



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.

•• JUST FOR FUN

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

What You Need: Straws, tissues

What You Do:

- Give each kid a straw and a tissue.
- Complete one or both of the following challenges...
 - Challenge #1: Keep their tissue in the air for one minute using nothing but the air blown through the straw.
 - Challenge #2: Pass a tissue around the circle using only the air blown through the straws to keep it afloat.



●● **GET YOUR HEAD IN THE GAME**

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. —Wiggle your ears.
 - Touch your nose with your tongue. —Raise just one eyebrow.
 - Talk while breathing in through your nose. —Pat your head while rubbing your belly.
 - 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.

What You Say: “Some of these activities were a challenge, but they’re nothing compared to the challenge God gave Moses in today’s Bible story. [Transition] Today in Sunday CM worship/WOW family worship, we are going to hear/we heard the next part of Moses’ amazing story. Each task God gives to Moses seems more impossible than the last!”

[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.

●● **TAKE A SNAPSHOT** [Live for God | Application Activity]

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

What You Need: “Gestures” activity cards

What You Do:

- Give each kid a set of four different “Gestures” cards.
- Explain that they will place one or more cards on the table in front of them to indicate how they might respond to each of the situations you describe.
- Read the scenarios below or let kids come up with other difficult situations they might face that require courage because their fear seems impossible to overcome.
- Allow time for the kids to explain their responses and share ways they would show courage in each situation.
 - I have to improve my grades if I want to be on the basketball team.
 - All of my friends have been invited to a Halloween party at a classmate’s house—except me.
 - We can’t go on vacation this spring break because my dad lost his job.
 - I have to give a report in front of the whole class.
 - I just overheard my parents having a loud argument.
 - My friend wants me to explain what it means to follow Jesus.
 - My family wants to go horseback riding, but I’m terrified.
 - The tornado alarm just went off.
 - My dad’s job is transferring him to another state. We have to move.

What You Say: “The situations that require courage are not always the same for each of us. You may need courage for something others don’t and vice-versa. Whatever you’re afraid of—give that fear to God. Talk to God and ask God to help you have courage. God does impossible better than anyone. God will always be there to give you what you need so that [Bottom Line] you can do what you should, even when things seem impossible.”



●● **BIBLE STORY EXTENSION** [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, Bible

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 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 is the God of the impossible! 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!

What You Do:

- Read Exodus 14:13-14 aloud to the kids, reminding them of what Moses told the Israelites when they reached the edge of the Red Sea and were terrified that the Egyptian army would capture them...

“Moses answered the people, ‘Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today.

The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.” NIV

- Challenge the kids with this question: If you face a “Red Sea” moment this week, how might you show courage?

What You Say: “The capacity for courage is inside of those who follow Jesus but in order for it show up, we have to face some tough situations. The Israelites would not have needed courage to cross the Red Sea if there had been a sturdy bridge or a big boat to carry them across. Courage shows up when we look at the impossible and believe God will help us through it.

“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.”

●● **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS** [Live for God | Application Activity]

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:

- Ask some of the following questions...
 - What’s your first reaction or response when you’re faced with something that seems impossible?
 - The Israelites witnessed some huge, amazing, miraculous, awesome stuff, right? Seems like it should have been EASY for them to have courage to trust God. Sometimes people demand to see a miracle from God before they will trust in God. Do you think God needs to do something spectacular for us to trust in God? Why or why not?
 - Crossing the Red Sea on dry ground would be a memory you’d never forget. What is a memory you have of seeing someone be courageous?
- Tell about a time in your life when something seemed impossible at first or on the first day, but after you were brave you found you got stronger or it got better. How did God help you?

