



3rd - 5th

April 2-3, 2016

DATE

BRAVE Journey: Joshua crosses the Jordan

LESSON TITLE

Joshua 3; Psalm 56:3

WHERE TO FIND IT

Jesus is calling you to be brave.

MAIN POINT

schedule

Connect Time (15 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

There might be some new kids here this weekend after coming to the Easter service for the first time. Welcome them and make them feel included! Get out some paper and markers and draw with them, or invite them to be part of a game with other kids.

check-in/out

Ask kids what they wrote on their stone, and how it reminds them to put their trust in God.

large group heads up

This is **Week 1 of the BRAVE Journey** series. Kids will hear Old Testament stories about brave men and women that can help us understand how God wants us to be BRAVE!



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.*

BEAN BAG GAME

**Choose the option that best suits your group.*

GAME OPTION 1 (1 bean bag needed)

- Split the whole group into **two teams**. Have them stand in two lines, facing each other, with about 15 feet between the two lines.
- Go down one line and give each kid a number (starting with one); then go down the second line and give each kid a number (starting with one).
- If there's a kid left over, give them the number one. **Remind kids to remember their number!**
- Place **one bean bag** in the middle of the two lines.
- Explain the rules of the game:
 - The leader will call a number.
 - The two (or three) kids with that number will race to grab the bean bag and return to their spot.
 - Once one of the kids grabs the bean bag, the other kid can then try to tag the other before they get back to their spot (Similar to Duck, Duck, Goose.)
 - If you get back to your spot untagged, you get a point. If the other kid tags you, you don't get a point.
 - Play for as long as time allows!
- *Caution: Make it clear that kids are NOT allowed to tackle, push or hit each other when trying to get the bean bag. They may only touch other to "tag".*

GAME OPTION 2

- Split kids into **small groups** and have each group stand in a circle.
- Have kids toss the bean bag back and forth as fast as they can. Whoever drops it sits down (you might have to help referee this). Play until one kid wins; then have them stand up and start over!

TALK ABOUT IT

- How did it feel every time a number was called? -or- How did it feel every time the bean bag was thrown at you?
- When do you feel nervous or scared? Why?

Before you go to Large Group, you can ask kids how their week went. You can also remind kids of the expectations for Large Group behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) recognize that God miraculously delivered Joshua and the Israelites through the Jordan River, (2) understand how God called Joshua to be brave and trust him, and (3) identify how God is calling you to be brave.

Why? The BRAVE Journey is a church-wide experience. To help kids participate in the Journey along with their parents, they'll be learning stories about brave men and women from the Old Testament.

Tip: Think of a brave adventure that God is calling YOU to, and share it with kids!

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. Where was Joshua leading the Israelites? (Their new home, Canaan.)
2. What did God tell Joshua to do when they came to the Jordan River? (Have the priests carry the Ark of the Covenant into the river while the water was still flowing.)
3. What happened when Joshua obeyed God? (God caused the water to stack up on each side, and all the Israelites walked across the river on dry ground.)
4. How was Joshua able to be brave? (He put his trust in God, even when he was afraid. He walked into the river before he knew God would make a dry path.)
5. What's one way God may want you to be brave this week? (Encourage kids to come up with a specific thing that they think God wants them to do. It doesn't have to be a huge thing, just a way that they can follow God.)
6. How can we put our trust in God? (Encourage kids to be specific.)

MAKE IT PERSONAL

- Hand each kid **1 verse card**. Read the verse aloud together (**Psalm 56:3 But when I am afraid, I will put my trust in the Lord.**)
 - Have kids put the card face down on the table, then say the following parts of the verse, leaving out specific words. Let kids say the missing words to help them memorize the verse. Leave out more words each time you say it:
 - "But when I am _____, I will put my trust in the _____."
 - "But when I am _____, I will put my _____ in the _____."
 - "But when _____, I will _____ my _____ in _____."

- Give each kid **one stone** and set out **two black and two silver Sharpie markers** (*the rocks are of varying colors, so some kids may need black, others silver*).
 - **Ask kids:** Do you remember what God told Joshua to do after they crossed the river? (Send 12 men to find 1 stone each, and then pile them up to make a visible reminder of how God helped them cross the river.)
 - Tell kids that this stone can be a reminder of how God will help you do brave things when you trust in him.
 - Have kids write, "**Psalm 56:3**" on one side of the stone.
 - **Ask kids: What are one or two words that will remind you that God will help you be brave?**
 - On the other side of their stone, they can write their word/s that will remind them that God will help them be brave. (Just one or two words to symbolize it.)
 - Let kids decorate their stone!
 - **Caution:** Tell kids that there is no throwing stones/playing catch/hitting others. Make it very clear that these are a symbol of how they can be brave, and not something to play with.

Extra Time? Play the Connect Time game again! If you want, try the option you didn't play before. Or, try Option 1 with a twist. Instead of calling out one number at a time, call out groups of numbers. Here are some examples of what to call out: Odd numbers, even numbers, numbers over 10, numbers under 10, numbers with a 1 in it, numbers with a 3 in it, etc.

special notes

Today we're playing a new song at the end of the lesson. It's called "Trust in the Lord," and you can find it on crossroadskidsclub.net/weekend. Look it up beforehand so you can help lead kids in the motions.

****You'll need a *sheet of tear-off paper* for today's lesson (Approx. 10 feet long.)**

presenter tips

You can find today's video at crossroadskidsclub.net/weekend.

script

***Click to play intro music**

WELCOME AND INTRO

Hey everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. I see a lot of new faces here today, and I'm so glad you're all here! Did you have fun playing that game in Connect Time? (Let kids respond.) It looked pretty intense! What did you have to do if you heard your number? (Let a kid respond.) (Depending on choice, say: *yep, you had to grab the bean bag as fast as you could. Or: you had to throw the bean bag around the circle without dropping it.*)

Sometimes, when I'm in a competition, I get a little nervous. Even if it's just for fun! Lots of things can make us nervous. Maybe some of us would be scared by....having to get up in front of a bunch of people and talk. Kind of like I'm doing right now! Would you all be nervous if you had to talk in front of everybody? (Let kids respond.)

Today, we're going to talk about how God sometimes calls us to do things that might make us nervous, or even scared. He calls us to do new things that might seem too big for us—or too uncomfortable! The good news is that we don't have to stay afraid, because God has proven time and time again that he will help us to be BRAVE.

BRAVERY

To think about that, let's watch a video about a guy named Luke Skywalker who talks to a man named Obi Wan Kenobi. Obi Wan wants Luke to follow him, but it means leaving Luke's home and doing new things—potentially hard things. As you watch, pay attention to how Luke reacts.

Video: Luke Skywalker Part 1

So Obi Wan asked Luke to come with him. But what did Luke say? (Let kids respond.) Yep, he wasn't sure! He was nervous about what would happen. He didn't want to leave the comfort of his home. But just like Obi Wan wanted Luke to come with *him*, God wants US to follow HIM...



script continued

even though we don't know what he'll ask us to do or what it'll be like!

But when Luke realized that following Obi Wan might be worth it, guess what he did?

Video: Luke Skywalker Part 2

What did Luke decide to do in the end? (Let kids respond.) That's right! He decided to be brave by following Obi Wan and going with him.

INTRO TO JOSHUA

Now, Luke Skywalker is just a character in a movie. But there are a lot of real people throughout history who have been brave—and even better, have been bravely a part of God's story! For the next few weeks, we're going to talk about some BRAVE men and women from the Bible.

To start, today, we're going to hear about a guy who followed GOD, even though God asked him to be brave and even when he didn't know what would happen! **(Click to show slide of Israelites.)** This guy was a part of God's special family, the Israelites. God had saved his family from slavery in a place called Egypt and was leading them to a promised home he picked out for them.

Unfortunately, God's people didn't find their home right away. They wandered around the wilderness for a really long time! **(Click to show map of Israelites' journey.)** See this map? The line shows how they wandered around for 40 years! What do you think that would feel like, if you were one of the Israelites? (Let kids respond.) Yeah, I might feel like that too.

JOSHUA LEADS THE ISRAELITES

Luckily, they had God leading them. And God sent special leaders to the Israelites, like Moses, and then Joshua. **(Click to show slide of Joshua.)** Everybody say, "Joshua." (Let kids respond.) Joshua was a really brave guy, who obeyed and trusted God no matter what.

Before Joshua could lead the Israelites to their new home, though, he had to be brave. The new home was in a place called Canaan. But to get there, they had to cross the Jordan River! Now, do you think it was like this river? **(Click to show slide of lazy river.)** I wish it looked like a lazy river - that would be fun! But this is the Jordan River. **(Click to show loop of fast-flowing river.)** And it was in flood stage, which means was deeper and faster-moving than this!

But God told Joshua to lead to Canaan, even though it meant facing the river. As you watch, try to figure out what God told Joshua to do to get to Canaan.

Video: God's Story / Joshua crosses the Jordan

What did God tell Joshua to do when he faced the river? (Let kids respond.) Yep, He told Joshua and the priests to just start walking through it, even before they knew that he would make a dry path! That's because God wants us to trust him and be brave *even* when we're in tough situations.



script continued

WE CAN ALWAYS TRUST GOD

So what exactly did God tell Joshua to do when they got to the river? (Let kids respond.) Yep, God wanted the priests to carry the Ark of the Covenant into the water, even though the river was still flowing all around them! Does anybody remember what the Ark of the Covenant was? (Let 1-2 kids respond.) That's right, it held special reminders of what God had done for his people in the past. The Ark was holy, which meant that God was with it.

The Ark of Covenant reminded the people that God right there with them, walking into that river with Joshua and the priests! God wanted the Israelites to know that he would be with them no matter what, even when it was dangerous and scary.

Let's look at a verse that shows us how Joshua might have been brave enough to step into that river:

Slide: Psalm: 56:3 But when I am afraid, I will put my trust in you.

Let's all read the verse together. (Lead kids in saying the verse out loud.) Who do we put our trust in when we're afraid? (Let kids say: God.) That's right! And does this verse say that we'll never be scared? (Let kids respond, "No.") Nope. Since we live in an imperfect world, there are going to be times when we're afraid. The thing is, we don't have to *stay* afraid. We can trust in God, and he'll help us be brave, just like he helped Joshua.

RESPONSE TIME

Let's all stand up for a minute. We're going to lay down a piece of paper that represents the Jordan River. (Get the long sheet of tear-off paper and lay it in the middle of the room. Direct kids to stand on one side of the paper.)

We're going to show God that we want to trust in him, even when we're afraid. Everyone, close your eyes and think of one thing that makes you afraid. Or maybe just something really big and new that you think God wants you to do. It could be telling a friend about Jesus... or doing something kid for a bully...or taking a really hard test at school. I'm going to play a short song while you think, and once it's finished, you should have something in your head. **(Click to play song. Stop it whenever they're done.)**

Now, once you've thought of that thing, step onto the paper and say, "I will trust in you, God," out loud, or in your head. Then cross to the other side and sit down. **(Click to play song while kids do this exercise. Stop it whenever they're done.)** *(If you have a small group, you can let kids go one by one at their own pace. If you have a large group, call kids up in small groups.)* Now let's pray together.

PRAY

Dear God, helps us to always put our trust in you when we're afraid. Thank you for protecting us and helping us be brave when you call on us a new adventure. We love you. Amen!

WORSHIP



script continued

We're going to sing some songs now. Singing to God is a form of worship, and it's a great way to spend time with him and show him how much we love him. This first song is all about how we can be brave because we know he'll help us and be with us. Stand up and let's sing!

Music Video: Brave Ones

This next one is a new song, and it's all about putting our trust in the Lord, just like Psalm 56:3 tells us. Try to follow along with motions!

Music Video: Trust in the Lord

**Dismiss kids to small groups*

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PREP needs



connect time supplies

Per group: 1 bean bag

small group supplies

Per kid: 1 stone (<http://www.homedepot.com/p/Rain-Forest-30-lb-Black-River-Pebbles-1-in-to-2-in-RFBRP5-30/206094879>); 1 verse card

Per group: 2 black and 2 silver metallic sharpie markers

large group supplies

Per group: Bible, 1 large sheet of tear-off paper (about 10 feet long)

a/v needs

1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. Video: Luke Skywalker Part 1
3. Video: Luke Skywalker Part 2
4. Slide: Israelites
5. Slide: Israelites' Journey
6. Slide: Joshua
7. Slide: Lazy river
8. Loop: Fast flowing river (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=38-8wTNKsDI>; 0:57-1:04)
9. Video: God's Story / Joshua crosses the Jordan
10. Slide: Psalm 56:3 But when I am afraid, I will put my trust in you.
11. Song: Reflective music loop (KC/SM media videos songs>songs>itunes>reflective music loop)(use the first minute with a KC logo slide)
12. Song: Reflective music loop (KC/SM media videos songs>songs>itunes>reflective music loop)(use the whole 10 minute song file with a KC logo slide)
13. Music Video: Brave Ones (<https://vimeo.com/126214265>)
14. Music Video: Trust in the Lord (<https://vimeo.com/153815987>)

connect questions

Tell me about Joshua.

How did Joshua put his trust in God?

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