



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 GIVES ME COURAGE FOR NEW THINGS!

Welcome back to Under Construction: God at Work! This month, we’re learning that God Builds Us to Be Courageous! God helps us have courage when we need to do something that feels new or hard. Today, we’re going to hear more about Joshua. God had been helping Joshua learn and grow for many years. Now, Joshua was about to receive a very important new job.

For many years, Moses had been the leader of God’s people. But after Moses died, God chose Joshua to be the new leader. Joshua would lead God’s people into the land God had promised them. Joshua had never been the leader before. This was a big, new job! We have new things happen in our lives too. Maybe it’s going to a new class, meeting a new teacher, learning to swim, or trying something we’ve never done before. New things can sometimes make us feel a little scared, but God can help us.

SAY IT: God helps me with new things!

DO IT: Point both thumbs toward yourself.

Before Joshua began leading the people, God spoke to him. God knew Joshua needed brave words, so He gave Joshua a promise. God told him, “I will be with you.” Joshua didn’t have to do his new job all by himself. God would be right there with him.

God also told Joshua, “Be strong and courageous!” God wanted Joshua to remember that he didn’t have to be afraid because God was with him wherever he went. God is with us wherever we go too! He is with us at home, at school, at church, and when we’re doing something new. Even when we feel a little afraid, we can remember, “God is with me!”

SAY IT: God is always with me!

DO IT: Wrap your arms around yourself like a hug.

Joshua believed what God told him. He was ready to lead God’s people toward the Promised Land. Joshua didn’t know everything that was going to happen, but he knew God would go with him. Sometimes we might feel like saying, “I don’t know if I can do this!” When something is new. But we can pray and ask God to help us. We don’t have to know everything that’s going to happen. We can trust God and take the next step.

SAY IT: God helps us take the next step!

DO IT: March in place.

Today, Joshua received a big new job. He learned that he wouldn’t have to do it alone because God promised to be with him. We can remember the same thing whenever we have to do something new. God is with us and gives us courage!

SAY IT: God gives me courage!

DO IT: Make muscles with your arms.

PRAYER: Dear Jesus, thank You for being with us wherever we go. When we have to do something new, help us remember that You are with us. Give us courage to trust You and keep going. We love You. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

LESSON QUESTIONS - 10 MINS

2 & 3YR OLDS

1. Who did God choose to be the new leader? **(Joshua)**
2. Did God promise to be with Joshua? **(Yes)**
3. Did Joshua have to do his new job all by himself? **(No)**
4. Is God with us when we do something new? **(Yes)**

4YRS - 1ST GRADE

1. Who was the leader before Joshua? **Moses**
2. What new job did God give Joshua? **Lead the people or leader**
3. What did God tell Joshua to be? **Strong and courageous**
4. What are some new things you might need God to give you courage to do? **Meet new friends, new class, new activity, move to a new neighbor, various answers**



TEACHING GUIDE - PRESCHOOL & VSN

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ACTIVITY 1: GOD IS WITH ME PATH

Items Needed: Painter's tape, paper footprints

Connection: God promised to be with Joshua as he moved forward into his new job. God is with us wherever we go too.

Step 1: Use painter's tape or paper footprints to create a simple path around the room.

Step 2: Let children take turns following the path.

Step 3: As each child moves along the path, have the class say, "God is with you!"

Step 4: Add simple directions along the path such as, "Take two little steps," "Turn around," or "Walk slowly."

Step 5: When each child reaches the end, say, "Joshua could move forward because God was with him. God is with you too!"

ACTIVITY 2: WHAT'S IN THE BUILDER'S BAG?

Items Needed: Bag, familiar toy tools or construction items such as a toy hammer, hard hat, measuring tape, block, paintbrush, and toy screwdriver

Connection: Sometimes we don't know what's coming next, just like Joshua didn't know everything that would happen in his new job. But Joshua knew God would be with him.

Step 1: Place all the construction items inside a bag so the children cannot see them.

Step 2: Let one child reach inside without looking and feel an object.

Step 3: Ask the child to guess what the object is.

Step 4: Pull it out and let everyone see whether the guess was correct.

Step 5: Continue until several children have had a turn.

Step 6: End by saying, "We didn't know what was inside the bag until we reached in. We don't always know what will happen when we do something new either. But we can always know that God is with us!"

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 GOES WITH ME SHOES CRAFT

Items Needed: Shoe template, crayons, yarn, hole punch

Connection: Joshua was getting ready to go somewhere new, but God promised to go with him. Wherever we go, God is with us too.

Step 1: Give each child a shoe template.

Step 2: Have the children color and decorate the shoe with crayons and stickers.

Step 3: Read the words on the shoe together: "Wherever I go, God is with me!"

Step 4: For older preschoolers, punch holes around the edge of the shoe template.

Step 5: Give each child a piece of yarn and help them thread it through the holes around the shoe.

Step 6: As they work, remind them: "God was with Joshua when he faced something new, and God is with us wherever we go too!"

CRAFT 2: BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS COLORING SHEET

Items Needed: Coloring sheet and crayons.

Connection: God gave Joshua a new job to lead His people and promised to be with him. As children color, remind them that God is with us wherever we go and gives us courage when we face something new!

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

GOD GIVES ME COURAGE FOR NEW THINGS!

God promised to be with Joshua,
and He is with me too!



♥ WHEREVER I GO,
GOD IS WITH ME! ♥

JOSHUA 1:9