When done, encourage kids to share what they wrote and/or drew.
6. End by linking the strips together with tape or a stapler to create a "Courage Chain" as a reminder that God gives us strength to help others.
7. Hold on to the chain to use during Prayer and Dismissal.

② What You Say

"Thank you for sharing situations where you feel you need courage to help someone in need. It took a lot of courage, and it probably felt a little risky to share what you wrote and drew. But helping someone in need is exactly what Jesus would do.

"Rahab showed incredible courage when she helped the spies. Even though she wasn't a member of God's family, she trusted the one true God and chose to take a huge risk to help them. She showed that she wanted to be on God's team!

"We can show people that we are on God's team too by loving them the way Jesus did! Jesus always helped people who needed help. Like if you're with a group of kids who are making fun of someone, you can be brave and say something kind to defend them. Jesus would be kind too! Or maybe, if you see someone who's alone, you can invite them to play and make them feel welcome. Jesus would make them feel welcome too!

"And you aren't on your own when you're kind like Jesus! When you decided to follow Jesus, God moved inside of you through His Holy Spirit. He is closer than close! And as you go throughout your day, you'll feel a nudge from Him to help and do something. And He will give you the strength and courage to do it! So just do what you feel Him nudging you to do. Jesus' very Spirit will lead you to be kind like He is!" **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can give you courage when others are afraid."

Make It Personal → Share about a time when you were brave and you did something to help someone. What did you do? Maybe it was holding the door for them, assisting with groceries, shoveling snow, or mowing a neighbor's lawn. How did they respond when you helped? How do you think the person you helped felt? We show people God's love when we're kind like He is!

GROUPS 3/4

Verse Maze



Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Maze Template" Activity Page
- ☐ Paper Plates
- ☐ Glue Sticks
- ☐ Scotch Tape
- ☐ Marbles

Inclusive Pro Tips



- Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

① What You Do

1. Give each kid the pieces from the "Maze Template" Activity Page and paper plates.
2. Review the verse together on the circle of the "Maze Template" Activity Page by saying it out loud several times.
3. As you demonstrate the craft, instruct the kids to follow what you are doing.
4. Glue the Bible verse circle into the middle of the paper plate.
5. Place the paper strips into the shape of an asterisk around the Bible verse in the middle of the paper plate.
6. Tape down the outer edges of each paper strip.
7. Make an arch with each strip, and tape the other end of each paper strip down.
8. Glue the Start/Finish line to the paper plate.
9. Instruct the kids to place a marble at the start line, try to get it through each arch, and back to the finish line.

② What You Say

"Great job creating your paper maze! Just like you had to figure out how to guide your marble through the maze to the finish line, we also need to learn how Jesus can transform our fears into courage by trusting in Him. When we're afraid, it can feel like being stuck in a maze—lost, unsure of which way to go, and maybe even feeling alone. But here's the good news—just like there's always a way out of a maze, God provides a way through our fears. It is trusting that He is with us! Our verse reminds us that whenever we feel scared or uncertain, we can trust that God is right there with us! He will give us the courage we need!"

"When we feel afraid to step up and help someone in need. God doesn't want us to stay stuck in fear—He wants to transform those feelings into courage. He is with you and He is bigger and stronger than anything! So next time you feel nervous about helping someone, remember to ask God for courage to be kind like He is, because **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can give you the courage to help someone in need."

GROUPS 4/4

Pray and Dismiss



Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Chain from "Courage-in-Action" Chain Activity



Inclusive Pro Tips

- Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.
- Be mindful of kids who may not want to pray out loud. Assure them that God hears every prayer, even the ones that aren't spoken aloud!
- Provide adaptive seating and offer fidget tools to all kids.

① What You Do

1. Invite the kids to sit in a circle.
2. Place the paper chain in the center.
3. Encourage the kids to think of what they drew or wrote on their strip of paper.
4. Give them a few seconds to silently ask God to give them the courage to help those in need based on what they drew or wrote.
5. Close in group prayer.

② What You Say

"Dear God, thank You for always being with us through Your Holy Spirit. Give us the courage to be kind like You are. Help us in the situations we've shared in this chain. Teach us to listen to Your Spirit so we can be courageous and kind as we go throughout our day. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show them the Courage-In-Action Chain and share today's **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can give you courage to help someone in need.

WEEK

FOUR

SOCIAL

Opening Activity

What You Need

- ☐ Offering Container



Inclusive Pro Tips

Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

For an option with less movement, allow kids to point or raise their hands instead of moving sides.

① What You Do

Pray for your group before they arrive → Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time. Recall a time when God gave you courage in an uncertain situation. Thank God for sending the Holy Spirit to guide you when you didn't know what was next. Ask God to help you encourage the kids that they don't have to figure everything out on their own because the Holy Spirit will help them! Pray that the kids would see that stepping into the unknown with courage isn't about being fearless, but about trusting God no matter what. Ask God to help them listen when He leads them and to have the courage to take the next step.

1. Welcome kids to the group with a high five or fist bump.
2. Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
3. Direct the kids to stand in the center of your group space.

Play Together

1. Say, "We're going to play a game called 'Would You Rather?' I'll read a question with two choices. If you pick the first choice, you'll go to this side of the room (point clearly to the side of the room). If you pick the second choice, you'll go to that side of the room (point to the opposite side). Ready?"
2. Start off with a practice round.
→ Would you rather eat pizza or hot dogs for the rest of the week?
3. One by one, ask one of the "Would You Rather?" questions below. As you read each option, point to the side of the room to indicate which side of the room kids are to travel to. Allow time for kids to move to their side.
4. Invite a few kids to share why they chose what they did.

Would You Rather?

- Would you rather move to a brand-new country OR stay in your hometown forever?
- Would you rather have to start a new school OR be the new kid on a sports team?
- Would you rather go on an adventure without knowing the destination OR stay home where it's safe?
- Would you rather have to eat a meal you've never tried before OR only eat the same food for a whole year?
- Would you rather go on a roller coaster blindfolded OR not ride it at all?
- Would you rather have to do a big school presentation without preparation OR take a surprise test?

Continued on the next page. →

SOCIAL

Opening Activity

What You Need

- ☐ Offering Container

**Inclusive Pro Tips**

Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

For an option with less movement, allow kids to point or raise their hands instead of moving sides.

② What You Say

"That was so fun! Guessing the challenges was tough, but you nailed it! **[TRANSITION]** That reminds me of our true story from the Bible today. We're going to hear about some really brave spies. They weren't brave because they were the strongest, but because they knew God was and He was with them. So they trusted God with their big, brave mission. Let's go!"

Transition → Lead your group to the Large Group area.

GROUPS 1/4

Ruth's Journey Relay

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Story Sequence Cards" Activity Page
- ☐ Painter's Tape
- ☐ Basket or Bin



Inclusive Pro Tips

Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

Adjust the pace or movement style
(FOR EXAMPLE, WALKING INSTEAD OF RUNNING).

Allow kids to work in pairs to retrieve their cards.

① What You Do

1. Before you begin, tape two start lines on one side of your group space.
2. Place the "Story Sequence" Activity Pages in a basket or bin on the other side of the relay space.
3. Divide kids into two teams.
4. Instruct each team to line up behind a start line.

Move Together

1. One at a time, a kid from each team is to run to the basket, pick one card, and bring it back to their team.
2. Once all the cards are collected, the teams are to work together to put the story cards in the correct order.
3. The first team to place the cards in order correctly wins!
4. Keep the story cards up on the wall or table afterward so kids can revisit them during dismissal or discussion.

Story Sequence

- There was a famine in Bethlehem, so Naomi and her family moved to Moab.
- While they were in Moab, Naomi's husband and two sons died, leaving her with her daughters-in-law, Ruth and Orpah.
- Naomi decided to return to Bethlehem after hearing that God had provided food there.
- Orpah went back home to her family, but Ruth refused to leave Naomi, saying: "Where you go, I'll go. Your people will be my people. Your God will be my God." (Ruth 1:16, NIV)
- To help provide food, Ruth went to gather grain in a field that happened to belong to a man named Boaz.
- Boaz showed kindness to Ruth! He told his workers to leave extra grain for her and made sure she was safe.
- Boaz had a special relationship to Naomi's family—he was someone who could protect Naomi's family. He was a family protector! So he later married Ruth.
- Ruth and Boaz had a son named Obed, who became the grandfather of King David. Jesus was later born into this same family line!

Continued on the next page. →

GROUPS 1/4

Ruth's Journey Relay



Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

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Pray to God

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What You Need

- ☐ "Story Sequence Cards" Activity Page
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Inclusive Pro Tips

Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

Adjust the pace or movement style
(FOR EXAMPLE, WALKING INSTEAD OF RUNNING).

Allow kids to work in pairs to retrieve their cards.

② What You Say

"Great teamwork, everyone! Ruth had a big choice to make. She chose to leave her home and follow her mother-in-law Naomi to a place she'd never been. She didn't have a job, she didn't know anyone, and she had NO idea what would happen next. The only thing she did know was that God was trustworthy. She had no idea what was going to happen in her life, but she wanted to follow Him.

"She told Naomi: 'Your people will be my people. Your God will be my God.' (RUTH 1:16, NIRV) What a bold, BRAVE, promise! Ruth meant it. And God was so honored by her trust in Him! God took care of everything she needed—He made sure she had food, was safe, and even provided a family protector in Boaz. And guess what? God did something even more amazing! God wove Ruth into Jesus' family tree! Ruth was Jesus great-great-many-times-great grandmother! God was so honored by Ruth's trust in Him that He wrote her into His great rescue plan for the whole world!

"Just like Ruth, you might not always know what's ahead—like a new grade, a new team, or a tough situation at home or school. But just like Ruth, there is something you can know: you can trust God. He is trustworthy, and He goes with you everywhere! And knowing God is with you and goes with you everywhere can give you courage. **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can give you courage when you don't know what's next!"

Transition → Share about an age-appropriate time when you didn't know what would happen next. How did it make you feel? Were you nervous, unsure, or even afraid? Maybe it was starting a new job, trying out for a new hobby, or moving to a new place. What helped you get through that moment? Did you ask God to help you remember He is with you? Did you ask God to help give you courage to do the scary thing? How did you see God give you the courage to move forward? **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can give you courage when you don't know what's next."

GROUPS 2/4

Courage Crossroads

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Unknown Scenarios" Activity Page
- ☐ Paper
- ☐ Marker
- ☐ Painter's Tape

Inclusive Pro Tips



Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

Read scenarios more than once and allow additional time to process.

For an option with less movement, allow kids to point to show their choice.



① What You Do

1. Before you begin, use the marker to write "Courage" on one piece of paper and "Fear" on another.
2. Tape the signs on opposite sides of the room.
→ Set the signs on the floor if taping them on the wall isn't an option.

Imagine Together

1. Gather the kids in the center of your group space.
2. One at a time, read a scenario from the "Unknown Scenarios" Activity Page.
3. Ask kids: "If this happened to you, how would you usually react—with courage or with fear?"
4. Instruct the kids to move to the sign that matches their answer.
5. After each scenario, pause and ask:
 - "What would make it easier to choose courage in that situation?"
 - "How could you ask God for help since He wants to give you courage?"
 - Continue until every scenario has been read.
 - End by reminding the kids: "God gives us courage through the Holy Spirit. We never face anything alone!"

② What You Say

"You know, trying something new can feel a little scary, right? Has anyone ever felt nervous about trying something new? **(INVITE RESPONSES.)** How about a time you felt afraid but chose courage anyway? **(INVITE RESPONSES.)**"

"But we don't have to try and be courageous all by ourselves! When we follow Jesus, God Himself moves inside of us through His Holy Spirit. He is closer than close! So He goes with us every step of our lives. He is the strongest, and biggest, and most powerful, and He is always working for good. When we trust and believe that He goes with us, He can give us the courage to face what's in front of us when we don't know what's next. God is the strongest and He goes with us everywhere! And that can help us be brave!"

"So the next time you're at a courage crossroads, remember this: **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can give you courage when you don't know what's next. You never face anything alone!"

GROUPS 3/4

Freeze

Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Bible Marked at Psalm 56:3
- ☐ Device for Playing Upbeat Music



Inclusive Pro Tips

Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

Allow kids to have the job of calling out "Freeze!"

Repeat the entire verse every time the music stops to prompt the kid.

① What You Do

1. Call on a kid to read Psalm 56:3 from the Bible to the group.
2. Repeat the verse several times.

Play Together:

1. Say, "We're going to play a freeze game to help us remember the verse!"
2. Play the music while kids move around the room.
3. Stop the music and yell, "FREEZE!"
4. Call on a kid to say the first word of the verse.
5. Play again. This time, when the music stops, direct the first kid to say the first word again, and a new kid to say the second word of the verse.
6. Keep playing and adding one word at a time until you finish the whole verse together!
 - If you have a smaller group, encourage the first kid to say the first word of the verse, and then the next word as the verse comes around again!
7. Play again if time allows.

Optional Challenge:

1. Reverse the verse at the end and see if the kids can say the verse backward!

② What You Say

"Wow, you're learning Psalm 56:3 like CHAMPS! I love this verse, and it reminds us what to do when we're afraid: Put our trust in God. God invented you! You are His very own idea, and He thought about every detail about you when He made you! He loves you SO much that He sent Jesus to rescue you from sin so you could be close friends with Him again. And when you choose to follow Jesus, the Holy Spirit lives in you to be with you and help you every second of every day. God is closer than close because He loves you so much!"

"So when you feel nervous, scared, or unsure—like before a big move, trying something new, or standing up for a friend—know that God is with you! Ask the Holy Spirit to give you courage. Stop and take a moment to remember: When I'm afraid, I put my trust in You. Psalm 56:3 (NIRV) Just like God took care of Ruth when she didn't know what she was facing, God will take care of you. **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can give you courage when you don't know what's next!"

GROUPS 4/4

Pray and Dismiss

Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

☐ Beanbag


Inclusive Pro Tips

Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

If any kids prefer to whisper to you instead of share aloud, allow them to do so. Let them hold the beanbag silently as a reminder that God hears their prayers!

Offer adaptive seating or fidget tools to all kids.

① What You Do

1. Invite the kids to sit with you in a circle.
2. Share with the kids that prayer is a conversation they can have with God anytime, anywhere, about anything!

Reflect Together:

1. Say: "I'm going to toss this beanbag to one of you. When you catch it, say a two-word prayer request. Just two words! It could be something like a math test, my friend, feeling scared, or grandma sick."
2. Pause to give the kids a moment to think about their two words.
3. Begin tossing the beanbag around the circle until each kid gets a turn to share their two words.
4. After each kid shares, instruct them to pass the beanbag back to you as you say a one-sentence prayer for them.
5. Keep your prayers simple and affirming.
→ For example, if a kid's prayer request is "school's hard," you might say: "God, please help Jalen with his schoolwork."
6. Close in prayer.

② What You Say

"God, thank You that we can talk to You anytime, anywhere, about anything. You are always listening because You care so deeply for us! Sometimes, we don't know what's going to happen next. When we feel nervous, confused, or even afraid, help us trust that You are with us, You are the strongest, and we can be brave because we go everywhere with You! We love You so much. We pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to show them the story sequence cards and share what they remember about Ruth's story! Encourage them to share that: **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can give you courage when you don't know what's next."