

Joshua Sends Spies to Jericho

Joshua 2:1-24

Kids this age frequently want to be able to do things that our culture says surpass their age. They may want more independence than their age allows, or they may want to have privileges that belong to people older than themselves. The deeper element of what these kids are seeking is a sense of purpose and the ability to do big things. They want their lives to have value. Use this lesson to help kids see that through their faith, their hopes of being significant can come true as God will give them purpose.



► Bible Point

We can have faith that God will do big things in our lives.

Key Verse

“And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him” (Hebrews 11:6).


Weaving Faith Into Life

Kids will have faith in God’s plans for them.

LESSON	WHAT KIDS DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Believable? <i>(about 20 min.)</i> Compare unbelievable YouTube videos, and create their own.	Bible Buzz, pens	Tear out the Lesson 11 pages from each Bible Buzz student book.
2 Bible Exploration	Unexpected Faith <i>(about 20 min.)</i> Work together to do something big, and learn how God did big things with Rahab and Joshua’s faith.	Bibles, Bible Buzz, markers, paper, pens, rulers, several pairs of scissors	

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.





LESSON	WHAT KIDS DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
3 Weaving Faith Into Life	Faithful Words <i>(about 20 min.)</i> Discover promises made by God, and decide on their personal faith responses.	Bibles, Bible Buzz, pens	
4 Lasting Impressions	Daily Challenges <i>(about 5 min.)</i> Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.	Bible Buzz, pens	
	Weaving Faith at Home <i>(about 2 min.)</i> Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.	Bible Buzz	

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.





Believable? Supplies

Bible Buzz
pens

Believable? Easy Prep

Tear out the Lesson 11
pages from each Bible
Buzz student book.

1 GETTING STARTED

Believable?

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Welcome kids warmly as they arrive, and ask them how their week went. Form groups of four or five, and distribute pens and this week's Bible Buzz pages.

Say: **The Internet is full of half-truths and blatant lies. Take five minutes to talk about some unbelievable videos you've seen on YouTube or other places on the Internet. Some videos are staged, others are raw footage and are funny, while others are carefully produced to create a reaction. Share what your favorite videos are and what about them you believe or don't believe.** Allow about five minutes.

Say: **Now switch gears and create your own short "video" with your group. Figure out what the components are for a viral video, and then create one of your own. Use the "Write Right Here, Hear?" section on your Bible Buzz pages to jot down ideas.** After five minutes, have kids present their viral videos to the rest of the group.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- **With so much Photoshop and video editing, what helps you know when you can believe something?**
- **Explain whether you agree or disagree that making a viral video is a big deal.**
- **What makes it seem like a viral video is a really big deal?**
- **Do you really believe that a viral video matters? Explain.**
- **What are some of the biggest things you can think of that you hope you can do with your life?**

Say: **The world around us is full of things that are promised but not fulfilled. That means we tend to like things we know we can trust. The best place we can put our faith is in God. ► WE CAN HAVE FAITH THAT GOD WILL DO BIG THINGS IN OUR LIVES. Let's learn about some people in the Bible who made some bold choices to have faith in God.**





2 BIBLE
EXPLORATION

Unexpected Faith

What You'll Do

Say: **Joshua wanted to conquer the city of Jericho, but he didn't know much about it. He sent two spies who apparently weren't very good spies—because after entering the city, they were discovered. And not only were they discovered, but they were trapped. Jericho was a walled city, so once the gates were closed, there wasn't any way for the spies to escape. Their capture was just a matter of time—until they received help from a very unlikely source.**

Have kids find the “Great Big Things” section on their Bible Buzz pages. Set out markers, paper, rulers, and Bibles. Say: **Look at the picture in the diagram on the “Great Big Things” section, and draw part of the image you see there on a piece of paper. Use a ruler to make a box that's 8x8 inches on your piece of paper.** Assign parts of the image to kids, making sure each section gets done. Say: **Look at Joshua 2:1-11, and talk about the big things God did as you color your square of the picture of Rahab.** Allow 15 minutes for kids to read and draw their pictures.

When kids are done with their drawings, have them work together to cut the blank space off each of their pages and tape the pictures together so they match up. As they do this, read aloud Joshua 2:12-16. Then hang the picture up so they can admire what their pictures look like all together.

When it's all finished, have a willing preteen read Joshua 2:17-24 aloud.

Talk With Kids

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What was it like to work on a small piece of this giant picture and then see the entire thing come together?**
- **In what ways was that like or unlike how God does big things in our lives?**
- **What different things do you notice when you're far from the picture and when you're close to it?**
- **What intrigues you about God using a woman like Rahab to help his people?**
- **What about this passage helps you believe that God can do big things with you?**
- **What's one way you want to have more faith in God?**

Say: ► **WE CAN HAVE FAITH THAT GOD WILL DO BIG THINGS IN OUR LIVES. The Israelite spies had faith that God would give them the land. Rahab believed God was powerful and that he was blessing the Israelites, and she acted on her belief. Now let's look at how we act on our faith.**



Unexpected Faith Supplies

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- Bibles
 - Bible Buzz
 - markers
 - paper
 - pens
 - rulers
 - several pairs of scissors





Faithful Words Supplies

Bibles
Bible Buzz
pens

3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Faithful Words

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Ask kids to form trios.

Say: **God makes a lot of claims. If we say we believe what God says about himself, he can do great big things with us. So we have to ask ourselves which things we hope God will do with us and ultimately leave it in his hands. He can accomplish our dreams or do something even bigger. He made the whole world, didn't he?**

Have kids find the Key Verse, Hebrews 11:6, on the Bible Buzz page, and ask a willing preteen to read it aloud: "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

Say: **God rewarded Rahab for her faith. But this verse also says we need to seek him.**

Ask:

- **How do you need to seek God?**

Have kids find the "Because God IS, He Can Use Me To..." section on their Bible Buzz pages. Make sure kids have Bibles and pens.

Say: **In your trios, take turns reading the Bible verses listed. Then write next to the verse how you do or how you want to act on what you believe this verse is saying. For example, if the verse is saying God is powerful and mighty, you might write how God can use his power and might to transform your life. Each person will have time to complete two verses. When you've finished, share your responses in your trios. Discuss whether you have faith in what the Bible says and, if so, what you'll do to act on your faith.**

When five to eight minutes have passed, ask for willing kids to share what they wrote. Affirm every answer. When there are no more willing kids, ask kids to share in their trios their answers to the following questions.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- **How does your view of God influence what you believe he can do through you?**
- **What do you think you can do to let God do big things with you?**
- **Think of the biggest thing you hope you can do with your life. Explain how you think that dream could be bigger because of God.**
- **In what way do you think one of the verses you just read could start you on a path to doing big things for God?**





Say: ► **WE CAN HAVE FAITH THAT GOD WILL DO BIG THINGS IN OUR LIVES.** When we act on our faith, as Rahab did, God will work in our lives. By following the things the Bible said, we can keep our faith strong that God will do big things in our lives.



4 LASTING IMPRESSIONS

Daily Challenges

What You'll Do

Say: **Let's think this week about how ► WE CAN HAVE FAITH THAT GOD WILL DO BIG THINGS IN OUR LIVES.**

Have kids find in their Bible Buzz pages the space titled “Daily Challenge.” Have kids write a Daily Challenge they want to commit to do this week based on the verses and the things they wrote that they hope God will do through them.

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, place, and other ideas.**

Say: **Rahab acted on her faith in God, and God did amazing things for his people through her. Let's remember how ► WE CAN HAVE FAITH THAT GOD WILL DO BIG THINGS IN OUR LIVES** by following through with our Daily Challenges this week.

Weaving Faith at Home

Encourage kids to talk with their parents about the Daily Challenges they chose and what they learned about doing big things. Kids can also do the activities in the “HomeConnect” section of their Bible Buzz pages with their families.

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

Have kids place their Bible Buzz pages on the floor and stand on them. Say: **When we stand on our faith in God, we'll be able to do amazing things for God. Let's pray for each other as we stand on these verses that can give us encouragement about the great big things God will do in our lives.**

Daily Challenges Supplies

Bible Buzz
pens

Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

Bible Buzz



