



OCTOBER THEME

TALENT SHOW
Brave the Stage

BIBLE STORY

Exodus 13:17–14:31

Break on Through | Israel Goes
Through the Red Sea
Spark Story Bible
The Red Sea (pg. 84-89)

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 1:9 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: How do you respond when things seem impossible? It’s important for families to think about how they react in different situations, especially the ones that can be stressful. When things seem impossible, it’s easy to throw in the towel and give up. We hope that families leave with a plan to respond to stressful situations with courage and are reminded that God will help them.

This week we’ll find out what happens after the Israelites escape Egypt. We pick up their story in **Exodus 13:17–14:31**. Everything was looking up for the Israelites until Pharaoh changed his mind. Moses and the Israelites found themselves trapped between the Red Sea in front of them and Pharaoh’s army in hot pursuit. But with God’s help, Moses showed courage in a tough situation. God made the miraculous happen, parting the Red Sea and allowing the Israelites to escape.

Bottom Line: You can do what you should even when things seem impossible. God has proven time and again that God can do the impossible. We all face situations that don’t seem to have a way out. We pray we will learn we can trust God no matter what is happening in life. God can help us find the courage we need to keep going.

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. Pray for kids who are dealing with things that seem impossible, whether it’s learning fractions at school or facing a scary health situation with a close family member. 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**

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:

- Challenge kids to do impossible or near-impossible tasks, such as:
 - Lick your elbow.
 - Touch your nose with your tongue.
 - Talk while breathing in through your nose.
 - Wiggle your ears.



—Place your hand palm-down on a flat surface. Curl your middle finger under your hand, with the other fingers out straight. Try to pick up the end of your ring finger while keeping all the other fingers in place.

—Raise just one eyebrow.

—Pat your head while rubbing your belly.

•• TRUE OR FALSE STORIES

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

What You Need: “True or False Stories” activity page, Bibles

What You Do:

- Read the first story from the “True or False Stories” activity page.
- Allow time for kids to react and respond before revealing whether it was true or false.
- Continue with the rest of the stories.
- Two of the stories are from the Bible. If kids show interest in these stories, and you have time, allow kids to look them up and read them for themselves.

What You Say: “Those were some crazy stories that seemed impossible, but they were all true. Well, all but the one that was almost true! I kind of tricked you on that one. [Transition] **Today in Sunday CM worship/WOW family worship, we are going to hear/we heard another story from the bible that seems almost impossible.**”

[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.

•• RED SEA WORD SEARCH [Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

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

What You Need: “Red Sea Word Find” activity pages, pens

What You Do:

- Encourage kids to think about things like: how high they think the water went up when the sea was divided, what types of creatures lived in the sea, what the sea bed looked like, and so on.
- Give each kid a “Red Sea Word Find” and a pen.
- While kids work on finding the words, ask them to re-tell the entire story they heard today in worship using the words in the puzzle as a guide.

What You Say: “That was quite a story! Can you even imagine what it would have been like for the Israelites? First, they thought they were stuck with no way to escape from the Egyptians. That had to have been SO scary. But God protected them, and then God did something even more amazing. Just think about what it would have felt like for the Israelites when the sea parted, when they walked down into it with water standing on both sides of them, and when they finally made it across and the water swept back down onto the Egyptians. It had to have been both terrifying and awe inspiring.

“They had been in what would have seemed like an impossible situation, but our God makes impossible things possible! In today’s



story, Moses did what he should when things seemed impossible, and **[Bottom Line] you can do what you should, even when things seem impossible**, too! Our word search puzzle was really hard. Sometimes it felt nearly impossible to find the word you were looking for. Think about that throughout the coming week as a reminder to you that God can do the impossible, and God can help you do what you should even when things seem impossible.”

●● **FOOTPRINTS OF COURAGE** [Live for God | Application Activity]

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

What You Need: Copy paper, markers, pens

What You Do:

- Pass out a piece of copy paper to each group member. Set out markers and pens where everybody can share them.
- Help kids trace around their shoe with a pen.
- Ask them to write today’s bottom line (*You can do what you should, even when things seem impossible*) inside the outline of their shoe.
- Encourage kids to use markers to decorate the space around the shoe outline.
- As kids color, ask them to share about something in their life that seems really hard or impossible (*telling the truth, being kind to someone who is unkind, sharing their favorite snack with a sibling, learning to play a musical instrument, getting the basketball into the basket in gym class, etc.*).
- Ask kids what could help them in those situations (*talking to God, asking for help from someone they trust*).

What You Say: “When Moses stood on the bank of the Red Sea, he told the Israelites to stand firm and to not be afraid. He said these words BEFORE God parted the waters and BEFORE anyone had set foot on that seabed. I want you to take these footprints home and hang them somewhere as a reminder that **[Bottom Line] you can do what you should, even when things seem impossible**. You can keep loving, keep telling the truth, keep choosing kindness, keep helping, keep sharing, and keep practicing. God will help you do what seems impossible, even when it takes courage!”

[Make It Personal] (*Tell kids about a time you did what you should even when things seemed impossible. Maybe you studied hard for a test, even though it was your worst subject and you were already not doing well. Or maybe you helped a friend with something that was way outside your comfort zone.*)

“The things we face in our daily lives might not be as big and exciting as parting the Red Sea for the Israelites, but impossible things come in all shapes and sizes. We just need to remember that our God is the God of the impossible!”

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

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

What You Need: Bible, “Memory Verse Phrases,” tape

What You Do:

- Ask for a volunteer to look up Joshua 1:9 and read it aloud.
- Tell kids their task will be to tape the “Memory Verse Phrases” in order on your small group table.
- Explain that they will have to do it with their eyes closed.
- Pick a random phrase (*not the first one*), stick a loop of tape on the back of the phrase, and tape to in the middle of your table.
- Then, choose a kid to go first and tell him to close his eyes. Stick a loop of tape on the back of another random phrase and hand it to the kid with his eyes closed.
- Tell the other kids to direct him toward the right place on the table (*by giving only audio cues; not physically directing him*) so he can stick his phrase there.

