

Today's Suggested Schedule—September 2025, Week 2

Bible Story: Joshua and the Spies • *Numbers 13–14*

Conversation Starter: When is it hard to trust God?

Bottom Line: God can give you courage when others are afraid.

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

SLIDE: Theme

OPENER

LEADER: “What’s up, everyone! Welcome back! We’re continuing our journey this month talking about COURAGE and being ‘On the Move’! Sometimes moving forward means facing some tricky obstacles, like figuring out how to cross a giant raging river . . . or maybe another crazy obstacle!

“Today we’re hearing about a time God’s people faced a huge obstacle, and got some very different reports about what to do next. Let’s get ready to worship the God who is always with us and guides us through every obstacle!”

WORSHIP

LEADER: Now, we get to switch gears just a little bit and do something super-important, something that helps us connect with God, the One who gives us strength and courage for all those challenges. Let’s worship! This is our time to sing, to shout, to focus on how amazing God is, and to tell Him how much He means to us. Are you ready to make some noise and give God your best today? Awesome! Let’s get started!

Video: Make Room

“Yeah! Sometimes being brave starts with remembering who God is and what He promises. Our Memory Verse this month reminds us where to put our focus when things feel scary. When we’re scared, we can always come to God for help because He loves us. Let’s check out our Memory Verse—it’s from Psalm 56, verse 3.

SLIDE: Memory Verse

“Let’s read it together:”

LEADER and KIDS: *“When I’m afraid, I put my trust in you. —Psalm 56:3”*

LEADER: “Trusting God when we’re afraid . . . that takes courage. And knowing He is our hope makes all the difference. Now, let’s get comfortable, find our seats, and get ready to dive into God’s Word to hear an amazing true story from the Bible!”

BIBLE STORY

VIDEO: So and So Show

SLIDE: Bottom Line

“And that’s the key—what you choose to focus on. Even though Joshua and Caleb were facing the same tough things as the other spies—there really were powerful giants living in the land in cities that were strong—they chose to focus on God. And what they focused on made all the difference. Their view of God got bigger and bigger, and their fears got smaller and smaller. They trusted God, and He gave them the courage to face the tough things.

“They got courage to face the scary things that were in front of them because they focused on God—on His presence and on His power. They were brave because they knew the strongest of all was with them.

“Joshua and Caleb showed us something so important:

[Bottom Line] “God can give you courage when others are afraid.

“It’s easy to get swept up in the fear of the crowd. When everyone else is panicking or saying, ‘It’s impossible!’ it takes real courage to stand firm, focus on God, and trust Him. But Joshua and Caleb showed us it’s possible.

APPLICATION

LEADER: “Think about your own life. Maybe it’s trying out for something new, and your friends say, ‘Don’t bother, it’s too hard, you’ll never make it.’ Maybe it’s seeing someone treated unfairly and everyone else just walks by, afraid to get involved. Maybe it’s just pressure to go along with something you know isn’t right because ‘everyone else is doing it.’”

“In those moments, it can be really hard to trust God, right? It feels easier, maybe safer, to just go with the flow, to let the fear dictate your choices. But God invites us to choose a different way. He invites us to focus on Him—His promises, His presence, His power. The things that fill up our ‘Faith and Courage’ jar. The strongest, God Himself, always goes with you.

LANDING

LEADER: “When we think about Joshua and Caleb and the other spies, we can remember that God is always, always more powerful than anything we face. And if we think and think and think about God’s strength and His power, our view of Him will grow bigger and bigger until the thing we’re afraid of will get smaller and smaller in our minds! What we focus on matters. Other people might be scared, and that’s okay. We can be brave because we know God is with us and He is more powerful than anything! God is the strongest!

“We can ask the Holy Spirit inside of us for help when we need a reminder that we’re not alone, or if we need a reminder that the God who is with us is bigger and stronger than anything we’ll face.

“So as you head to Small Groups, let’s ask this question:

SLIDE: Conversation Starter

[Conversation Starter] “When is it hard to trust God?

“Talk about those specific times with your group. When does the fear of the crowd, or the size of the challenge, make trusting God feel really difficult? And how can remembering that God is with us—the strongest of all—help us be courageous? Let’s pray.”

PRAYER

LEADER: “God, thank You for showing us through Joshua and Caleb that courage comes from trusting that You are with us and that You are stronger than everything—not from listening to the fears of others. Help us to see situations through the eyes of faith, focusing on Your goodness and Your presence with us—because Your presence with us is what’s really true. Help us to trust You no matter what the powerful things in our life look like. Help us to remember that You are the most powerful of anything and You go with us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

After prayer, dismiss kids to Small Group.

SLIDE: Theme