



Teaching Guide - PRESCHOOL & VSN

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 IS BUILDING COURAGE IN ME!

Welcome back to Under Construction: God at Work! This month, we've been learning about Joshua and how God helped him become courageous. Can you say, “courageous”? (Have them repeat courageous.) Courage means trusting God and choosing His way, even when something feels hard. God helped Joshua have courage in many different ways. Today, we're going to remember what we've learned!

SAY IT: Let's remember!

DO IT: Put your finger to your head like you are thinking.

First, remember when Joshua and Caleb went with ten other men to look at the land God had promised His people? They saw lots of good things, including big, yummy grapes! But they also saw big, strong people and cities with tall walls. Ten of the men were afraid, but Joshua and Caleb remembered God's promise. They told the people, “Trust God!” Joshua and Caleb chose God's way even when the other people didn't. We can choose God's way too! We can tell the truth, be kind, share, and include others. God helps us have courage to do what is right!

SAY IT: God helps me do what is right!

DO IT: Give two thumbs up.

Then Joshua had something new to do. Moses had been the leader of God's people, but after Moses died, God chose Joshua to be the new leader! That was a big new job, but God gave Joshua a special promise. God told him: “The Lord your God will be with you everywhere you go” (Joshua 1:9). Joshua didn't have to be afraid because God was with him!

Sometimes we have to do new things too. We may go to a new class, meet a new friend, or try something we've never done before. When something new makes us feel a little scared, we can remember that God is with us wherever we go.

SAY IT: God is always with me!

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

Later, Joshua and God's people came to a city called Jericho. Jericho had big, strong walls, but God had a plan. God told the people to march around the city. On the seventh day, they marched around Jericho seven times. The priests blew their trumpets, and everyone gave a BIG shout!

What happened next? The walls came tumbling down! Joshua and the people listened and did what God told them to do. They obeyed God. We can obey God too! When God teaches us to tell the truth, be kind, forgive, share, and obey our parents, we can choose to do what He says.

SAY IT: I can obey God!

DO IT: Nod your head yes.

Think about everything God did in Joshua's life. God helped Joshua do what was right, God was with him when he faced something new, and God helped him listen and obey. Just like a builder works on a building one piece at a time, God was building courage in Joshua little by little. And guess what? God is building courage in us too! Every time we trust God, choose what is right, and obey Him, He is helping us grow.

SAY IT: God is building courage in me!

DO IT: Make muscles with both arms.

PRAYER: Dear Jesus, thank You for everything we learned about Joshua. Thank You for helping us do what is right, being with us when we try new things, and teaching us to obey You. Please keep building courage in our hearts and help us choose Your way. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

LESSON QUESTIONS - 10 MINS

2 & 3YR OLDS

1. Who did we learn about this month? **(Joshua)**
2. Did God help Joshua be courageous? **(Yes)**
3. Was Joshua all by himself when he became the new leader? **(No. God was with him)**
4. Did Joshua obey God's instructions at Jericho? **(Yes)**

4YRS - 1ST GRADE

1. Who stood with Joshua and believed God's promise? **Caleb**
2. What did God choose Joshua to do after Moses died? **Lead God's people**
3. What did God promise Joshua when he became the new leader? **God would be with him.**
4. What city had big, strong walls? **Jericho**
5. What are three ways God helped Joshua be courageous? **God helped him do what was right, face something new, and obey Him.**



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ACTIVITY 1: JOSHUA'S COURAGE REVIEW

Items Needed: Large laminated pictures of grapes, a pair of shoes, and a trumpet

Connection: Each item reminds us of something we learned about how God built courage in Joshua.

Step 1: Place the three pictures where the children can see them.

Step 2: Hold up the grapes and ask, "What do these remind us of?" Remind children that Joshua and Caleb believed God's promise and chose what was right.

Step 3: Hold up the shoes. Remind children that Joshua had a new job and God promised to be with him wherever he went.

Step 4: Hold up the trumpet. Remind children that Joshua listened to God's instructions at Jericho and obeyed Him.

Step 5: Mix up the pictures and let children take turns choosing one.

Step 6: Have the entire class say the matching truth: **Grapes:** "God helps me do what is right!" | **Shoes:** "God is always with me!" | **Trumpet:** "I can obey God!"

Step 7: Finish by saying together, "God is building courage in me!"

ACTIVITY 2: FIND THE GIANT GRAPES!

Items Needed: 15-20 Purple paper grapes, baskets

Connection: Joshua and Caleb saw the good land God had promised and chose to trust Him even when others were afraid.

Step 1: Hide purple paper grapes throughout the classroom.

Step 2: Give the children a basket and send them searching.

Step 3: Each time a child finds a grape, have them place it in the basket.

Step 4: Once all the grapes are found, count them together.

Step 5: Say, "Joshua and Caleb believed God's promise and chose what was right. God helps us have courage to do what is right too!"

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: WALLS OF JERICO CRAFT

Items Needed: Motipuns Walls of Jericho Craft Kit, extra glue dots

Connection: Joshua and the Israelites listened to God and followed His instructions at Jericho. This craft helps children remember that when we obey God, we can trust Him with what happens next.

Step 1: Give each child one complete Jericho craft set.

Step 2: Help children identify the different pieces, including the Jericho wall, Bible characters, background pieces, wooden sticks, and adhesive dots.

Step 3: Attach the wall pieces to create the Jericho scene, using the included adhesive dots where needed.

Step 4: Add the character pieces to the wooden sticks so the children can move them around the city. The kit is designed so the characters can be used to act out the people marching around Jericho.

Step 5: Place the background stickers and remaining pieces onto the craft to complete the scene.

CRAFT 2: GOD IS BUILDING COURAGE IN ME COLORING SHEET

Items Needed: Coloring sheet and crayons.

Connection: God helped Joshua in many ways.

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



GOD IS BUILDING COURAGE IN ME!

God helped Joshua in many ways!

1. God helps me do what is right!

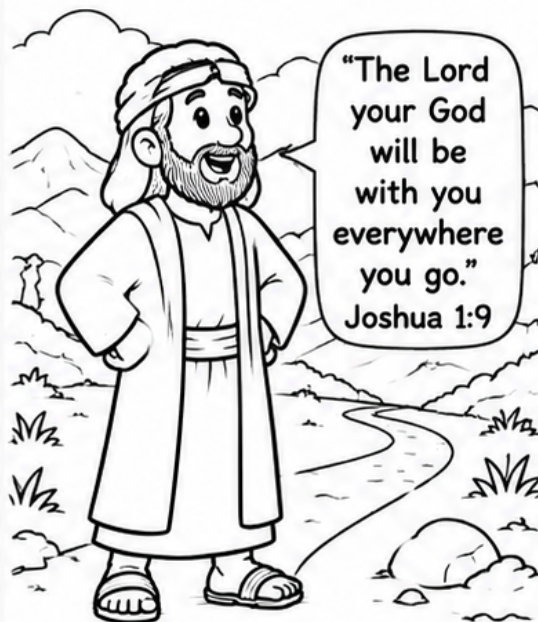
Joshua and Caleb trusted God's promise, even when others were afraid.



We can choose God's way too!
Tell the truth, be kind, share,
include others, and do what
is right.

2. God is always with me!

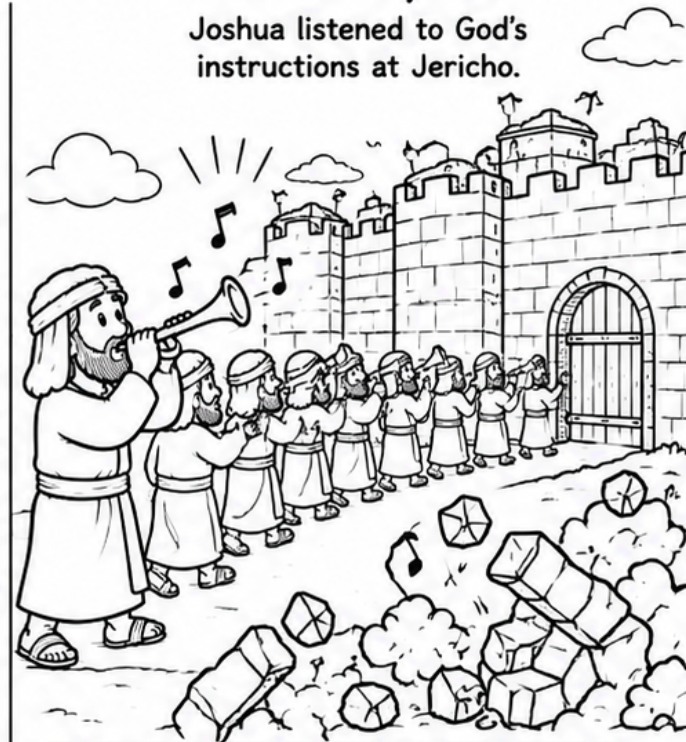
God chose Joshua to be the new leader.



When I face something new,
I can remember that
God is with me!

3. I can obey God!

Joshua listened to God's instructions at Jericho.



When I listen and obey God,
I can trust Him with what
happens next!



EVERY TIME I TRUST GOD,
CHOOSE WHAT IS RIGHT, AND OBEY HIM,
GOD IS BUILDING COURAGE IN ME!

