

Peter Tells the Sanhedrin About Jesus Acts 4:5-14

Peer pressure is beginning to be a significant factor in the lives of your kids. Whether it's speaking up for their faith or speaking up for a friend who's being made fun of, third- and fourth-graders can be mightily influenced by how others may respond to their words and actions. Use this lesson to teach them that God will help them be brave, just as he helped Peter stand up to the Sanhedrin.

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Scary Charades <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Play Charades to act out different things they could be afraid of.	scissors, copies of the "Scary" handout (at the end of this lesson)	Cut apart the segments of the "Scary" handout. You'll need 1 segment per pair.
2 Bible Exploration	Trials <i>(about 20 min.)</i> Prepare a case for or against Peter and John.	Bibles, CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
	Key Verse Song <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Learn the Key Verse, and sing a song.	Bibles, CD player, copies of the lyrics page (at the end of this lesson) Teacher Pack: CD	

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



► **Bible Point**
Trusting God makes us brave.

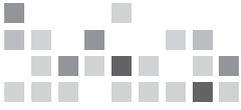
Key Verse
"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9).

Weaving Faith Into Life
Children will trust God for strength as they do something difficult this week.



LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
3 Weaving Faith Into Life	Depths of Bravery <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Act out what they would do in tough situations.	Bible Truth Sleuth	Tear out the Lesson 9 pages from each Bible Truth Sleuth student book.
	Like a Rock! <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Write a portion of Joshua 1:9 on a rock.	1 smooth rock per child, markers	Gather smooth rocks that have at least 2 to 3 inches of surface area for kids to write a short phrase on them. Set the rocks and the markers out.
4 Lasting Impressions	Daily Challenges <i>(about 5 min.)</i> Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.	Bible Truth Sleuth, pens	
	Weaving Faith at Home <i>(about 2 min.)</i> Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.		

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



Scary Charades Supplies

scissors
copies of the “Scary”
handout (at the end of
this lesson)

Scary Charades Easy Prep

Cut apart the segments
of the “Scary”
handout.
You’ll need 1 segment
per pair.

Trials Supplies

Bibles
CD player
Teacher Pack
CD: “The Trial” (track
15)

1 GETTING STARTED

Scary Charades

What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Welcome kids warmly as they arrive, and ask them how their week went.

Have kids form pairs, and give each pair one of the segments from the “Scary”
handout.

Say: **There are a lot of things in our lives that we could be afraid of. I’ve given each pair a slip of paper with something scary written on it, and you’ll act it out for the rest of the group. You can’t use words, though, just actions. The rest of the group will try to guess what the scary thing is.**

Give pairs a couple of minutes to figure out how they want to act out their scary thing. Then let each pair act as the rest of the group guesses.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- What did you think was the scariest situation? Explain.
- Tell about a time you were scared.

Say: **These are things that could be scary to some people, although not everyone is afraid of the same things. One thing that may be scary is telling other people about Jesus. Today we’ll learn that we don’t need to be afraid to share our faith, because ► TRUSTING GOD MAKES US BRAVE!**

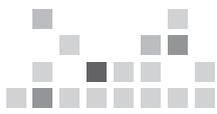
2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

Trials

What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Make sure kids have Bibles, and have them open to Acts 4:5-14. Ask for a couple of willing children to read the passage aloud. Then divide the group in half.

Say: **Today you’ll be part of a trial. Half of you will be the prosecution, and the other half will be defense. Who’s on trial? Peter and John.**



Have kids reread Acts 4:5-14 in their groups and use the text to prepare their cases. After each group has had a chance to present its side, play “The Trial” (track 15 on the CD).

Talk With Kids

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- How did Peter show bravery?
- Tell about a time you showed bravery.
- What made you brave in that moment?

Say: Sometimes it’s hard to be brave on our own, but ► **TRUSTING GOD MAKES US BRAVE.** We saw Peter trust in God, and it made Peter brave enough to speak out when he was in real danger. We can overcome anything when we trust in God.

Key Verse Song

What You’ll Do

Say: As Christians, we sometimes face difficult situations as we try to stand up for Jesus. ► **TRUSTING GOD MAKES US BRAVE** in those situations.

Let’s open our Bibles to the Key Verse, Joshua 1:9. Follow along while I read it aloud: “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go” (Joshua 1:9). Have kids repeat the verse with you.

Say: Let’s sing a song about our Key Verse and learn why we can be courageous. Every time you hear the words *be strong*, make a muscle with your arm and at the same time point up with your other arm. This shows how our strength comes from God. When you hear the word *courageous*, stand up like you’re getting ready to tackle someone in football. This shows that we’re going to stand firm no matter what.

Pass out copies of the lyrics page, and play “Wherever You Go”(Joshua 1:9) (track 16 on the CD). Lead the children in singing along with the CD.

 **Have I not commanded you?**
Be strong and courageous.
Do not be terrified;
Do not be discouraged,
For the Lord your God
Will be with you wherever you go.
Wherever you go.
(Repeat 2x.)

Wherever you go.
(Repeat 2x.)

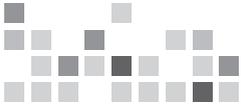
“Wherever You Go” (Joshua 1:9) by Jay Stocker. © 2006 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.



Key Verse Song Supplies

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- Bibles
 - CD player
 - copies of the lyrics page
(at the end of this
lesson)
 - Teacher Pack**
 - CD: “Wherever You Go”
(Joshua 1:9) (track 16)





Depths of Bravery Supplies

Bible Truth Sleuth

Depths of Bravery Easy Prep

Tear out the Lesson 9 pages from each Bible Truth Sleuth student book.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- Why is it important for us to be brave?
- What are some situations in which you may need to be a brave Christian?
- How can we be brave in those kinds of situations?

Say: **We can be courageous because God is with us in every situation we face—just like God was with Peter when he bravely proclaimed Jesus’ resurrection.**

► **TRUSTING GOD MAKES US BRAVE.**

3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Depths of Bravery

What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Have kids form pairs by selecting partners who are wearing different color shirts than they are. Distribute this week’s Bible Truth Sleuth pages, and have the kids turn to the “Depths of Bravery” activity.

Say: **In your pairs, look at each of the scenarios and discuss together how you could respond. There will be courageous solutions and not-so-courageous solutions. What you decide to do is up to you, but be realistic and honest! I’ll ask you to act out for the group the choice you made for how to respond for one of the scenarios and tell about why you made that choice.**

Give pairs time to come up with solutions for each scenario. As they work, circulate among the pairs. Stop by each pair and point out one of the scenarios you’d like them to act out the solution for. It’s okay if two or more pairs share a scenario to act out, as this will offer more possible solutions.

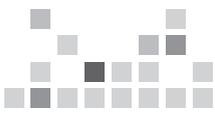
Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- Which solutions did you think were bravest?
- Tell about a time you were brave in your faith.
- What would help you be more courageous?

Say: **To do the courageous thing in some situations can be difficult—like standing up to a bully at school, telling our parents the truth when we’ve done something wrong, defending someone else, or being a friend to someone nobody else likes. It**



takes courage, but it's the right thing to do. And ► **TRUSTING GOD MAKES US BRAVE.** Let's make something that will remind us to have courage like a rock this week.

Like a Rock!

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Distribute the rocks and markers. Have kids write on their rocks the following portion from Joshua 1:9: "Be strong and courageous."

After kids have written this portion of the verse on their rocks, allow them to decorate the rocks. Allow about five minutes for kids to complete the craft.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- How would you describe these rocks?
- How does being brave require us to be strong, like these rocks?
- What's something God's calling you to be brave in right now?

Say: Today we decorated these stones, or rocks, as a reminder of how ► **TRUSTING GOD MAKES US BRAVE.** God commanded us to be strong and brave, just like Peter was strong and brave, but he also told us that we didn't have to be afraid or discouraged. Isn't that great? We can be confident that we can do what God tells us to do and know that he will be right there with us!

4 LASTING IMPRESSIONS

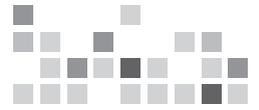
Daily Challenges

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: Let's think this week about how ► **TRUSTING GOD MAKES US BRAVE.**

Have kids find this week's Daily Challenges on their Bible Truth Sleuth pages and choose one to do this week. They can choose one or more of these three options:

- Trust God for bravery as you work to be nice to someone who isn't usually nice to you.
- Trust God for bravery as you tell a non-Christian family member or friend about Jesus.
- Trust God for bravery as you ask God to show you the life he wants you to live.



Like a Rock! Supplies

1 smooth rock per child
markers

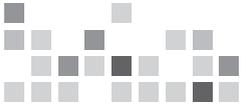
Like a Rock! Easy Prep

Gather smooth rocks that have at least 2 to 3 inches of surface area for kids to write a short phrase on them. Set the rocks and the markers out.

Daily Challenges Supplies

Bible Truth Sleuth
pens





Make sure you choose a Daily Challenge as well, and tell the kids what you chose. Kids will be more inclined to follow through on their commitments when they see you doing the same.

Talk With Kids

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What's a practical way you're going to do your Daily Challenge? Include a time, a place, and other ideas.**

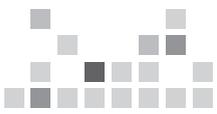
Say: **Today we've learned about what it means to know that ► TRUSTING GOD MAKES US BRAVE. We saw that God was with Peter as he proclaimed Jesus' resurrection. He wants to walk with you through whatever you're going through, and as you follow through on your Daily Challenges.**

Weaving Faith at Home

Encourage kids to talk with their parents about the Daily Challenges they chose and what they learned about how trusting God makes us brave. Kids can also do the activities in the "HomeConnect" section of their Bible Truth Sleuth pages with their families.

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at group.com/digital.

Take a couple of minutes to pray. Invite kids to pair up with their partners from the "Depths of Bravery" activity and pray for courage in a real-life situation similar to one they discussed.



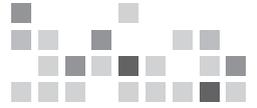
Lyrics 

Wherever You Go (Joshua 1:9)

Have I not commanded you?
Be strong and courageous.
Do not be terrified;
Do not be discouraged,
For the Lord your God
Will be with you wherever you go.
Wherever you go.
(Repeat 2x.)

Wherever you go.
(Repeat 2x.)

"Wherever You Go" (Joshua 1:9) by Jay Stocker. © 2006 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.



 **OK
TO COPY**





Scary

THE DARK

HEIGHTS

A BEAR

THE FIRST DAY AT A NEW SCHOOL

BUNGEE JUMPING

MONSTER MOVIES

TELLING YOUR PARENTS ABOUT A

BAD GRADE

EARTHQUAKES

THUNDER AND LIGHTNING

ROLLER COASTERS

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