

City SG - October 26-27, 2019

Bible Story: The Stand (Twelve Men Check Out the Land of Canaan) • *Numbers 13–14*

Bottom Line: You can do what you should, even when others are afraid.

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)

NOTE: As Small Group time begins, children will play a game together, led by the Large Group Leader.

GAME: Laser Maze

What You Need: Prepared laser maze(s) on the floor *(made of carpet tape and red crepe paper)*

What You Do:

- Challenge the kids to pretend they're spies trying to sneak into a secure space and move through the maze without "setting off the alarm" (*walk through it without stepping on the crepe paper.*)
- If you want (and if you think your kids can handle it), a Small Group Leader can act as the alarm and make a hilarious noise whenever a kid touches the crepe paper.

1. I Spy

What You Need: No Supplies Needed

What You Do:

- Play "I Spy" with the kids. As they play, ask the following questions about their week:
 - How was your week? What was the best thing that happened, and what was the worst thing that happened?
 - What is something you're looking forward to this week?

2. Story Cube

What You Need: Story Cube (1 per group)

What You Do:

- Let the kids take turns rolling the cube and answering the question from the Bible story on the top of the cube.
- If they roll and land on a question that has already been asked and answered, let them roll again until all questions have been reviewed.
- Questions/Answers:
 - What happened first in the story? *God told Moses to send some men to check out the land of Canaan*
 - How many tribes were there in Israel and how many spies did Moses send into the Promised Land? *12*
 - Why did Moses send in these spies? *To check it out before they took it over as God had promised*
 - What did the spies find in this new land? *Huge cities, crazy sized fruit, GIANTS*
 - What did ten of the spies report back to Moses? *That they couldn't take the land; they were afraid*
 - What did Joshua and Caleb report? *They had courage and believed God when He said the land was theirs*

What You Say:

"When the 12 men came back, 2 were confident they could take the land but 10 weren't! Ten out of the 12 were afraid even after God had said this was their land. Joshua and Caleb chose to trust God and to do what they should do even when the other spies were afraid. They chose to obey God! And you can, too. You can always trust God to help you when you're trying to obey Him. So remember, **[Bottom Line]** you can do what you should, even when others are afraid."

[Make It Personal] (Tell your few about a time when you chose to have courage even when others around you were afraid. Maybe you stood up to a bully. Maybe you told the truth even though you were afraid of what might happen. How did choosing to do what you should even when others were afraid help strengthen your faith?)

3. Verse Dice

What You Need: Dice Template Activity Pages (1 per child); Bibles; markers; scissors; tape

What You Do:

- Ask kids to look up Joshua 1:9b in the Bibles.
- Give each kid an Activity Page, and set out the markers.
- Tell kids to write one sentence/phrase of the verse in each of five of the squares on their Activity page. They should write the verse reference in the sixth square.
- Instruct kids to cut out the templates ONLY along the outside lines.
- Show kids how to fold along the lines and tuck in the tabs to create a cube/die.
- Assist them in taping the tabs in place.
- When everyone is finished, play a game with the dice:
 - Instruct kids to sit together in a circle.
 - Let one or two volunteers (depending on the number of kids in your group) sit in the middle.
 - One kid from the circle goes first and tosses his die into the center of the circle.
 - The next kid quickly does the same thing with her die, and so on around the circle.
 - The kid(s) in the middle must keep the dice on whatever phrase they land on, while scrambling to put them all in order.
 - If they end up with multiples of the same phrases, they must use those to make a duplicate line of verse dice.
 - They may end up with a full verse, and they may not!
 - When all dice are in the center of the circle, lead the group to say the phrases in order of the dice. Challenge them to fill in any missing words or phrases.

What You Say:

"Take a look in your Bibles at Joshua 1:9 again. Look at the first sentence, or what we would call Joshua 1:9a. It's the sentence before what we're using as our memory verse. What does it tell us? (Pause.) Yes! That the rest of the verse is a command from God. This isn't just something I'm asking you to do or your parents are asking you to do or our pastor is asking you to do. This is what God commands you to do! And what He COMMANDS us to do, He gives us the power to do. Isn't that awesome? Don't get me wrong. It's still not always easy, but it IS possible.

[Bottom Line] "You can do what you should even when others are afraid, even when you don't know what will happen next, even when you don't feel ready, or even when things seem impossible. When you find yourself hesitating to do what you should, you can take this die and roll it. No matter what comes up on top, it will be something that will help remind you to be strong, be courageous, and remember that God is with you wherever you go!"

4. Pray and Dismiss

What You Need: Bibles

What You Do:

- Tell kids to look up Joshua 1:9b one last time.
- Encourage kids to use the words of the verse to pray a silent prayer.
- After you have given them some time to pray individually, close with the prayer below.

What You Say:

“God, we thank You for being so awesome and strong and courageous. We know You command us to also be strong and courageous. Help us to do that when things are tough, when we don’t know what will happen next, and when things seem impossible. We know that You’ll be with us wherever we go, and that is AMAZING! In Jesus’ name, amen.”

BEFORE DISMISSAL: AT “COMMUNION CALL”

**HAND OUT “GOD TIME” CARDS TO EACH CHILD AND ALLOW THEM TIME TO BEGIN
WORKING ON THE WEEKLY ACTIVITY**

IF CHILDREN BRING THEM BACK THE FOLLOWING WEEK, THEY RECEIVE A PRIZE!