



WEEK THREE – OCTOBER 2019 – KINDER/FIRST

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. Impossible Human Tricks

Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery

What You Need: Pencils

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
- Lead the kids to try the following:
 - Lick your elbow.
 - Wiggle your ears.
 - Raise your eyebrows—left and then right.
 - Wiggle your nose.
 - Snap your fingers.
 - Tie your shoes. (To make this more difficult for first graders, ask them to tie them **WITHOUT** using their thumbs—they must tuck their thumbs into their palms.)
 - Hold a pencil between your nose and upper lip.
 - Hold a pencil between your bottom lip and chin.
 - Balance a pencil on your ear, nose, shoulder, and knee.
 - Say the following, five times in a row as quickly as possible:
 - Toy boat
 - Red leather yellow leather
 - Fruit float
 - Bubble bobble
 - Selfish shellfish

What You Say:

*“Some of these silly tasks were impossible and some you could do without any problems. Chances are you will face something impossible at some point in your life. **[Transition] Let’s go hear about a crazy impossible rescue that was NO problem for God!**”*

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. Four Corners Review

[Bible Story Review]

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

What You Need: Four prepared cardstock signs, marker, wall tape

What You Do:

- Tape the four signs onto the floor or the wall in four corners of your small group space.
- Divide the group into two teams: the Israelites and the Egyptians.
- Call everyone on both teams to stand in the center of your space.
- Call out a team name and a corner for the team to run to. Between each round, have the teams return to the center of the small group area.
 - Israelites to the pillar of cloud
 - Egyptians to the Red Sea
 - Israelites to the wilderness
 - Israelites to the Red Sea
 - Egyptians to the pillar of fire
 - Egyptians to the pillar of cloud
 - Israelites to the pillar of fire
 - Egyptians to the wilderness
- Play for several minutes.
- Gather the signs and quickly review today's Bible story:
 - Pharaoh finally agreed to let the Israelites go.
 - God led the people through the wilderness toward the Red Sea. He guided them with a pillar of cloud during the day and a pillar of fire at night.
 - Then Pharaoh changed his mind and sent a huge army to go after the Israelites. When the Israelites reached the Red Sea, they saw Pharaoh's army coming after them. They were terrified!
 - Moses reminded them that God would fight for them.
 - Then the pillar of cloud moved behind the Israelites.
 - Moses lifted his staff over the waters and they parted so that the Israelites could walk through on dry ground.

- God jammed the wheels of the Egyptian chariots as they followed the Israelites into the seabed.
- Then Moses waved his staff back over the waters and the Egyptians were washed away. The Israelites were finally free! God had done the impossible.

What You Say:

*“Talk about an impossible situation! The Israelites had the Red Sea in front of them and Pharaoh’s army behind them. It seemed as if there was NO way out. But was this situation impossible for God? No way! Moses told the Israelites: Do not be afraid. Stand firm. You will see how the Lord will save you today (Exodus 14:13a NIV). God was with them and He had a plan. God did what no one else could do and saved the Israelites! And guess what. We can trust God even when we face situations that require courage. too. **[Bottom Line]** You can do what you should, even when things seem impossible.”*

2. Footprints of Courage

[Application Activity]

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

What You Need: Cardstock; pencils; markers

What You Do:

- Pass out a piece of cardstock to each child.
- Instruct the kids to place one of their feet on the cardstock and trace around their shoe with a pencil.
- Help kids use the markers to write the bottom line inside their shoe tracing.
- On the back, let them write or draw a picture of something that seems impossible (telling the truth, being kind to someone who is unkind, learning to tie your shoes or ride a bike without training wheels, etc.).
 - As they draw or write, ask kids what could help them in those situations (talking to God, asking for help from someone they trust).
- Let the kids decorate their footprints with the markers as they choose.

What You Say:

*“When Moses stood on the bank of the Red Sea, he told the Israelites to stand firm and to not be afraid. He said these words BEFORE God parted the waters and BEFORE anyone had set foot on that seabed. I want you to take these footprints home and hang them somewhere as a reminder that **[Bottom Line]** you can do what you should, even when things seem impossible. You can keep loving, keep telling the truth, keep choosing kindness, keep helping, and keep being patient. God will help you do what seems impossible, even when it takes courage!”*

[Make It Personal] (Tell the kids about a time when you REALLY didn't want to show kindness or love or patience because it seemed impossible. How did God help you keep doing what you should do in that particular situation?)

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: Footprints kids created in the “Footprints of Courage” activity

What You Do:

- Make sure each child has their footprint from earlier.
- Ask them to take a look at the back where they've written or drawn an impossible situation.
- Lead them in a prayer like the one below, asking God to give them the courage they need to face impossible situations.

What You Say:

*“Hold up your footprints, friends. Just like Moses reminded the Israelites at the edge of the Red Sea that God would fight for them, remember God is with you. He has unlimited power, and He will give you the courage you need. **[Bottom Line]** You can do what you should, even when things seem impossible. Will you pray with me?*

“Heavenly Father, thank You for this amazing TRUE story of Moses and the Red Sea. Thank You for the reminder that You are with us everywhere we go. Give us the courage to do what we should, even when it seems impossible. Help us to trust You. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.”

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