



## WEEK TWO – OCTOBER 2019 – PRETEEN

**Bible Story:** *Ready or Not* ▪ Exodus 3–6:12, 7–12:42

**Key Question:** *What have you had to do that you didn't feel ready for?*

**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 head to Exodus 3–6:12 and 7:1–12:42 where we continue Moses's story and discover what happened when he saw a bush that was on fire . . . but wasn't burning up. Now, that alone might make you a little nervous, but then he heard the voice of God. God asked him to go up against the most powerful ruler of his time—to ask Pharaoh to set the Israelite slaves free. In this incredible story, we see how God helped Moses face his fear and rescue the Israelites.

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## PRE-SERVICE ACTIVITY

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### 1. Just For Fun

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

**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
- Ask kids to get into pairs.
- Explain the game.
  - At your signal, each person will hold up any number of fingers on one hand.
  - As soon as the fingers are up, each kid will quickly add up the total number of fingers and try to be the first person to shout out the correct number.
- Play several rounds with one partner, then increase the teams to three players and then four until the whole group is playing as one team.

**What You Say:**

*“[Transition] “In Large Group today, we will learn about a time when God asked someone to be courageous. It all started when he took off his shoes.”*

*Lead your group to the Large Group area.*

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## LARGE GROUP

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**OVERVIEW:**

**Key Question:** *What have you had to do that you didn't feel ready for? When we're feeling anxious or*

*scared about something we need to do, we can find courage by reminding ourselves how God has helped us in the past. We hope that preteens start thinking through the ways God has been faithful to them and find the courage to do what needs to be done.*

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## SMALL GROUP

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### 1. Bible Story Extension

## [Bible Story Review]

*Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play*

**What You Need:** “Story Posers” (Activity Page); Bible

### What You Do:

- *Note: Today’s Bible story covers a lot of information and events—Moses, Aaron, the burning bush, plagues, departure from Egypt . . . It’s possible that kids will not grasp all the details if it’s the first time they’ve heard the stories. Review as needed to help your group catch the flow of events of Exodus 3; 4–6:12; 7–12:42.*
- Give each kid a “Story Posers” card and tell them to not let others see what they say.
- Explain that they will take turns acting out the scene described on their cards for five seconds then, ready or not, they must strike a pose and freeze while the other kids guess what the “poser” is getting ready to do.
  - Clarify that each pose has something to do with an event in today’s Bible story.
  - After the story has been reviewed, help kids take a closer look at courage through the eyes of Moses and the people of Israel.
- Ask:
  - Where did you see examples of courage in this story?
  - Imagine being an Israelite kid living in Egypt when today’s story took place. What are some questions you would have had? What would you have been the most concerned about? What would you have been most excited about? How might a kid your age have shown courage?
  - The people of Israel would go on to face other situations in which courage would be needed. How might the events of this story help them be courageous in a new situation they didn’t feel prepared to deal with?
  - What have you had to do that you didn’t feel ready for?
  - What has God helped you through in the past that you can look back on and take courage for what’s ahead?

## 2. Discussion Questions

### [Application Activity]

*Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding*

**What You Need:** N/A

### What You Do:

- Ask:
  - Why do you think God sometimes puts us in new situations that are out of our comfort zones or that we don’t think we can handle? How could those situations strengthen our faith?

- What new things have you tried this past year? How prepared or confident did you feel in facing them? How has God helped you?
- What can you be doing now to prepare for the future in order to make a positive impact or change the world around you?

### **3. Make It Personal With Prayer**

#### **[Prayer Activity]**

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

**What You Need:** Bible; paper; pens

#### **What You Do:**

- Read aloud Joshua 1:9b to the group.
- Remind kids that Joshua 1:9 was a command and a promise that God gave to Joshua—one of Israel’s most courageous leaders. Even though we are living many years later, the command and the promise are still true.
- Assign each sentence of the verse to individual kids or partners.
  - Group 1: “Do not be afraid.”
  - Group 2: “Do not lose hope.”
  - Group 3: “I am the Lord your God.”
  - Group 4: “I will be with you everywhere you go.”
- Hand out paper and pens.
- Ask kids to write a one or two sentence prayer built around the portion of the verse they just read.
  - It can be a prayer of praise and thankfulness, a request for help, or whatever they want to pray in response to Joshua 1:9b.
- Close by letting kids take turns reading their prayers.

#### **What You Say:**

*“Dear God, help us to be courageous for You this week especially when we face situations we didn’t see coming or feel unprepared to handle. Like You did for Moses, give us the power we need to do what we should do even when it’s hard. In Jesus’ name, amen.”*