City LG - October 19-20, 2019

Bible Story: Break on Through (Israel Goes Through the Red Sea) • Exodus 13:17-14:31

Bottom Line: You can do what you should, even when things seem impossible.

Memory Verse: Be strong and brave. Do not be afraid. Do not lose hope. I am the LORD your God. I

will be with you everywhere you go. Joshua 1:9b (NIrV)

CG: Countdown Video

WORSHIP: "Fireblazin" and "Look to You"

(Worship Leader prays)

"Hi, everyone! (Hold up Bible.) We've been opening up God's story together here in The City, and we're right in the middle of one of the most exciting, most epic parts of the entire Bible. We're picking up the story of Moses and God's people, the Israelites.

"Let me catch you up to speed. God's people had been slaves in Egypt for hundreds of years. God sent Moses to confront Pharaoh and demand freedom for the Israelites. God sent all of those plagues—you know: the frogs, the gnats and flies, the locusts, and so on. After all of those plagues, Pharaoh finally told the people to go . . . and they left quickly, in the middle of the night.

"But they hadn't fully escaped Pharaoh and the Egyptians just yet."

"God's people left Egypt and camped on the edge of the desert. God went ahead of them and led them. He appeared to them as a big, tall pillar of cloud during the day, and a big, tall pillar of fire at night.

"Let me hear you make a wind sound.

Kids make wind sounds.

"Good. I wonder if the pillar of cloud sounded like that. How about a pillar of fire? How would that sound?

Kids make fire sounds.

"Excellent! It was very clear that God was guiding His people. They could SEE the clouds and the fire, so they knew for sure that God was with them!

"But, back in Egypt, Pharaoh changed his mind about letting God's people go. He decided to come after them with his chariots and horses and troops! Let me hear you gasp.

Kids gasp.

"Pharaoh's army caught up with God's people at the edge of the Red Sea. Can I hear some waves, please?

Kids make ocean wave sounds.

"The stage was set for something really big to happen. God's people were trapped between the Egyptians and the sea, and there was no way out! It must have seemed like an impossible situation."

"When God's people saw Pharaoh's army, they got really upset. They whined and complained and told Moses they were better off as slaves in Egypt. Can you believe that? I bet Moses was pretty frustrated. I mean, God had been protecting and providing for His people, and they weren't trusting Him.

"Listen to what Moses said to them.

Open the Bible to Exodus 14:14 (NIrV) and read.

"The LORD will fight for you. Just be still.

"Let me hear you take a deep breath and be still.

Kids take a deep breath.

"Ahhhhhh. That feels good, doesn't it?

"God told Moses to reach out his hand over the water. The pillar of cloud moved behind God's people, forming a wall between them and the Egyptians. Now it was just God's people and the rushing waters of the Red Sea.

"It's kind of hard for us to imagine just how HUGE this moment must have been. But that's what this week's Bible Story video is all about! Let's take a look!"

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 7:45)

"What an amazing story! God had rescued His people from what seemed like an impossible situation. Even though it was scary, they had the courage to walk through the sea.

"Of course, they weren't so courageous at first. Remember, when they saw the soldiers coming, they whined and complained to Moses. They said they wished they could go back to being slaves in Egypt. But when they saw God's power, they had the courage to do what God said they should do.

"You and I can choose to trust God and have courage because we know God is with us. Remember this.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] "You can do what you should, even when things seem impossible.

"Let's pray and ask God to give us courage."

Pray: "Dear God, thank You for helping the Israelites when it seemed like they had no way out. You rescued them from a situation that seemed impossible! Please help us to have courage, even when things seem impossible in our lives. Help us to trust You and remember that You're always right there with us. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus' name, amen."

"The Bible is full of examples where God did things that seemed impossible. Nothing is too big for Him. Remember, He brought Jesus back from the dead! So we can know for sure that Jesus really is God's Son—the One who came to save us from our sins.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] "You can do what you should, even when things seem impossible.

"That's what courage is all about—trusting God and believing that He's bigger than ANYTHING we might face. Don't ever forget that you can trust God no matter what!

"So, when you're afraid and things seem impossible, take the first step. If you're afraid of the dark, use the flashlight only if you really need it. If you're afraid of roller coasters, start with a small one! If you're afraid of dogs, maybe just go to a pet store and watch them for a while. Talk to God and ask Him to help you to have the courage to overcome your fears.

"I bet you have some other great ideas about how you can have courage. Be sure to tell your friends when you get to Small Group, okay? Before we head there, let's worship God with our offering!"

Offering Time:

"Offering time is a chance for us to bring our money to God, so he can use it to make somebody else's life better. For us, here in the City, we give our offering to an organization called 'Missions of Hope' to help kids in Kenya have food, clothes, and learn about God's love for them."

Here at (your Campus name), we bring our offering to help support:

Homer Glen: Victor New Lenox: Daniel

Orland Park: Michael and Valerie

CG: Picture of Child

"(Your Campus Child) lives in Nairobi, Kenya and is part of a really great place called Mission of Hope International!"

If you brought your offering today, you can bring it up now and place it here in our offering container while our Offering Video plays! (show offering container)."

CG: Offering Video (Runtime: 3:00)

Dismiss kids to their small groups.