



OCTOBER THEME

FEAR, INC

BIBLE STORY

Exodus 13:17–14:31 |

Spark p. 84-89

Parting Waves | Moses and the Red Sea

BOTTOM LINE

You can do what you should even
when things seem impossible

MEMORY VERSE

“Be strong and courageous. Do not
be afraid; do not be discouraged, for
the Lord your God will be with you
wherever you go.”

Joshua 1:9b, NIV

LIFE APP

Courage—being brave enough to
do what you should do, even when
you’re afraid

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what

FOR LEADERS ONLY

GOD VIEW: the connection between **COURAGE** and God’s character, as shown through God’s big story

This WEEK: In **Exodus 13:17–14:31**, Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt, but found himself up against an impossible scenario: the Red Sea in front of them and Pharaoh’s army chasing them down from behind. Only God could save them. Moses stood strong in the face of fear and trusted God to do what only God could do—part the Red Sea and create dry ground for the Israelites to escape. Our God is truly the God of the impossible.

Bottom Line: **You can do what you should even when things seem impossible.** We may not face the Red Sea or an army of angry Egyptians, but we will face moments where what we need to do will feel impossible to us. When that happens, we can remember that we can trust God no matter what. God is bigger and stronger than anything we face. Just like Moses and the Israelites, God can do the impossible in our lives too.

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today’s story.

Before kids arrive, **PRAY** for each regular attendee by name. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Pray for kids who are dealing with things that seem impossible, whether it’s learning fractions at school or a parent who is terminally ill. Ask God to give those kids courage to move forward in faith, knowing that God will be with them every step of the way.

•• **EARLY ARRIVER IDEA**

What You Need: Play-dough

What You Do:

- While they play with play-dough, help the kids talk about things that used to be impossible for them to do, but now that they’re a little bigger, they can do them. Examples might be: learning how to ride their bike for the first time. Or maybe there was a big mess of toys that needed to be cleaned up. Or maybe it was time for bed and they were having a hard time staying in their room like mom and dad asked. Talk about how sometimes we have to do things that seem impossible...and how God is with us to help us, no matter what.

•• **IMAGINATION TRAP**

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:



- Have the kids work together to play a game of imagination, telling a story about “Spy One” and “Spy Two.” Provide lots of help as needed.

What You Say: “Let’s make up a story of something so crazy that it’s impossible to be true. Are you ready? Ok. There once was a Spy... we’ll call him Spy One. He wanted to be the very best spy there ever was. But there was another spy...we’ll call him Spy Two. Spy One needed to set a trap for Spy Two so everyone would know Spy One was the best. Do you know what Spy One did?!? He made a trap door so Spy Two would fall in to a pit of snakes! EW! Who thinks snakes are icky? (*show of hands*) But guess what? Spy Two had some amazing super boots that helped him to bounce right out of that snake pit. Phew! What do you think might happen next in our crazy story? Can you help me think of another trap that Spy One might set for Spy Two? (*allow kids to help brainstorm ideas and keep the story going...some suggestions if you get stuck might be...*)

—“But then Spy One releases a hungry tiger to eat Spy Two!”

—“But Spy Two pulls a raw steak out of his pocket and throws it out for the tiger to chase while he escapes.”

- The game can continue as long as the kids can continue thinking of ideas. You can also keep it going by giving a new starting point and letting kids take it from there.

What You Say: “You all have wonderful imaginations! Those were some clever traps and some clever escapes. Some of those traps seemed impossible to escape, but we thought of ways that we could do it. Sometimes life is hard. Sometimes we have a challenge that we just don’t think we can do...like maybe riding a bike for the first time or learning how to read. The great thing is that when we are faced with things that seem impossible, we aren’t alone. God is always with us...helping us face even things that seem impossible. **[Transition] Today in Large Group Worship/WoW Family Worship we will learn/we learned about an impossible situation that no one could have faced without God’s help.**”

[Sunday Leaders: Lead your group to the Family Room for Large Group Worship. Wednesday Leaders: Continue with the study.]

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

- **REMEMBER WHO GOD IS** (*application activity/review the Bible story*)

What You Need: Spark Story Bible, “Creation” coloring page, “Noah” coloring page, “Joseph” coloring page, crayons

What You Do:

- Read “The Red Sea” on pages 84-89 in the Spark Story Bible.
- Remind the kids that in the Bible stories this month, the Israelites have seen God do amazing things to help them be ready to leave Egypt, but now they are afraid of the same Egyptians that God had already defeated once. They forgot who God was!
- Tell the kids that you want them to imagine that they could color some pictures for the Israelites to remind them of what God can do. That way they could remember to trust God.
- Hand out the coloring pages and crayons.
- Tell kids that the pictures on their coloring pages are great moments from the Bible up to that point: the creation of the world, Noah, and Joseph. In all of these stories, God proved that God was trustworthy.

What You Say: “God has done some amazing things in the Bible for people and for us. When we remember who God is, we don’t have to worry about things seeming impossible. God takes care of impossible situations all the time. That doesn’t mean every day is going to be easy. But it does mean that no matter what we are doing, God is with us...helping us along the way. **[Make It Personal] (Talk about**



something God did that you remember that helps you trust God today.) [Bottom Line] You can do what you should even when things seem impossible.”

•• **CHALLENGES ABOUND!** *(application activity)*

What You Need: Obstacle course **NOTE:** This activity will be set up in the large area by the preschool small group spaces for you to rotate through as a group. Multiple groups will be able to use the course at the same time.

What You Do:

- Guide kids through the obstacle course.

What You Say: “I love how hard you all tried to do the whole obstacle course even though, as you tried, it might have seemed impossible to accomplish the task. Sometimes life will be hard and we’ll have to go through some challenges. But remember, [Bottom Line] you can do what you should even when things seem impossible. Just like in today’s Bible story: crossing the Red Sea seemed impossible for the Israelites, but what was the first thing Moses did? The very first courageous thing Moses did was to trust God no matter what! The Israelites were terrified and crying out loud and Moses said, ‘Do not be afraid ... the LORD will fight for you.’ (Exodus 14:13-14, NIV) Though the situation looked impossible, Moses trusted God would be there for them. And then Moses showed courage by listening to God. What did God tell Moses to do with his staff? (Raise the staff over the water.) And what did Moses do? (Moses obeyed.) Like Moses, when things seem impossible, you can show courage by trusting God and obeying God.”

[Make It Personal] (Think of a time when God asked you to do something that seemed impossible. Maybe a friend was really sick and you couldn’t help them feel better. Or you were asked to go on a mission trip to a country and you didn’t even speak the language there. Or you needed to forgive a friend who had really hurt your feelings. What did you do to show courage and take the first step even when it seemed impossible for you to make a difference?)

•• **PICK-UP CARDS** *(memory verse activity)*

What You Need: “Memory Verse Cards”

What You Do:

- Divide your kids into two teams.
- Divide the memory cards among the kids on one team.
- Tell kids on team one to throw their cards high up into the air.
- Help the kids from team two work together to collect all the cards and put them in the correct order.
- When team two is done, divide the cards among them and let team one collect the cards and put them in order.

What You Say: “You did a great job putting the verse together AND scattering the cards about. In our Bible story for today, when the Israelites faced a seemingly impossible task, God gave them the courage to take the first step and God was with them the whole time to see them through it. God will do the same thing for us today. Remember our Bottom Line: [Bottom Line] You can do what you should even when things seem impossible.”

PRAY AND SEND

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Lead the kids in thanking God for the impossible things God has already accomplished.

