

WEEK

ONE

Small Group Leader Guide



Today's Suggested Schedule

Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Brave Shield Hunt
2. Extra Coloring Sheet

Large Group (20 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- "Super Duper Kid" and "Be Brave"
- Bible Story
- Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. Memory Verse with Motions
2. Royal Parachute
3. Brave Queen Esther



Today's Bible Story

I can pray and be brave.

Esther

Esther 2:2-8;17

Key Question

Who can help you be brave?

Bottom Line

God can help me be brave.

Memory Verse

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid... for the Lord your God goes with you."

Deuteronomy 31:6 NIV



Inclusive Pro Tips

This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional inclusive pro-tips. Check out the Special Needs Resource Kit for more ideas for adapting each segment.

SOCIAL 1/3

Brave Shield Hunt



What You Need

- ☐ "Brave Shield Hunt" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Mirror paper
- ☐ Plastic or paper silver plates
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Masking tape
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ *Optional: Aluminum foil in the place of mirror paper.*



Inclusive Pro Tips

Offer different ways to participate, like pointing to a shield instead of picking it up or naming the person on the shield.

Pair children up to find shields together, allowing them to help one another and making the activity more accessible for kids who may need extra guidance.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Brave Shield Hunt" on cardstock and cut one set per Small Group.
2. Attach each image to the center of a plate.
3. Glue the mirror paper to the center of the sixth plate.
4. Cut cardstock widthwise into 1 ½" strips, six per Small Group.
5. Roll each strip and tape it to the back of each plate to create a handle for each shield.
6. Place the shields around the room in easy-to-find locations.

During the Activity

1. Invite the children to move around the room and find the shields.
2. As they find each shield, name who is on it (firefighter, superhero, child, etc.).
3. Talk about how each shield has a brave person on it.
4. Reset and repeat as desired.

After the Activity

Introduce the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, today we are going to go on a hunt to find some very special shields! These shields have pictures of people who are super brave. When you find a shield, hold it up high and we'll talk about who is on it!"

During the Activity

"Ready, set, go! (PAUSE.) Raise the shield really high in the air when you find one. (PAUSE.) Wow! [CHILD'S NAME], you found one! Who is on your shield? (PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.) Wow! You found a firefighter! Firefighters are so brave because they help people in danger! Keep looking! I see more brave shields waiting to be found! [CHILD'S NAME], what brave shield did you find? (PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.) Wow! You found yourself! Yes! You can be super brave too! Let's keep going! (REPEAT UNTIL ALL SHIELDS ARE FOUND.) That was such a fun game! Way to go, friends! You found all the brave shields!"

After the Activity

"Firefighters are brave. Superheroes are brave. And you know what? You can be brave too! In our Bible Story today, we are going to hear about someone who had to be very brave. Let's go find out who it is!"

Transition → Move to Worship and Story by holding up imaginary shields.

GROUPS 1/4

Memory Verse with Motions



Memory Verse Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

→ No Supplies Needed

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ VELCRO® Dots
- ☐ Scissors



Inclusive Pro Tips

Invite children to say it with you or repeat words after you.

Set out the picture cutouts made from the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF for children to hold up or point to as an alternative to saying or repeating the verse out loud.

① What You Do

Note → You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.

Before the Activity

1. Say the Memory Verse and demonstrate the motions for the children.

During the Activity

1. Teach the Memory Verse motions.
2. Invite the children to do them with you several times.

After the Activity

Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come stand with me, and let me tell you our brand-new Memory Verse! Ready to hear it? It goes like this. 'Be strong and courageous. **(MUSCLE ARMS)** Do not be afraid . . . **(CROSS AND UNCROSS HANDS)** for the Lord your God **(FLAT HAND WITH THUMB TO FOREHEAD, PULL DOWN)** goes with you,' **(MARCH IN PLACE)** Deuteronomy 31:6." **(OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK.)**

Continued on the next page →

GROUPS 1/4

Memory Verse with Motions



Memory Verse Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

→ No Supplies Needed

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ VELCRO® Dots
- ☐ Scissors

Inclusive Pro Tips



Invite children to say it with you or repeat words after you.

Set out the picture cutouts made from the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF for children to hold up or point to as an alternative to saying or repeating the verse out loud.

② What You Say (cont.)

During the Activity

"Now, let's learn the motions. The first part of our verse says: 'Be strong and courageous.' (**MUSCLE ARMS.**) Put both arms up and show me your muscles like this (**BOTH ARMS OUT TO THE SIDE, BENT AT THE ELBOW AND FLEX**) and say, 'Be strong and courageous.' (**REPEAT WITH CHILDREN.**) Great job!

"The next part of our verse says: 'Do not be afraid . . .' (**CROSS AND UNCROSS HANDS.**) Put your arms out in front of you, elbows bent, and one arm over the other. (**PAUSE.**) Now move your arms out to the side like this (**ARMS IN FRONT OF YOU, STACKED ONE OVER THE OTHER THEN SWIFTLY MOVE THEM OUT TO YOUR SIDE**) and say, 'Do not be afraid...' (**REPEAT WITH CHILDREN.**) Wonderful! Now let's put that together. 'Be strong and courageous. (**MUSCLE ARMS**) Do not be afraid . . . (**CROSS AND UNCROSS HANDS**) Great job!

"The next part of our verse says: 'for the Lord your God.' (**FLAT HAND WITH THUMB TO FOREHEAD, PULL DOWN.**) Put one hand up straight in front of you with your thumb almost touching your forehead like this. (**STRAIGHT, FLAT HAND WITH THUMB AT YOUR FOREHEAD.**) Then you move your hand straight down in front of you like this, (**PULL DOWN**) and say, 'for the Lord your God.' (**REPEAT WITH CHILDREN.**) Nice job! Now let's put that together. 'Be strong and courageous. (**MUSCLE ARMS**) Do not be afraid ... (**CROSS AND UNCROSS HANDS**) for the Lord your God.' (**FLAT HAND WITH THUMB TO FOREHEAD, PULL DOWN.**)

"The next part of our verse says: 'goes with you.' (**MARCH IN PLACE.**) March in place like this, (**STAND IN ONE SPOT AND ALTERNATE LIFTING ONE KNEE UP AT A TIME**) and say, 'goes with you.' (**REPEAT WITH CHILDREN.**) Nice job! Now let's put that together. 'Be strong and courageous. (**MUSCLE ARMS**) Do not be afraid . . . (**CROSS AND UNCROSS HANDS**) for the Lord your God (**FLAT HAND WITH THUMB TO FOREHEAD, PULL DOWN**) goes with you," (**MARCH IN PLACE**)

"Now the last part is: Deuteronomy 31:6. (**OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK.**) Put your hands together in front of you and open them like you are opening a book (**OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK**) and say: Deuteronomy 31:6. (**REPEAT WITH CHILDREN.**) Great job! I think we are ready to do it all together! Ready friends? 'Be strong and courageous. (**MUSCLE ARMS**) Do not be afraid . . . (**CROSS AND UNCROSS HANDS**) for the Lord your God (**FLAT HAND WITH THUMB TO FOREHEAD, PULL DOWN**) goes with you," (**MARCH IN PLACE**) Deuteronomy 31:6. (**OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK.**) Nice job. Let's do it again!" (**REPEAT SEVERAL TIMES.**)

After the Activity

"The Bible teaches us that we don't need to be afraid, that we can be strong and courageous because God is with us! [**BOTTOM LINE**] God can help me be brave. Who can help you be brave? [**BOTTOM LINE**] God can help me be brave."

GROUPS 3/4

Royal Parachute

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

☐ Parachute

USES MINIMAL SUPPLIES

MADE TO Move

Inclusive Pro Tips



For a version with less movement, sit children around the parachute and encourage them to shake it gently in place of walking into and out of the circle.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Lay the parachute on the floor in an open area of your room.

During the Activity

1. Ask one child to sit in the center of the parachute while the other children stand around the edge and hold the handles.
2. When you say "Queen" ask children to walk the parachute up to the queen, say "God can help you be brave!"
3. Then ask children to carefully walk back and place the parachute flat on the floor.
4. Have the child in the middle move to the outer edge and a new child come sit in the center.
5. Continue with each child.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come over and let's play a parachute game!"

During the Activity

"Everyone, come stand around the parachute, and I need [CHILD'S NAME] to come sit in the center of the parachute. They will be our king/queen. (PAUSE.) Okay, now everyone standing around the parachute, pick up the handle and when I count to three, slowly walk the parachute in towards the middle where [CHILD'S NAME] is sitting. Ready? One, two, three. Everyone freeze and say this after me. God can help you be brave. (WITH CHILDREN.) God can help you be brave. Great job friends! Now slowly and carefully walk backwards to where we started. (PAUSE.) Place the parachute down on the ground and [CHILD'S NAME] will come out and [CHILD'S NAME] will be our new king/queen. (CONTINUE UNTIL EACH CHILD HAS A TURN.) That was fun getting to take turns being kings and queens!"

After the Activity

"Today in our Bible Story, we learned about a King and his queen, named Esther. Esther was one of God's people. One day, the king was tricked and made a decision that was going to hurt God's people. But the king didn't know Esther was a part of God's people. Esther asked God's people to pray and talk to God with her. Esther trusted that God could help her be brave, so she went and asked the king to keep God's people safe, and the king said yes! Everyone celebrated. Esther prayed, and God helped her be brave. And do you know what? You can pray, and God can help you be brave, too! Who can help you be brave? [BOTTOM LINE] God can help me be brave."

GROUPS 4/4

Brave Queen Esther



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Brave Queen Esther" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Clear tape
- ☐ Scissors

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Dot markers



Inclusive Pro Tips

Create an example.

Allow children to decorate their story picture with dot markers then assemble for them.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Brave Queen Esther" on cardstock and cut, one per child.
2. Write each child's name on their paper.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to color their picture then help bend the ends around and tape to secure as you review the Bible Story.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Come to the table and let's make a story picture of brave Queen Esther. We learned that being brave means doing the right thing...even when you feel afraid."

During the Activity

"Color your picture while I talk about today's Bible Story. Today we learned about a beautiful queen named Esther, and she was married to a very powerful king. Esther was a part of God's people, but the king didn't know that. One day, the king was tricked and made a decision that was going to hurt God's people. Esther needed to talk to the king, but no one could talk to the king unless he invited them. Esther needed to be brave, so she asked God's people to pray and talk to God with her. The people prayed together for three days. Esther trusted that God could help her be brave, so she went to the king and asked the king to keep God's people safe. The king said yes and everyone celebrated. Now that you've finished your picture, let's bend the sides backwards and tape the edges together. **(HELP AS NEEDED.)** Now your story picture can stand. Every time you look at your story picture of brave queen Esther, you can remember to be brave too!"

After the Activity

"God helped Esther be brave and God can help you be brave too. Who can help you be brave? **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can help me be brave."

Getting Ready

Social

Offer one or more of the following activities as preschoolers arrive. Let one or two Small Group Leaders lead activities in different areas of the room while another leader greets parents and children at the door.

Groups

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or offer two activities at once and allow half the children to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

Pinterest

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies.
bit.ly/FL_ConstructAndCreate

Social

Brave Shield Hunt

- ☐ "Brave Shield Hunt" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Mirror paper
- ☐ Plastic or paper silver plates
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Masking tape
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ *Optional: Aluminum foil in place of mirror paper*

1. Copy "Brave Shield Hunt" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.
2. Attach each image to the center of a plate.
3. Glue the mirror paper to the center of the sixth plate.
4. Cut cardstock widthwise into 1 ½" strips, six per Small Group.
5. Roll each strip and tape to the back of each plate to create a handle for each shield.
6. Place the shields around the room in easy-to-find locations.

Groups

Memory Verse with Motions

→ No supplies needed.

Royal Parachute

- ☐ Parachute

Brave Queen Esther

- ☐ "Brave Queen Esther" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Clear tape
- ☐ Scissors

1. Copy "Brave Queen Esther" on cardstock and cut one per child.
2. Write each child's name on their paper.

WEEK

TWO

Small Group Leader Guide



Today's Suggested Schedule

Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Build It Up, Knock It Down
2. Superhero Match
3. Super Dress Up

Large Group (20 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- "Super Duper Kid" and "Be Brave"
- Bible Story
- Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. Brave Reminder
2. Knock Goliath Down
3. Always With Me
4. David, Goliath, and the Stone

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Going Home
- Memory Verse Card
- Parent Cue Card (print or email)
- [Parent Cue App](#) and [ParentCue.org](#)

THIS MONTH



Today's Bible Story

I can be brave because God is with me.

David and Goliath

1 Samuel 17:1-50

Key Question

Who can help you be brave?

Bottom Line

God can help me be brave.

Memory Verse

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid... for the Lord your God goes with you."

Deuteronomy 31:6 NIV



Inclusive Pro Tips

This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional inclusive pro-tips. Check out the Special Needs Resource Kit for more ideas for adapting each segment.

SOCIAL 1/3

Build It Up, Knock It Down

What You Need

- ☐ Building blocks



① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Set the blocks out in an open area and ask children to join you.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to build towers and pyramids.
2. When the building is complete, count down from three and allow the children to knock it down.
3. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity

Introduce the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come join me at the blocks!"

During the Activity

"Let's work together and use all the blocks to build a pyramid, that's a tower that looks like a triangle. We can line up six blocks end to end. **(PAUSE.)** Now, stack more blocks on top of that first line, starting them a bit from the edge like this. **(DEMONSTRATE.)** Keep adding, making it go higher and higher. **(PAUSE.)** Wow, you built it so tall! I'm going to count and then we can knock it down! Ready? Three, two, one, knock it down! **(PAUSE.)** Okay, this time I want you to build several tall towers. **(PAUSE.)** Wow! Look at how tall the towers are! Here's the countdown. Three, two, one, knock it down! **(REPEAT AS DESIRED.)** Great job, friends! That was so fun."

After the Activity

"Today in our true story from the Bible, we're going to hear about a small boy named David, who knocked over a big giant named Goliath! I can't wait to hear all about it. Let's go!"

Transition → Move to Worship and Story by encouraging children to walk, then freeze and strike a superhero pose when you count to three. Continue until you get to your designated area.

GROUPS 1/4

Brave Reminder

Memory Verse Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Brave Reminder" Activity Page, cardstock
- ☐ Washable markers or dot markers
- ☐ Self-inking stamps
- ☐ Baby wipes
- ☐ Scissors



① What You Do

Note → You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Brave Reminder" on cardstock and cut one cutout per child.
2. Write each child's name on their paper.
3. Say the Memory Verse and do the motions together with the children.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to decorate their door hanger.
2. Say the verse and motions again.

After the Activity

Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come stand with me, and let's do the motions as we say our Memory Verse. Ready? 'Be strong and courageous. **(MUSCLE ARMS)** Do not be afraid . . . **(CROSS AND UNCROSS HANDS)** for the Lord your God **(FLAT HAND WITH THUMB TO FOREHEAD, PULL DOWN)** goes with you," **(MARCH IN PLACE)** Deuteronomy 31:6. **(OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK.)** Great job!"

During the Activity

"Let's sit at the table together. I have something for you to make that will help you remember that God can help you be brave. **(HOLD UP A DOOR HANGER.)** It has the words to our Memory Verse on it. Use the markers and stamps to decorate it. **(PAUSE.)** Wow! You did a great job with these. So when you get home you can hang it on a door knob and when you go in or out of the room, you can remember that God can help you be brave. Let's say our Memory Verse one more time and do the motions. Ready? 'Be strong and courageous. **(MUSCLE ARMS)** Do not be afraid . . . **(CROSS AND UNCROSS HANDS)** for the Lord your God **(FLAT HAND WITH THUMB TO FOREHEAD, PULL DOWN)** goes with you," **(MARCH IN PLACE)** Deuteronomy 31:6. **(OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK.)** Good job, everyone!"

After the Activity

"The Bible teaches us that God can help us be brave. We don't need to be afraid; we can be strong and courageous because God is with us! God can help you be brave and **(BOTTOM LINE)** God can help me be brave. Who can help you be brave? **(BOTTOM LINE)** God can help me be brave."

2-3 Year-Olds

Small Group

October — Week 2

GROUPS 3/4

Always with Me

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Pop-up tunnel
- ☐ Plush toys



Inclusive Pro Tips

Allow children to walk around the tunnel instead of crawling through.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Set the tunnel in an open area.
2. Place a few plush toys next to the opening of the tunnel.

During the Activity

1. Encourage each child to pick up a plush friend and carry it with them as they crawl through the tunnel.
2. Ask children to keep their plush friend with them.
3. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hey friends, everyone line up over here. I need your help bringing these friends through the tunnel."

During the Activity

"When I call your name, pick a plush friend and carry it through the tunnel. Keep your friend with you all the time. Ready? **[CHILD'S NAME]**, pick a plush friend and bring it through the tunnel! **(PAUSE.)** Great job. **(CONTINUE WITH EACH CHILD.)** Yay! We all made it through the tunnel with our friends! Hooray! Now let's give our plush friends a big hug."

After the Activity

"Wow, the plush friend went with you through the tunnel. But the plush friend won't always be with you, but do you know who is always with you? God is always with you. No matter where you go, God is always with you, and God can help you be brave! Who can help you be brave? **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can help me be brave."

Getting Ready

Social

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Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or offer two activities at once and allow half the children to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

Pinterest

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies.

bit.ly/FL_SuperKids

Social

Build It Up, Knock It Down

- ☐ Building blocks

Groups

Brave Reminder

- ☐ "Brave Reminder" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Washable markers or dot markers
- ☐ Self-inking stamps
- ☐ Baby wipes
- ☐ Scissors

1. Copy "Brave Reminder" on cardstock and cut, one cutout per child.
2. Write each child's name on their paper.

Groups (cont.)

Always With Me

- ☐ Pop-up tunnel
- ☐ Plush friends

WEEK

THREE

Small Group Leader Guide



Today's Suggested Schedule

Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

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Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Who's Hiding?
2. Extra Coloring Sheets

Large Group (20 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- "Super Duper Kid" and "Be Brave"
- Bible Story
- Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. Superhero Poses
2. Gideon on a Stick



Today's Bible Story

I can be brave even when I'm afraid.

Gideon

Judges 6 and 7

Key Question

Who can help you be brave?

Bottom Line

God can help me be brave.

Memory Verse

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid... for the Lord your God goes with you."

Deuteronomy 31:6 NIV



Inclusive Pro Tips

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SOCIAL 1/3

Who's Hiding?

What You Need

- ☐ "Who's Hiding?" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Plastic cups
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Clear tape



Inclusive Pro Tips



For children who need extra support, point to or describe the cups as they explore, saying, "Let's try this one! Do you think Gideon is inside?" to encourage participation.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Who's Hiding?" on cardstock and cut one cutout per Small Group.
2. Tape one picture to the inside of a plastic cup.
3. Place cups upside down all over the floor.

During the Activity

1. Explain to the children that they are going to find Gideon, who is hiding in a hole (the cup).
2. Encourage children to flip the cups over one by one until they find Gideon.
3. Reset, placing the Gideon cup in a new spot each time.
4. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity

Introduce the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hello friends! Come stand with me over here. Today I have a fun game for us to play. We need to find Gideon! He's hiding in a hole. Let's pretend these cups are holes. When I say go, you'll run and flip over one cup at a time until we find Gideon!"

During the Activity

"Ready, set, GO! (PAUSE.) Flip all the cups over, one cup at a time. (PAUSE.) Great job looking for Gideon! Keep going! Who found Gideon? (PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.) Yay! [CHILD'S NAME] found Gideon! (PICK UP THE GIDEON CUP AND PLACE IT UPSIDE DOWN IN ANOTHER AREA.) Let's reset the cups and play again! (REPEAT AS DESIRED.) That was fun looking for Gideon together!"

After the Activity

"Today we're going to hear a true story from the Bible about a man named Gideon. He hid in a hole because he was afraid. But we'll hear how God helped him be brave! Let's go hear more about Gideon!"

Transition → Move to Worship and Story by pretending to look high and low for Gideon as you walk to your designated area.

2-3 Year-Olds

Small Group

October — Week 3

GROUPS 3/4

Superhero Poses



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

→ No Supplies Needed

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Gather together in an open area of the room.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to do different Super Kid poses that you call out.
2. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hello, super friends! Join me over here and spread out. Today, we learned about Gideon. **(PUT YOUR HANDS OVER YOUR EYES.)** Gideon was afraid, but God helped him be brave **(MAKE FISTS AND PUT THEM ON YOUR HIPS)** and lead an army to fight the Midianites. Let's move our bodies and make super kid poses."

During the Activity

"Our first pose is to put one hand on your head and the other hand on your knee. **(PAUSE.)** Good job! The next pose is two hands and one foot on the ground, like this. **(DEMONSTRATE.)** Nice! Okay, the next pose is one arm in the air, the other out to your side, and one leg lifted behind you like this. **(DEMONSTRATE.)** Wow! You are great at striking the super kid pose! **(CONTINUE WITH DIFFERENT POSES.)** Great job, friends!"

After the Activity

"Wow, the plush friend went with you through the tunnel. But the plush "Our true story from the Bible begins with a man named Gideon. Gideon, along with the other Israelites, was hiding in a hole because he was afraid of the Midianite army. They were big, and strong, and mean. They took everything Gideon and God's people had. One day, God sent an angel to tell Gideon that God wanted him to lead an army to defeat the Midianites. But Gideon was still afraid. The angel said, "God will be with you." So Gideon did what God said and led God's army. Gideon gave the army trumpets, jars, and torches and told them to follow him and do what he did. They quietly walked to where the Midianites were, and when Gideon told them to, they made a really loud noise by blowing their trumpets and smashing their jars! And shouted: "For the Lord and for Gideon!" And just like that, the Midianites were so afraid, they ran away. When Gideon was afraid, God helped him be brave. And God can help you be brave, too! Who can help you be brave? **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can help me be brave."

GROUPS 4/4

Gideon on a Stick



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Gideon on a Stick" Activity Page
- ☐ "Gideon Story Sticker" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent
- ☐ Craft sticks
- ☐ Plastic disposable cups
- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Permanent marker

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Gideon on a Stick" on cardstock and cut one cutout per child and leader.
2. Copy "Gideon Story Sticker" on label paper, one per child and leader.
3. Write each child's name on their cup. Prepare an example

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to color their Gideon cutout.
2. Give every child a craft stick and ask them to glue it to one end of the back of their picture, assist as needed.
3. Next, give each child a plastic cup and a story sticker to put on the outside of their cup.
4. Once everyone has their Gideon and cup ready, lead the children in reviewing the Bible Story.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

Continued on the next page. →

GROUPS 4/4

Gideon on a Stick



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Gideon on a Stick" Activity Page
- ☐ "Gideon Story Sticker" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent
- ☐ Craft sticks
- ☐ Plastic disposable cups
- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Permanent marker

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, I'm so happy to see you! Come sit with me. We're going to make some story art!"

During the Activity

"In our Bible Story, we learned about a man named Gideon. **(HOLD UP GIDEON ON A STICK.)** I have a Gideon for you to color. **(PAUSE.)** Wow! Fantastic! Now glue Gideon to the top of your craft stick, like mine. **(ASSIST AS NEEDED.)**

"Gideon hid in a hole because he was afraid. Let's pretend this cup is the hole Gideon was hiding in. **(GIVE EACH CHILD A CUP AND A STICKER.)** Can you add the story sticker to the side of your cup? The words on your label say **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can help me be brave. It also tells you where you can look in the Bible to find today's story. Now hold your Gideon, like this. **(HOLD UP GIDEON IN ONE HAND.)** Hold your cup in your other hand, like this. **(HOLD UP THE CUP IN THE OTHER HAND.)** Let's tell the story together!

"Gideon hid in a hole because he was afraid. **(PUT GIDEON IN THE CUP.)** God loved Gideon and sent an angel to tell him, 'The Lord is with you, mighty warrior!' **(TAKE GIDEON OUT OF THE CUP.)** The angel told Gideon that God wanted him to lead an army to defeat the Midianites. But Gideon was still afraid. The angel told Gideon, 'God will be with you.' Gideon did what God said and went to lead God's army. They took trumpets, jars, and torches and quietly walked to where the Midianites were. When Gideon told them to, they made a really loud noise by blowing their trumpets and smashing their jars! Then they shouted: 'For the LORD and for Gideon!' Let's all shout that. **(WITH CHILDREN.)** 'For the LORD and for Gideon!' The Midianites were so afraid, they ran away! God helped Gideon be brave and lead the army to defeat the Midianites."

After the Activity

"God loved Gideon and was with him when he was afraid. God helped Gideon be brave. God can help you be brave, too. Who can help you be brave? **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can help me be brave."

Getting Ready

Social

Offer one or more of the following activities as preschoolers arrive. Let one or two Small Group Leaders lead activities in different areas of the room while another leader greets parents and children at the door.

Groups

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or offer two activities at once and allow half the children to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

Pinterest

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies.

bit.ly/FL_SuperKids

Social

Who's Hiding?

- ☐ "Who's Hiding?" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ 12-16-ounce plastic cups, two per child
- ☐ Clear tape
- ☐ Scissors

1. Copy "Who's Hiding?" on cardstock and cut, one cutout per Small Group.
2. Tape one picture to the inside of a plastic cup.
3. Place cups upside down all over the floor.

Groups

Superhero Poses

→ No Supplies Needed

Gideon on a Stick

- ☐ "Gideon on a Stick" Activity Page
- ☐ "Gideon Story Sticker" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent
- ☐ Craft sticks
- ☐ Plastic disposable cups
- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Permanent marker

1. Copy "Gideon on a Stick" on cardstock and cut one cutout per child and leader.
2. Copy "Gideon Story Sticker" on label paper, one per child and leader.
3. Write each child's name on their cup.
4. Prepare an example

WEEK

FOUR

Small Group Leader Guide



Today's Suggested Schedule

Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Pin the Food on the Donkey
2. Floofy Sheep
3. Pouring Water

Large Group (20 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- "Super Duper Kid" and "Be Brave"
- Bible Story
- Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. Heavy Lifting
2. Act Like Abigail
3. Delivering Food
4. Abigail Helps Others

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Going Home
- Memory Verse Card
- Parent Cue Card (print or email)
- [Parent Cue App](#) and [ParentCue.org](#)

THIS MONTH



Today's Bible Story

I can be brave and help others.

Abigail

1 Samuel 25:1-35

Key Question

Who can help you be brave?

Bottom Line

God can help me be brave.

Memory Verse

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid... for the Lord your God goes with you."

Deuteronomy 31:6 NIV



Inclusive Pro Tips

This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional inclusive pro-tips. Check out the Special Needs Resource Kit for more ideas for adapting each segment.

SOCIAL 3/3

Pouring Water

What You Need

- ☐ Shallow plastic bin
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Plastic tablecloth or tarp
- ☐ Plastic cups
- ☐ Plastic pitchers
- ☐ Paper towels



① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Spread out a tablecloth or tarp on the floor or table.
2. Place the bin on top and fill halfway with water.
3. Place cups and pitchers next to the bin.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to scoop and pour the water with the pitchers and cups.
2. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity

Introduce the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Look, friends! We have a water tub to play with today! Do you want to come play?"

During the Activity

"You can use the pitchers to scoop up the water, then pour into all the cups to fill them up. You can pour from one cup to the other too! Once the cups are full you can dump them out and fill them up again. **(PAUSE.)** That's super fun to scoop and pour and play in the water. Now let's all dry our hands."

After the Activity

"Today we're going to hear a true story from the Bible about a woman named Abigail who was brave and gave food and water to some people who were hungry and thirsty. Let's go hear the story!"

Transition → Move to Worship and Story by pretending to scoop and pour as you travel to your designated area.

2-3 Year-Olds

Small Group

October — Week 4

GROUPS 1/4

Heavy Lifting

Memory Verse Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

→ No Supplies Needed



① What You Do

Note → You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.

Before the Activity

1. Encourage children to come stand with you, spread out to ensure that when doing big movements, they have plenty of room to move.
2. Do the motions as you say the Memory Verse together.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to pretend to lift weights.
2. Lead children through different weightlifting movements like arm curls, shoulder press, etc.
3. After you do one set, say the verse together, then do another set.
4. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity

Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

Continued on the next page. →

GROUPS 1/4

Heavy Lifting

Memory Verse Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

→ No Supplies Needed



② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Come over here and stand with me and spread out. Can you put your arms out to the side and out in front of you without touching anyone? **(PAUSE.)** Great! I think we're ready to get started! Let's do the motions together as we say our verse. 'Be strong and courageous. **(MUSCLE ARMS)** Do not be afraid . . . **(CROSS AND UNCROSS HANDS)** for the Lord your God **(FLAT HAND WITH THUMB TO FOREHEAD, PULL DOWN)** goes with you," **(MARCH IN PLACE)** Deuteronomy 31:6. **(OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK.)** Fantastic!"

During the Activity

"Now, we are going to pretend we're lifting weights. Everyone has some pretend weights right in front of them. Reach down and pick up your weights. **(DRAMATICALLY PICK UP YOUR WEIGHTS AND HOLD THEM WITH LOOSE FISTS.)** Hold your weights by your side like this. **(HOLD YOUR FISTS CLOSE TO YOUR SIDE.)** Now bring them up to your chest like this. **(DEMONSTRATE.)** Good job! Let's do three of these. One. **(PAUSE.)** Two. **(PAUSE.)** Three. **(PAUSE.)** Put your weights by your side and let's say our verse together. 'Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid...for the Lord your God goes with you.' Deuteronomy 31:6. Fantastic! Now raise your weights over your head, push up, and bring them down. Now do the other side. Push up, then bring it down. Like this. **(DEMONSTRATE.)** We'll do this exercise three times. One. **(PAUSE.)** Two. **(PAUSE.)** Three. **(PAUSE.)** Put your weights by your side and let's say our verse together. 'Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid...for the Lord your God goes with you.' Deuteronomy 31:6. **(REPEAT AS DESIRED.)** You can put your weights on the floor. **(PAUSE.)** Wow friends! You are all so strong. That was fun being strong just like it says in our Memory Verse."

After the Activity

"Lifting weights can help us get big and strong, but God can help us be strong, courageous, and brave! God can help us be brave and do big things. Who can help you be brave? **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can help me be brave! One more time. Who can help you be brave? **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can help me be brave!"

GROUPS 3/4

Delivering Food



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Toy food
- ☐ Paper plates
- ☐ Two plastic bins



Inclusive Pro Tips

Allow children to carry the food with their hands.

Pair children up, allowing them to help one another and making the activity more accessible for kids who may need extra guidance.

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Place the plates and food in one bin and place it on the floor on one side of the room.
2. Place the other bin on the floor across from the other.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to take a plate and put a piece of food on their plate.
2. Ask children to walk across the room balancing the food on their plate.
3. When they get across the room, ask children to put their plate and food into the second bin.
4. Once everyone has made it across the room, allow children to play again going the opposite direction.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, I loved our Bible Story today. I loved how Abigail delivered the food to David and his men. I think we should play a game, delivering food too."

During the Activity

"Come line up at this bin right here. **(POINT TO THE FULL BIN.)** Everyone, pick one plate and put a piece of food on it. Now, try to walk from here to the other bin without dropping the food. **(PAUSE.)** If your food falls off your plate, it's okay, pick it up and put it back on your plate, and keep going. When you get to the other side, put your plate and food into that bin over there. **(PAUSE.)** Hooray! Everyone made it across the room with their food. Let's try it again, but this time we'll walk to that side of the room. Ready? Go! **(REPEAT AS DESIRED.)** That was fun, but it wasn't easy. That food sometimes just rolled off the plate! But you did it!"

After the Activity

"I bet it wasn't easy when Abigail delivered the food in our Bible Story either. I bet she was afraid because David was so upset. But she did it because God helped her be brave. God can help you be brave, too! Who can help you be brave? **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can help me be brave. That's right, friends! God can help you be brave, and **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can help me be brave."

GROUPS 4/4

Abigail Helps Others



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Abigail Helps Others" Activity Page
- ☐ "Abigail Helps David and Nabal" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Crayons or washable markers
- ☐ Food stickers
- ☐ Cotton balls
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Permanent marker

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ White circle stickers in place of cotton balls
- ☐ Glue sticks

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Abigail Helps Others" on cardstock and cut one cutout per child.
2. Copy "Abigail Helps David and Nabal" on cardstock, one per child.
3. Write each child's name on their paper.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to color the picture of David and Nabal.
2. Ask children to glue a few cotton balls to Nabal's side.
3. Encourage children to color their picture of Abigail and the donkey.
4. Ask children to add a few food stickers to the donkey's back, then glue them in between David and Nabal.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

Continued on the next page. →



Inclusive Pro Tips

Create an example for children to see.

Give children white circle stickers to use for their sheep in place of gluing cotton balls to their paper.

GROUPS 4/4

Abigail Helps Others



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Abigail Helps Others" Activity Page
- ☐ "Abigail Helps David and Nabal" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Crayons or washable markers
- ☐ Food stickers
- ☐ Cotton balls
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Permanent marker

Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ White circle stickers in place of cotton balls
- ☐ Glue sticks

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hello, everyone! Come sit at the table with me and let's make some story art to help us remember how super Abigail was!"

During the Activity

"On your paper is David (POINT) and Nabal. (POINT.) Color them in. (PAUSE.) Great! Now, glue a few of these cotton balls to this side (POINT TO NABAL'S SIDE) with Nabal. (PAUSE.) Super job! Now, who do you think this is? (HOLD UP A PICTURE OF ABIGAIL.) It's Abigail! That's right! Abigail is standing with a donkey. Can you color this picture? (PAUSE.) Super! Now, Abigail put some things on the donkey's back and went to see David. Do you remember what it was? (PAUSE FOR RESPONSE.) Food! You got it! Put some food stickers on the donkey's back. (PAUSE.) Now let's glue Abigail to your big picture in between David and Nabal. (PAUSE.) Great job! Your story picture is complete!"

After the Activity

"Abigail and her husband Nabal had a lot of floofy sheep. Point to Nabal and his sheep. (PAUSE.) One day, Nabal's shepherds brought all of those sheep to where David and his men were. Point to David. (PAUSE.) David and his men protected the sheep and shepherds so nothing bad would happen to them. After that, David sent a few men to ask Nabal for some food, but Nabal said no! This made David very upset. Very mad! Very angry! When Abigail heard what happened, she knew that if she didn't do something to help, a lot of people would get hurt. So Abigail needed to be brave and help! She grabbed a lot of food and drinks and put it on some donkeys to carry to David and his men. Point to Abigail and the donkey with the food on his back. (PAUSE.) Abigail told David the food and drinks were a gift for him and his men. They took the food and said, 'Thank God for you and for your help.' Hooray for Abigail!" Abigail helped a LOT of people because she was brave! We can be brave and help others, too. Who can help you be brave? [BOTTOM LINE] God can help me be brave."

Inclusive Pro Tips



Create an example for children to see.

Give children white circle stickers to use for their sheep in place of gluing cotton balls to their paper.

Getting Ready

Social

Offer one or more of the following activities as preschoolers arrive. Let one or two Small Group Leaders lead activities in different areas of the room while another leader greets parents and children at the door.

Groups

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Social

Pouring Water

- ☐ Shallow plastic bin
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Plastic tablecloth or tarp
- ☐ Plastic cups
- ☐ Plastic pitchers
- ☐ Paper towels

1. Spread out a tablecloth or tarp on the floor or table.
2. Place the bin on top and fill halfway with water.
3. Place cups and pitchers next to the bin.

Groups

Delivering Food

- ☐ Toy food
- ☐ Paper plates
- ☐ Two plastic bins

1. Place the plates and food in one bin and place it on the floor on one side of the room.
2. Place the other bin on the floor across from the other.

Abigail Helps Others

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- ☐ "Abigail Helps David and Nabal" Activity Page
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