



OCTOBER THEME

TALENT SHOW
Brave the Stage

BIBLE STORY

Exodus 3—6:12, 7—12:42

Ready or Not | Moses and the Burning Bush/The 10 Plagues

Spark Story Bible

The Burning Bush (pg. 72-75)

Free from Slavery (pg. 76-77)

The Plagues (pg. 78-83)

BOTTOM LINE

You can do what you should, even when you don't feel ready

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 1:9 NIV

LIFE APP

Courage | Being brave enough to do what you should, 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.

Key Question: What have you had to do that you didn't feel ready for? When we're feeling anxious or scared about something we need to do, we can find courage by reminding ourselves how God has helped us in the past. We hope that families start thinking through the ways God has been faithful to them and find the courage to do what needs to be done.

Next, we head to **Exodus 3-6:12 and 7:1-12:42** where we continue Moses' story and discover what happened when he saw a bush that was on fire...but wasn't burning up. Now, that alone might make you a little nervous, but then he heard the voice of God. God asked him to go up against the most powerful ruler of his time—to ask Pharaoh to set the Israelite slaves free. In this incredible story, we see how God helped Moses face his fear and rescue the Israelites.

Bottom Line: You can do what you should even when you don't feel ready. We will all face moments where we have something to do and we don't feel ready. In those moments, we can trust God, remember what we do know, and keep going. We can trust that God will help us finish what needs to be done.

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 group member by name. Most people never feel "ready" to take on something big or new. Pray for courage to do big things even when they don't feel ready and that they'll feel God's presence as they do what they should.

•• **EARLY ARRIVER IDEA**

Made to Connect | *An activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding*

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Discuss and brainstorm the following "Would You Rather" situations...

What You Say: "Sometimes we have to do things we don't really want to do or feel like we can do on our own. Let's think about some things we might have to do some day and decide together which one would be better..."

—Dig a huge hole in the hot sun all day or carry heavy bricks from one side of your yard to the other for two hours?

—Have a frog in your bed or a fly buzzing around your head while you are trying to sleep?

—Live in a place where it is light outside all the time or live somewhere where it is dark outside all the time?"



●● BIBLE BINGO

Made to Play | An activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: “Bingo Card” activity page (3 per person), “Bingo Card Images” activity page, crayons

What You Do:

- Pass out a “Bingo Card” activity page and a crayon to each kid.
- Shuffle the “Bingo Card Images” and lay in a stack face down on your small group table.
- Encourage kids to X-out their “free space” in the center of their cards.
- Draw a card and show it to the children.
- Encourage them to X-out that same image on their cards. *(If they have more than one of that image, they can x-out each one.)*
- Continue drawing cards and letting kids x-out that image on their cards.
- The first child to get five in a row—vertically, horizontally, or diagonally—and say, “BINGO!” wins!
- If time allows, hand out another set of “Bingo Cards” and play again.

What You Say: “Great bingo playing, friends! There is some crazy stuff on these cards. [Transition] Today in Sunday CM worship/WOW family worship, we are going to hear/we heard a bible story that has EVERYTHING on these cards in it!”

[Sunday Leaders: Lead your group to Fellowship Hall for Children’s Ministry 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.

●● BIBLE STORY PICTURE BOOK [Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

Made to Create | An activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

What You Need: Spark Story Bible, “Moses” coloring books, crayons, stapler

What You Do:

- Pass out a “Moses” coloring book to each child. Set out crayons where everybody can reach them.
- Tell kids that they are going to decorate a story book about today’s Bible story while you read the following stories in the Spark Story Bible: The Burning Bush (pg. 72-75), Free from Slavery (pg. 76-77), The Plagues (pg. 78-83).
- After you’ve read the stories out of the Spark Story Bible, review the story in their “Moses” coloring book so they make the connection between their coloring book and the stories in the Bible.
- End with today’s [Bottom Line] **You can do what you should, even when you don’t feel ready.**

What You Say: “We covered so much in our Bible story today! From a burning bush, to all those terrible plagues, to Pharaoh finally agreeing to let the Israelites go. Did Moses WANT to go speak to Pharaoh? *(pause for answers)* I bet not! I bet he was pretty nervous to do that, don’t you think? I bet he didn’t feel ready at all. But, if God asks us to do something, do you think God will be with us when we choose to obey? Absolutely. [Bottom Line] **You can do what you should, even when you don’t feel ready.**”

[Make It Personal] *(Tell kids about a time when you did the right thing as a kid but you didn’t feel ready. Maybe you told the truth about something when no one else would. Maybe you stood up for someone getting picked on. Maybe you tried out for a big part in the school play. Share with the group what happened and how God helped you show courage in that situation.)*



●● **READY POSITION** [Live for God | Application Activity]

Made to Play | An activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Gather the kids to stand an arm's length apart from each other.
- Instruct them to get into a ready position as they would when playing a sport: feet flat on the ground, knees bent a bit, legs apart so you are balanced, both hands out in front of you.
- Once all kids are in the ready position, call out one of the actions below and instruct them to pantomime it.
- Between each one, instruct kids to go back to their ready positions.
- Actions to call out...
 - Catch a ball headed for the outfield.
 - Return a shot on the tennis court.
 - Shoot a basketball into the hoop.
 - Spin around like a dancer.
 - Kick a soccer ball into the goal.
 - Spike a ball over the volleyball net.
 - Catch a frisbee in the air and then throw it to somebody else.
 - Run a football to score a touchdown and celebrate in the end zone.

What You Say: “What were some things you faced this week that maybe you weren’t ready for? (*pause for responses*) Can you think of an example of a time when you wanted to do the right thing and it was hard? (*pause for responses*) What are some things you could do to help you next time? What could you do to be in a ready position? (*You could pray, you could recite this week’s bottom line as a reminder that God is with you to help, you could say this month’s memory verse.*)

“Why is there a ‘ready position’ in sports? (*pause for responses*) That’s right! The action happens fast on the field or the court, and this position helps an athlete respond quickly. When it comes to following God, we need to have a ready position, too! We can pray, we can talk to a friend who follows God, or we can repeat a verse we’ve memorized so we can have the courage to do the right thing. Think about that ready position and decide what you want yours to be when it comes to courage. **[Bottom Line] You can do what you should, even when you don’t feel ready.**”

●● **MEMORY VERSE MOTIONS** [Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Move | An activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Read Joshua 1:9 (*found on the left column of page 1 of this leader guide*) together as a group.
- Encourage the kids to stand up and learn the following motions or (*Wednesday groups*) review the motions you learned last week.
 - Be strong and courageous (*Flex muscles.*)
 - Do not be afraid (*Hold up one finger and shake it back and forth.*)
 - Do not be discouraged (*Hold up two fingers and shake them back and forth.*)
 - For the LORD your God (*Point to heaven.*)
 - Will be with you wherever you go (*March in place.*)
 - Joshua 1:9b (NIV) (*Hold your palms together and open them like a book*)
- Repeat a few times until the group feels pretty comfortable with it.
- Remind them of the Bottom Line: **[Bottom Line] you can do what you should, even when you don’t feel ready**, and tell them they have a chance to practice this right now!
- Invite anyone who might be willing to do it alone or in groups of 2 to give it a try, even if they don’t feel ready. Give lots of help as needed.

What You Say: “I LOVE this verse. It is such a good one to hide in your heart. When you memorize God’s word, it helps you have the

