crossroads kids' club

3rd–5th

May 9-10, 2015

DATE

BRAVE Journey: BRAVE

LESSON TITLE

Acts 2; Joshua 1:9
Adventure Bible (pp. 1199-1200, 237)

WHERE TO FIND IT

Look back, look ahead.

MAIN POINT

schedule

Connect Time (20 minutes): Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

Large Group (30 minutes): Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

Small Group (15 minutes): Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you *all* have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

tips

Next weekend, there will be an opportunity for adults (and kids) to be baptized. We'll mention that in Large Group today. If kids want more information, give them a baptism packet (with the Small Group stuff). If you run out, tell kids or parents they can find it here: CrossroadsKidsClub.net/baptism.

check-in/out

As kids leave, encourage them to share their telescopes and—most importantly—explain why they made them.

large group heads up

Today is all about looking back and looking ahead as we consider our mission. So today, we're going to take some time to consider how bravery plays a role in following Jesus.

CONNECT time

connect time

GOAL: *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

MAP THE ROOM

- Have kids break into teams of 2-4, based on what works best in your room.
- Give each team a ***blank sheet of 11x17 paper***.
- Have kids **draw** an outline of the room on the paper.
- Then take a journey around the room and map out the places you stop.
    - Create at least 3 stops on your map.
    - They can be completely creative in how they choose to fashion their maps.
- When groups have finished, trade maps with another team. See if they can re-trace that team's steps by following the map (this should be simple).
- Debrief:
    - When do we use maps? (Or a GPS; help kids connect to times they've seen a map on a phone or device)
    - *Why* do we use maps or GPS devices?
- **Share the best and/or worst parts of your week**.

Before you head into Large Group, remind them of your expectations for behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.

SMALL group

instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) understand what bravery looked like for Peter (2) recognize that following Jesus requires bravery (3) discover ways God wants them to be brave.

Why? If we are going to lead lives of bravery, we have to be constantly talking to God and looking for ways to follow him.

Tip: Be intentional about talking to kids about how to hear from God while they create their telescopes!

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. Why did Peter have to be brave to follow Jesus?
2. What are some of the brave things Peter did? (show the **Peter timeline** from Large Group but include other examples as well)
3. Why did Peter (and the early church) choose to be brave?
4. Why do we have to be brave to follow Jesus?
5. What are some brave things you've done (or seen others do)?
6. How do we figure out what brave things God wants us to do?

MAKE IT PERSONAL

- Show the **timeline** with blank spots from Large Group: We don't know what all our brave acts will be, but God wants us to be constantly listening to him and looking for ways to follow him. To remind us of that, we're making telescopes
- Give each kid a ***paper towel roll***
- Let kids use the **construction paper**, **foil**, **stickers**, **glue sticks**, and **markers** to decorate their telescopes.
    - Here are some decoration ideas: write the word "brave," use phrases from the **verse card**, or simply make it look cool.
    - As kids work, ask: how do you hear from God? (Share your experience with this too!)
- Give each kid **a small square of paper**. Have them draw ONE brave thing that want to do this week. Then have kids lay the squares on the table and look through their telescopes at each other's drawings.

***Pray together, specifically asking God to show us ways to be brave this week.**

(Continue on the following page)

VERSE PRACTICE

- Split your group into two teams. Their job is to come up with hand motions for the verse. Give them a minute or two with a **verse card**. Then ask them to act out their motions. Choose a winner.
- If they need help, here are ideas:
- Joshua 1:9 (hold up one finger, then nine fingers)
    - This is my command (pointed finger)
    - be strong and courageous! (flexed muscles)
    - Do not be afraid (scared face, chattering teeth)
    - or discouraged. (sad face)
    - For the LORD your God (point up)
    - is with you wherever you go. (spread your hands out)

Extra time? Add to your maps. See who can create the easiest map to follow or come up with the most creative names for locations around the room. Or have groups put an "X" on their map and see if another group can travel to the "X."

LARGE group

special notes

While we all follow the same biblical principles, day-to-day following Jesus looks different for each of us. Help kids understand that a personal relationship with Jesus is crucial to obeying him.

presenter tips

Next weekend, adults and kids have a chance to be baptized. Make sure you mention that to kids in case they have more questions about it!

script

***Click to play intro music**

Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. It's great to see you here. Creating maps of this room looked liked a lot of fun. Now, we don't usually use maps in here. In fact, often we use maps as part of a GPS that tells us where to go. When do we need maps or a GPS? (Let kids respond.) Yes, if we're going on a trip or trying to find a new place. And we can only have maps of places somebody *else* has been, right? Maps help us understand where others have been and where we're going.

BRAVERY MAP
We've been looking at Peter's life, because he's kind of created a "map" for us. It's not exactly like the kinds of maps we created, and we wouldn't use that map on a road trip. But he shows us what being BRAVE looks like.

(Click to show Peter Timeline.) This shows us just a FEW of the brave things Peter did (refer to the timeline). First, Jesus asked Peter to follow him. Peter said yes, even though he had no idea what to expect. He began to follow Jesus on an adventure where he did brave things like walk on water, keep following Jesus even when he messed up, and preach to lots of people through the power of the Holy Spirit.

PETER'S BRAVERY
Peter never knew exactly what his life would look like, but the more and more brave things Peter did, the more we can see what bravery looks like. In fact, when Peter was alive, he couldn't meet with people to worship Jesus like we meet together today for church or for Kids' Club. Let's watch a short video to find out what it was like to follow Jesus back then.

LARGE group

script continued

Video: Catacombs

Wow, so what was it like to follow Jesus back then? (Let kids respond.) Yes, it was scary. If they told somebody what they believed, they could go to prison or even be killed.

WHY PETER CHOSE BRAVERY
You might think that not many people followed Jesus. But the Bible says more and more people followed him every day! That means people like Peter told others about Jesus, even though they could get into trouble.

We're going to watch a video about what it was like for Peter. As you watch, see if you can figure out WHY Peter and the others kept obeying Jesus, even it could get them in trouble.

Video: God's Story: Peter and the Early Church

Wow, so you were supposed to think about WHY Peter and others followed Jesus, even when they could get in trouble. And you might have noticed different reasons. Everybody, stand up! (Let kids stand.) Find at least one person whose name begins with the same letter as yours. Then ask each other, "WHY did Peter follow Jesus?" When your group has answered, have a seat. Ready? Go! (You may have to help kids find groups.)

(When kids are seated, continue): So what did you guys think? WHY did Peter follow Jesus? You can share your own answer or really smart answer you heard from a friend. (Let 4-6 kids share. Mine for new responses.)

Great thoughts! You're right, they had the power of the Holy Spirit. They were seeing miracles, which is pretty amazing. They also recognized that Jesus had given his life for *them*. They were willing to give up their own safety for him. They loved him so much that they would obey him, no matter how brave they had to be.

WE CAN CHOOSE BRAVERY
(Click to show image of blank timeline.) Let's map out some ways WE might have to be brave to follow Jesus. Thankfully, nobody is going to throw us in jail. But some people might think we're weird. Here are some things that might go on our bravery map. See if you can figure out what these pictures mean:

LARGE group

script continued

(Click to show picture of baptism.) What's this? (Let kids respond.) Yes, it's a picture of somebody getting baptized. Does anybody know what baptism is? (Let kids respond.) Yes, it's when a person wants to make a public announcement that they follow Jesus. They'll go into the water and come back up, which shows they believe that God has washed them clean of all their sins through Jesus' rescue.

Why might this require bravery? (Let kids respond.) That's right! It might be hard to stand up in front of everybody, it could be uncomfortable to get wet or there might be some people who make fun of you for following Jesus. (*Summarize other responses they may have.*)

**Next weekend, there are going to be baptisms at the adult service. If you've been thinking about baptism or have questions now, talk to your small group leader or an adult at your house.

(Click to show a zebra walking in a different direction.) OK, so what's this picture showing us? Who's doing something unique? (Let kids respond.) Yep, one of these zebras is walking in a different direction.

And does it ever require bravery to do something different than other people? (Let kids respond. Ask why.) Yes, people might make fun of us or feel confused. But the truth is, Jesus might ask us to love somebody that nobody else loves. He might ask us to obey our parents even if it means we can't do something with all our friends. And when we follow Jesus, we listen to him no matter what, even if we look different. (*Summarize kid responses too.*)

Let's imagine one more way we might have to be brave. **(Click to show a person praying.)** How do you think this person is being brave? (Let kids respond.) Yes, sometimes, it can take bravery to believe that we can have a relationship with God and that he speaks to us. It can take bravery to believe that a thought in our head is truly from God.

Just like Peter, Jesus asks us to follow him and show others how to follow him. Following Jesus will look different than it looked for Peter. But we can expect to need to be brave, just like Peter was.

GOD HELPS US

Let's not forget our verse though! We've been learning this verse for the past few weeks. It's Joshua 1:9 and it helps us to be brave:

SLIDE: Joshua 1:9 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.

Let's practice it the way we did a couple weeks ago: (*Give one third this phrase: **This is my command—be strong and courageous!**; give another third: **Do not be afraid or discouraged.**; give the final third: **For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.** Say "Joshua 1:9" all together. Lead kids in repeating this several times. Then try pointing at different "thirds" to have them repeat different parts of the verse while always saying the verse in the correct order. You could even take the verse off the screen for an extra challenge.*) Great job!

LARGE group

script continued

RESPOND
We talked about how bravery COULD look for you guys. But even though we each have the same mission to follow Jesus, it's going to be different because Jesus is going to ask us to do different things. We've got to practice listening to Jesus and looking for ways we can follow him bravely. The only way we can know where to go next on our map is by listening to God, kind of like how we listen to a GPS that tells us where to go. We're going to watch a music video about listening to God. As you watch, ask God to speak to you. Invite him to show you ways he'd like you to follow him this week. Those will be the next steps on your map!

Music Video: Listen

WORSHIP
Now let's stand and thank God for being with us! We know he wouldn't want to have a relationship with us unless he loved us A LOT.

Song: Crazy Love (with dance moves)

PRAY
Ask somebody to come up and thank God for helping us to be brave.

PREP needs

connect time supplies

Per 2 kids
Markers
1 sheet of 11x17 blank copy paper

Per group
Peter timeline (same as large group image)
Blank timeline (same as large group image)
Markers
verse card (Joshua 1:9)
aluminum foil
an assortment of construction paper pieces
an assortment of stickers (5 per kid)
glue sticks
scissors

small group supplies

Per kid
Cardboard tube
3x3" square of paper

Per Room
Extra baptism packets with the small group supplies

large group supplies

Adventure Bible (pp. 1199-1200, 237)

a/v needs

1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room: We Are the Brave Ones (Mae will have MP3)
2. Image: Peter timeline
3. Video: Catacombs: https://vimeo.com/66099298
4. Video: God's Story: Peter and the Early Church (if not on Vimeo, Mae/Dave will have file)
5. Image: blank timeline
6. Image: baptism
7. Image: different zebras (walking in different directions)
8. Image: person praying
9. SLIDE: Joshua 1:9 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.
10. Music Video: Listen (https://vimeo.com/107752866)
11. Music Video: Crazy Love (with hand motions)

connect questions

Tell me about Peter.
Why does following Jesus require bravery?

parent page

Daily Talk Starts – separate document