



Under Construction: God at Work

“God did not give us a spirit that makes us afraid. He gave us a spirit of power and love and self-control.” 2 Timothy 1:7 (ICB)

LESSON - GOD BUILDS my COURAGE!

Welcome back to Under Construction: God at Work! This month, we’re learning that God Builds Us to Be Courageous! Can you say, “courageous”? (Have them repeat courageous.)

When you hear the word courage, you might think of someone with big, strong muscles.

SAY IT: Courage

DO IT: Show your muscles.

You might also think about someone doing something really brave. But courage isn’t only about doing big, brave things. God’s kind of courage means choosing to obey God and doing what is right, even when it feels hard.

This month, we’re going to learn about a man named Joshua. Can you say, “Joshua”? (Have them repeat Joshua.) Before Joshua became a leader, he spent many years learning, growing, and helping Moses lead God’s people. God was building courage in Joshua little by little. Just like a builder doesn’t build a whole building in one day, God was helping Joshua become more courageous one step at a time. Today, we’ll learn about a time when Joshua had to choose to do what was right, even when many other people made a different choice.

SAY IT: God keeps His promises!

DO IT: Put your hand over your heart.

God had promised His people a special land to call their home. One day, Moses chose twelve men to go look at the land, and Joshua was one of them. For forty days, Joshua and the other men went to see the land. They saw big fields, tall walls, strong cities, and lots of delicious fruit. They even brought back a huge bunch of grapes!

SAY IT: Yummy!

DO IT: Rub your tummy and say Yummy!

But they also saw people who were very big and strong. Ten of the men became afraid. They thought, “We can’t do this!” But Joshua remembered something important: God had made a promise. Joshua believed that if God said He would give His people the land, God would keep His Word. We can remember God’s promises too! When something feels hard or makes us afraid, we can remember that God loves us, cares for us, and is always with us.

SAY IT: God helps me do what is right!

DO IT: Give two thumbs up.

When the twelve men returned, ten of them were afraid and made God’s people afraid too. But Joshua and Caleb made a different choice. They said, “Trust God!” and chose God’s way even when others didn’t. That’s courage! We can choose God’s way too by telling the truth, including others, and obeying our parents. God helps us have courage to do what is right!

Joshua and Caleb kept trusting God even when others didn’t, and God saw their faithful choices. God sees our choices too when we share, tell the truth, obey, and show kindness. Just like a builder builds one piece at a time, God built courage in Joshua little by little. And every time we choose God’s way, He is building courage in us too!

SAY IT: God is building courage in me!

DO IT: Make muscles with both arms.

Today, we learned that Joshua believed God’s promise, stood for what was right, and kept choosing God’s way. God helped Joshua be courageous, and God helps us be courageous too!

PRAYER: Dear Jesus, thank You for always keeping Your promises. Help us trust You and choose what is right, even when it’s hard. Thank You for building courage in our hearts and helping us choose Your way. We love You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

LESSON QUESTIONS - 10 MINS

2 & 3YR OLDS

1. What was the man’s name in our Bible story? **(Joshua)**
2. Did Joshua trust God? **(Yes)**
3. Did Joshua choose to do what was right? **(Yes)**
4. Can God help us be courageous too? **(Yes)**

4YRS - 1ST GRADE

1. How many men did Moses send to see the land? **Twelve**
2. What big fruit did they bring back from the land? **Grapes**
3. Who stood for what was right with Joshua? **Caleb**
4. What did Joshua remember about God? **God keeps His promises**



Teaching Guide - PRESCHOOL & VSN

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ACTIVITY 1: GIANT GRAPE GATHERING

Items Needed: pre-inflated Purple balloons and baskets

Connection: Joshua and the other men explored the land and brought back a huge cluster of grapes.

Step 1: Scatter the “grapes” around the room

Step 2: Have the children pretend they are exploring the Promised Land

Step 3: When you call, “I found grapes!” children collect one grape at a time and bring it to the basket

Step 4: Continue until all the grapes have been gathered.

Step 5: Gather everyone together and say: “Joshua saw that the land was good, and he remembered God’s promise. God always keeps His promises!”

ACTIVITY 2: BUILD MY COURAGE

Items Needed: Foam blocks

Connection: God built courage in Joshua one faithful choice at a time.

Step 1: Have the children sit around a pile of blocks.

Step 2: Call out a simple way children can choose God’s way, such as “Tell the truth!”

Step 3: Let one child add a block to the tower.

Step 4: Continue with choices such as:

Share with others | Obey your parents | Be kind | Help a friend | Pray when you’re afraid
Include someone | Tell the truth

Step 5: Watch the tower grow taller with each choice.

Step 6: When the tower is finished, say: “Look how we built our tower one block at a time! God builds courage in our hearts as we keep choosing His way!”

ACTIVITY 3: BUBBLE PARTY OR STORY TIME

Items Needed: Bubbles and music OR book basket

We’ve got some extra time today, so let’s spend it worshipping and dancing with bubbles or reading a book to the class (please show the pictures on each page).

CRAFT OR COLORING SHEET (USE 1 OR 2 OPTIONS DEPENDING ON CLASS AGE & TIME)

CRAFT 1: GOD HELPS ME BE COURAGEOUS CRAFT

Items Needed: Joshua and Caleb grape template, crayons, purple tissue paper, glue or glue dots

Connection: The giant grapes remind us that God had given His people a good land, and Joshua and Caleb had the courage to trust what God said.

Step 1: Give each child a Joshua and Caleb grape template.

Step 2: Have the children color Joshua, Caleb, the carrying pole, and the leaf.

Step 3: Give each child small pieces of purple tissue paper.

Step 4: Have the children crumple the tissue paper into small balls.

Step 5: Put glue inside each grape circle on the template.

Step 6: Press one purple tissue paper ball onto each grape circle until the whole bunch is filled.

CRAFT 2: JOSHUA AND CALEB BELIEVED COLORING SHEET

Items Needed: Coloring sheet and crayons.

Connection: Joshua and Caleb believed God’s promise even when others were afraid.

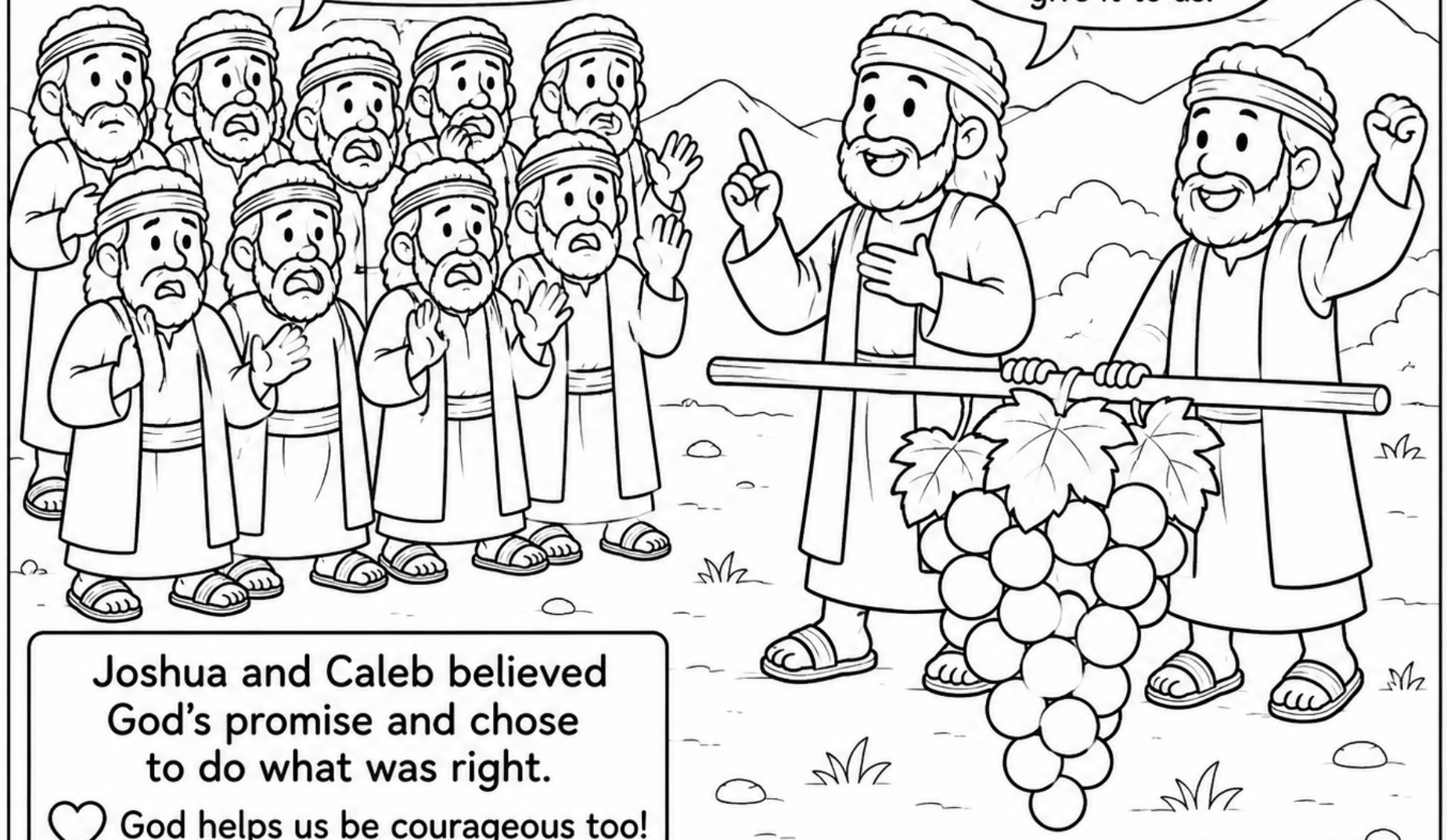
Step 1: Distribute the coloring sheets and allow time to color.

GOD HELPS ME BE COURAGEOUS!

Numbers 13-14

The people there
are so big and strong!
We can't do it!

Let's trust the LORD!
He promised this land
to us, and He will
give it to us!



Joshua and Caleb believed
God's promise and chose
to do what was right.

♥ God helps us be courageous too!