



BE COURAGEOUS

God Gave the People the Land | June 5, 2022 | 3 year olds and 4 year olds

BIBLE PASSAGE: JOSHUA 7-11

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What is a miracle? A miracle is something God does that usually cannot be done so that we can know He is all-powerful.

CHRIST CONNECTION: Joshua's name means "The Lord is salvation." God fought for Joshua and the Israelites, saving them and giving them victory over their enemies. Sinners can look to God for victory over sin and death.

BOTTOM LINE: True courage knows that God can do anything and is always faithful.

THE WIN FOR SUNDAY GROUPS: Give kids a first look at The Bible, Jesus and our need for a Savior by embracing their physical needs or engaging their interests. Use The Code when necessary to help redirect kids and build relationships.

BIBLE PASSAGE CONTEXT

In today's story, we see that God fights for His people and gives them peace and rest. We live in a world filled with conflict and pain. We desperately want peace. The reality is that true peace doesn't come from any amount of solitude or self-confidence; we need true peace that comes from being forgiven. Peace comes as we trust in the finished work of Jesus. His forgiveness, not our own effort, brings us lasting peace.

What is so interesting about the section of Scripture your kids will be learning about today is that it shows us that we humans have not changed and God has not changed. Israel obeyed God at Jericho, and God fought for His people. They enjoyed good success. Next, they went up against a smaller city and relied on their own strength rather than seeking God's strength.

When Joshua realized all that was happening, his response was right. He humbled himself, appealed to God's covenant-keeping power, and responded with obedience when God spoke to him. When we sin, we must recognize the damage that it creates in our lives and in the world. Our response must not be to cover it up but to run to Christ because He is our hope, our life, and our peace.

TAKEAWAYS

- There are no limits to what God can do. When God performs miracles, His full power is on display.
- The Israelites did not earn the land. God did not give them miraculous victories because of how good and holy they were. God keeps His promises because He is good and holy; He is always faithful.
- In life, there will be times in which you feel powerless. You might face a situation that seems impossible. But looking at the Bible's record of God's miracles can give you courage to trust that He is the same all-powerful God today that He was back then.
- Through Jesus, God gives us miraculous victory over sin and death even though we don't deserve it or can do anything to earn it.
- **Bottom Line:** True courage knows that God can do anything and is always faithful.

People to Know

Enemies Israel Battled:-

- Philistines (1 Samuel 17)
- Jerichoans (Joshua 6)
- Five kings (Joshua 10)
- Canaanites (Judges 4)
- Midianites (Judges 7)
- Babylonians (2 Kings 25)

Small Group Prayer: “Thank You God for Your miracles. They show us Your power and strength. There is no one like You! Help us look to You for all that we need. We love You. Amen!”

SOCIAL ACTIVITY: Activity Dice

What You Need: Activity Dice Play set

What You Do:

Set up the game according to set instructions. Feel free to modify game rules to fit your group. Celebrate any victory.

Say: That was a fun game to get us ready to watch our Bible video. Let’s pray and listen to our story today.”

Introduce the Story

Encourage preschoolers to stand as still as they can for a few seconds just as the sun and moon stood still in the Bible story. Say this: “God made the sun and moon stand still in today’s story. It was a miracle. A miracle is something that shows God’s power. Let’s listen to our Bible story and hear how God showed His power.”

Play a Worship Song or 2 from DVD or Roku
Play the Teaching Video on DVD or Roku

RECAP the STORY:

“God was with Joshua and His people as they took over the promised land. One day five kings and their armies came to fight the people of Gibeon. The people of Gibeon asked Joshua for help. God told Joshua, “Do not be afraid. I will help you.” Joshua and his soldiers surprised the kings, and God sent a hailstorm to stop them. Joshua asked God to make the sun and moon stand still in the sky, and God did! God helped Joshua and His people take the land He had promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God fought for His people.”

APPLICATION ACTIVITY: Color the Sun

What You Need: coffee filter (1 cut in half per kid), markers of all colors, white glue, spray bottle, cardstock in bright colors, cotton balls

What You Do:

- Give each kid a coffee filter and markers. Have the kids color the coffee filter.
- When done coloring, spray each filter with water.
- Use paper towel to pick up excess water.
- Allow to dry.
- Give each kid a cardstock piece of paper and cotton balls with glue.
- Encourage kids to place the cotton balls to make clouds in the sky, leave room on the bottom of the page to glue the coffee filter.
- Glue coffee filter on bottom of the paper.
- Write kids names on their paper.

What You Say “Joshua needed more time to fight before the sun went down, so he prayed to God. He

asked God to make the sun and moon stand still in the sky. The sun stood still, and the moon stopped for almost half a day. It was a miracle. A miracle is something that shows God's power."

TRANSITION ACTIVITY: Space Memory Game

What You Need: Memory Match Game

What You Do:

- Using the game box, spread out 2-5 cards that have a match.
- Allow kids to find the same cards.
- If kids want a challenge, turn the cards over and ask kids to remember where the match is. Consider using fewer cards.

What You Say " Even the sun and moon obey God. God made the sun and moon stand still to help His people take the land He had promised. God fought for His people."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- **What should you do if you feel jealous of a friend?**
- **What has God given you that you can be thankful for?**
- **Why is it important to know God's promises?** Lead kids to discuss how knowing God's promises makes it easier to trust Him. When we know God's promises, we can remember them in times of trouble. The Israelites knew what God promised Abraham and remembering the promise helped them endure. When Israel faced the five kings, God told Joshua He would give him victory over the kings. Knowing God's promises helps us trust Him in times of fear.
- **Why did God make the sun stand still in the sky?** Help kids recall that God showed His power over all things. God often used miracles to help His people learn to trust Him. The Israelites needed help defeating their enemies. God is all powerful and defeated the five kings for His people.
- **How has God fought for us to give us miraculous victory?** Remind the kids that we are all born dead in sin. We cannot save ourselves, and our hearts are broken so that we do not love God or want to obey Him. Jesus' perfect life, sacrificial death, and miraculous resurrection won the battle against sin and death. Everyone who trusts in Jesus shares in His victory.

TRANSITION TO HOME: Prepare kids to talk with their family about what they learned today.

- As family members arrive to pick up their kid, greet them and tell them one thing you noticed about their kid that day or something you talked to each kid about remembering this week.
- If there is time to chat with the family, ask how you can pray for them this week.
- Say bye to the kid and call them by name.