



WEEK THREE – OCTOBER 2019 – SECOND/THIRD

Bible Story: *Break on Through* ▪ 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)

Life App: *Courage—Being brave enough to do what you should do, even when you’re afraid*

Basic Truth: *I can trust God no matter what.*

Summary: Next, we find out what happens after the Israelites escape from Egypt. We pick up their story in Exodus 13:17–14:31. Everything was looking up for the Israelites until Pharaoh changed his mind. Moses and the Israelites found themselves trapped between the Red Sea in front of them and Pharaoh’s army in hot pursuit. But with God’s help, Moses showed courage in a tough situation. God made the miraculous happen, parting the Red Sea and allowing the Israelites to escape.

PRE-SERVICE ACTIVITIES

1. Early Arriver Idea

Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and asking about their past week
- Invite kids to place their offerings in the *For Everyone* box on the wall near the main entrance
- Challenge kids to do impossible or near-impossible tasks, such as:
 - Lick your elbow.
 - Touch your nose with your tongue.
 - Talk while breathing in through your nose.
 - Wiggle your ears.
 - Tickle yourself.
 - Place your hand palm-down on a flat surface. Curl your middle finger under your hand, with the other fingers out straight. Try to pick up the end of your ring finger while keeping all the other fingers in place.
 - Raise just one eyebrow.
 - Pat your head while rubbing your belly.

2. True or False Stories

Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: “True or False Stories” Activity Page, Bibles

What You Do:

- Read the first story from the Activity Page.
- Allow time for kids to react and respond before revealing whether it was true or false.
- Continue with the rest of the stories.
- Two of the stories are from the Bible. If kids show interest in these stories, and you have time, allow kids to look them up and read them for themselves.

What You Say:

*“Those were some crazy stories that seemed impossible, but they were all true. Well, all but the one that was almost true! I kind of tricked you on that one. **[Transition]** Let’s go to Large Group where we’ll hear another story that will almost seem impossible.”*

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

LARGE GROUP

OVERVIEW:

Bottom Line: *You can do what you should even when things seem impossible. God has proved time and again that He can do the impossible. Many kids face situations that don't seem to have a way out. We pray they will learn how they can trust God no matter what is happening in their life. God can help them find the courage they need to keep going.*

SMALL GROUP

1. Red Sea Coasters

[Bible Story Review]

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

What You Need: Cork coasters (or cardstock squares); permanent markers or paint pens

What You Do:

- Give each kid a coaster, and set out the markers or paint pens.
- Invite kids to create the Red Sea scene on their coaster.
- Encourage them to think about things like how high they think the water went up when the sea was divided, what types of creatures lived in the sea, what the sea bed looked like, and so on.
- While kids work on their coasters, ask them to re-tell the entire story they heard today in Large Group.

What You Say:

“That was quite a story! Can you even imagine what it would have been like for the Egyptians? First, they thought they were stuck with no way to escape from the Egyptians. That had to have been SO scary. But God protected them, and then He did something even more amazing. Just think about what it would have felt like for the Israelites when the sea parted, when they walked down into it with water standing on both sides of them, and when they finally made it across and the water swept back down onto the Egyptians. It had to have been both terrifying and awe inspiring.

“They had been in what would have seemed like an impossible situation, but our God makes impossible things possible! In today’s story, Moses did what He should when things seemed

*impossible, and **[Bottom Line]** you can do what you should, even when things seem impossible, too! Take your coaster home with you and use it every day. It will be a reminder to you that God can do the impossible, and He can help you do what you should even when things seem impossible.”*

2. Memory Verse Phrases

[Memory Verse Activity]

Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: Bible, “Memory Verse Phrases” (Activity Page), tape, blindfolds

What You Do:

- Ask a kid to look up Joshua 1:9b and read it aloud.
- Tell kids their task will be to tape the verse phrases in order on the wall in a certain area.
 - *Note: If you don’t have a wall, kids can place the phrases in order on the floor.*
- Explain that they will have to do it while blindfolded.
- Blindfold one kid and give him a random phrase (not the first one). Stick a loop of tape on the back of the phrase.
- Spin him around so he faces away from the wall.
- Tell the other kids to direct him toward the wall (by giving only audio cues; not physically directing him) so he can stick his phrase up.
- Then blindfold another kid and give him a phrase with a tape loop.
- Spin him around, and tell the other kids to direct him to the wall so he can stick his phrase up.
 - This will be a little trickier, because they will need to figure out where his phrase will fit in the overall verse, so it will need to be spaced out correctly.
- Repeat for the rest of the phrases, until the entire verse is taped up in order.
- If kids get stumped at any point on where a phrase should go, allow them 20 seconds to look up the verse again.

What You Say:

*“There were times during that activity when you probably thought it was almost going to be impossible to get the entire verse up on the wall in the right order. But you did it! There will be times in life when things will seem MUCH more impossible than this activity. Hard, impossible-seeming things happen all the time, and it often doesn’t look like there’s a way to deal with it. But God always has a plan to either get us past hard times or help us deal with situations that just won’t go away. **[Bottom Line]** You can do what you should, even when things seem impossible, because God is always with you, and He is the God of the impossible!”*

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: Paper; pencils

What You Do:

- Give each kid a piece of paper and a pencil.
- Encourage kids to each write a prayer asking God to help them have courage even when things seem impossible. This can be a general prayer or, if they have a specific situation they're currently dealing with that seems impossible, they can make it a specific prayer.
- Close with the prayer below.

What You Say:

“Dear God, we know that You are the God of the impossible, which is so comforting, because we often face things in our lives that seem impossible. But we know that all things are possible if they are Your will. Help us to have courage when things seem impossible and to remember that You can do anything You want to do, and You will be with us and help us do everything You want us to do. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the children to share how [Bottom Line] you can do what you should, even when things seem impossible.