

## CITY LG – September 27<sup>th</sup>- 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Bible Story:** Ruth • *Ruth 1 (supporting: Ruth 2–4)*

**Bottom Line:** God can give you courage when you don't know what's next.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *When I'm afraid, I put my trust in you.* Psalm 56:3 (NIRV)

### WORSHIP

My God

Every Beat

#### SLIDE: Theme

Hey City Friends! How are we doing this week? You are now probably a few weeks into this new school year. How many people were a little nervous before you started your new grade? I know I was always a bit nervous because I didn't know how the year was going to go. What will my teacher be like? Will the schoolwork be hard?

Well this month's theme is "On the Move, Brave the Unknown with God" That's what it's like on any kind of journey—you don't always know exactly what's coming next, or what you'll need, or where you'll find it. It takes courage to keep moving forward when you don't know all the details.

And that's our big idea for today: God can give you courage when you don't know what's next. Before we go any further, I want you guys to circle up in your small group right now and talk about this for a few minutes.

**What is a time when you didn't know what was going to happen next? Like maybe going to a new school or trying a sport for the first time?**

*(walk around and listen to kids' answer is their groups. Bring them back together in a few minutes when most groups are done)*

If you've been here withing the last month you know we're going to go through God's Big Story!

#### SLIDE: God's Big Story

Each week, we'll talk about an important true story from the Bible. Let's recap where we've been in God's Big Story so far!

Way back in the very beginning of God's Big Story, we learn that God made the very first people. Their names were Adam and Eve. They sinned, and it pulled them away from God. God wanted them to be close to Him, but they couldn't anymore! It was so sad. And everyone who was born after Adam and Eve was born with the same problem—they couldn't be close friends with God either.

And awful things happened to the world too. Pain, sickness, and death entered into it. But God didn't want to leave things that way! HeHe made people to be His very close friends. So He started His great rescue plan. And this great rescue was going to come through a family! So God started His great rescue with a man named Abraham. God chose Abraham and promised to bless the whole world through his family. Abraham's family grew and grew and grew—just like God had said—and became God's people. Eventually, God's people were enslaved in Egypt. But then God called Moses to lead His people out of Egypt to freedom. God had brought His people to freedom!

God had a beautiful land picked out for His people—the Promised Land! While they were on their way there, they chose not to trust God. It hurt Him so deeply. So they had to wait 40 long years to enter it. But after 40 long years, they entered the Promised Land! In order to settle in it, they had to get the evil people who were living there out! And they did.

God's people were settled in the Promised Land! And that's where we are in God's Big Story. Today, our true story from the Bible comes from a book in the Bible called Ruth. (*Hold up Bible.*) It's named after a very brave woman.

**VIDEO: Bible Story (10:23)**

Ruth showed us something very important. Let's all stand up and take a look:

**Video: Bottom Line**

**SLIDE: Bottom Line**

**God can give you courage when you don't know what's next!**

When we think about Ruth, we can remember that even if we don't know what's next, we're never going alone. God goes with us every step of the way. When we believe that He is the strongest, the biggest, and the kindest, and He is with us, He will give us courage to do whatever it is that's in front of us!

So, when you don't know what's next, ask God to remind you that He is with you, and ask Him for His presence with you to make you courageous. He can help you be brave and do amazing things, just like He did for Ruth. Let's ask Him for that right now!

Dear God, thank You for the story of Ruth. Thank You for her courage to move into the unknown and trust You. Teach us how to trust that You are always with us. Teach us to be strong because You are strong in us. We love You and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

**CHECK THE TIME: There should be at least 25 minutes for small group. If LG is running late, skip the next part, but remind kids who have offering to place it in the container.**

Our offering is going to Shady Oaks Camp for People with Disabilities in Homer Glen, IL. Their mission is to give kids and adults the same kind of camp experience that kids without disabilities can enjoy. And the cool thing is that there are people who go to church here at Parkview who attend this camp! Let's meet one right now.

**VIDEO: Missions Night 2**

Wow! You can see how much Shady Oaks Camp means to Richard and his mom Sallie, and LOTS of people who live around here! I'm so excited that we are raising money to help Shady Oaks provide summer camps for people with disabilities! Bring your money up if you brought it.