



WEEK
FOUR
OCTOBER 2023

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role play to enhance their learning



3. KINGS AND QUEENS

WHAT YOU NEED: Large preschool-safe mirror and a black dry-erase marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Draw a crown near the top of the mirror.

BIBLE STORY

I can be brave and help others.

ESTHER
ESTHER 2:21-8:17

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to look in the mirror and tell you what they see. Ask children what they see in the mirror. Point out the crown drawn on the mirror and tell them they are a king/queen.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come over here and sit with me. I have a big mirror that we can take turns standing in front of today!"

MEMORY VERSE

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid . . . for the Lord your God goes with you."

DEUTERONOMY 31:6, NIV

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Okay, when I call your name, I want you to stand in front of the mirror. [Child's name], please stand in front of the mirror. (Pause.) Tell us what you see in the mirror. (Pause.) I see a strong and brave [queen/king]. Look at the crown on your head. (Pause.) Awesome, you may go sit down. (Continue with each child. Repeat as desired.) You are all such wonderful kings and queens."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "We have been learning about how God helps us be brave. Today, we will hear about a special queen who had to be very brave! Let's go find out why!"

KEY QUESTION

Who can help you be brave?

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by marching and chanting, "God helps us be brave!"

BOTTOM LINE

God can help me be brave.

BASIC TRUTH

God made me.



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE
an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home



1. BRAVE MIRROR FRAME

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Brave Mirror Frame" and "Mirror Frame Parent Note" Activity Pages; cardstock; stickers; dot markers; craft knife; scissors; and permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Brave Mirror Frame" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Copy "Mirror Frame Parent Note" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Write each child's name on their frame.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to decorate their frames with markers and stickers. Ask children to hold their frames up to their faces and say the memory verse with you.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the memory verse with motions and the Bottom Line.

BIBLE STORY

I can be brave and help others.

ESTHER
ESTHER 2:21-8:17

MEMORY VERSE

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid . . . for the Lord your God goes with you."

DEUTERONOMY 31:6, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who can help you be brave?

BOTTOM LINE

God can help me be brave.

BASIC TRUTH

God made me.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come to the table with me. Let's do the motions as we say our memory verse. 'Be strong and courageous. (Hold fists in front of body.) Do not be afraid . . . (cross and uncross hands) for the Lord your God (flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down) goes with you,' (march in place) Deuteronomy 31:6. (Open hands like a book.) Nice job!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We're going to decorate this frame, but it's not for a picture. See the cutout? (Hold the paper up to your face and look through the hole.) It's to see you! Use markers and stickers to decorate your frame. (Pause.) Wow! They look great! Hold it up to your face and look through the hole. (Pause.) They look even better with your sweet faces in the frames! Look through the hole and say the memory verse with me. 'Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid . . . for the Lord your God goes with you,' Deuteronomy 31:6. Nice job!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Let's say our memory verse one more time with the motions. 'Be strong and courageous. (Hold fists in front of body.) Do not be afraid . . . (cross and uncross hands) for the Lord your God (flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down) goes with you,' (march in place) Deuteronomy 31:6. (Open hands like a book.) Super-duper, friends. **Who can help you be brave? God can help me be brave.**"



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT
an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" from Week One in Bible, a journal, and a fun-shaped pen

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: If you don't have the "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible, copy "Memory Verse Card"

on cardstock and cut, one per small group. Place one card in your Bible at Deuteronomy 31:6. Keep this card in your Bible all month.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: As you walk to your Small Group spot, lead the children in doing a Super Kid pose after every two steps. Sit down and gather the children around you. Review the memory verse and motions, then encourage the children to make a list of people they can help.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Pray with the children.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll pose like super kids while we walk to our Small Group spot. Listen, so you'll know when to do your Super Kid pose. (*Count aloud while you take steps. "One, two, Super Kid pose! One, two, Super Kid pose!"*) We made it, Super Kids! Let's sit down so we can talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: (*Open the Bible to this month's memory verse and lay it in front of the children.*) "Today in our Bible story, Queen Esther was very brave. Even though the king had not invited Queen Esther, she went to talk to him and ask him to help save her family. Who helped Queen Esther be brave? (*Pause.*) Yes! God helped Queen Esther be brave! Queen Esther's family prayed with her for three days, then Queen Esther was brave and asked the king to help her family.

"When we pray, God can help us be brave and help others, too! **Who can help you be brave? God can help me be brave!** And the Bible verse we're learning will help us remember that God can help us be brave. It says, 'Be strong and courageous. (*Hold fists in front of body.*) Do not be afraid . . . (*cross and uncross hands*) for the Lord your God (*flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down*) goes with you,' (*march in place*) Deuteronomy 31:6. (*Open hands like a book.*)

"Let's stand up and say that Bible verse together! Just say what I say and do what I do. 'Be strong and courageous. (*Hold fists in front of body.*) Do not be afraid . . . (*cross and uncross hands*) for the Lord your God (*flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down*) goes with you,' (*march in place*) Deuteronomy 31:6. (*Open hands like a book.*)

BIBLE STORY

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Who can help you be brave?

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God can help me be brave.

BASIC TRUTH

God made me.



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

"You sound like SUPER KIDS! I am so proud of you! (*Give high fives.*) Let's sit back down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. Queen Esther was brave and helped her family. Let's make a list of people we can help! When I say your name, tell me one person you can help." (*Remember to print as you write in the journal so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Look at all of the people we can help! (*Hold up the journal.*) Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*)

"Dear God, there are so many people we can help! We can help (*read the list the children made*). Please help (*name each child*) be brave and help others. Thank You for always helping us, God. We love You. In Jesus' name, amen."