

LESSON 18
"COURAGE"
(page 1)



BIBLE CONNECTION

Esther 2-8 (pages 514-518)

CHARACTER WORD

Courage - Standing up for what I believe in; bravery

TEACHING OBJECTIVE

With God's help, I can have courage to stand up for what is right.

MEMORY LINK

Proverbs 3:5a
"Trust in the LORD with all your heart."
(KBC Study Bible pg. 666)

SUPPLIES NEEDED THIS WEEK

GET CONNECTED

Courageous Person Outline (resource item), markers

MEMORY LINK ACTIVITY

Option 1: Balls

Option 2: Slips of paper, marker

BIBLE CONNECTION

None

SURF TEAM LEADER

Memory link cards, Hang 10 pages, Index cards, pens

MAKE-IT-STICK REVIEW GAME

Option 1: Long gift-wrapping tube

Option 2: Beach ball

Queen Esther Saves Her People

WHAT'S THE POINT?

While the book of Esther does not refer to God directly, His presence and protection is clearly implied. God placed Esther in the right place at the right time to save her people from destruction. But it wasn't easy. Esther was afraid. She knew she needed God's help to give her courage to risk death and approach the king. Her 3 days of prayer and fasting revealed her need for God's help and her trust in God's protection. She drew courage not from herself but from the one true God.

So where does your courage come from? In what do you place your trust? Often people draw courage from their own abilities, the money they have in the bank, their connections or their popularity. It's easy to fall back on our own power rather than looking to God for courage. That's being independently courageous. But God wants us to be dependently courageous. That means looking to Him as the source of courage and trusting Him with the outcome no matter what.

In what ways is God asking you to stand up for what is true and right? Pray and ask Him for the courage to stand up for Him, even at great risk or high cost. God is ready to give you the courage you need to complete what He wants you to do.

GET CONNECTED

Building relationships in Surf Teams; introducing today's lesson



Courageous Person Outline (resource item), markers

Use the following conversation prompts to get to know the kids in your Surf Team and to introduce today's lesson.

- Give a "Courageous Person Outline" to each kid in your surf team.
- Today's character word is courage. How would you describe a person who has courage?
- Guide the kids to draw pictures and write words on their person outline describing a person with great courage. Discuss and further define courage as the kids draw.
- Remind kids that the greatest courage comes from trusting God.



Guide clubbers to locate and mark today's Bible Connection and Memory Link in their Bibles so they can find the pages quickly as directed in the session.

Worship Tip

You can't give what you don't have. If you want kids to become worshippers of God, then you must be a great participator in worship. Being a worship leader isn't about putting on a show in front of others. Throughout your week, set aside time to praise God when no one else is watching. What you receive from God when worshipping alone will reflect outwardly when you lead your beach clubbers in worship.

MEMORY LINK



Teach a Bible verse to clubbers; help them memorize the verse

No supplies needed

Focus on the Bible

Guide the kids to open their Bibles in the middle to find Proverbs (KBC Study Bible, page 664). Explain that Proverbs is located after Psalms, which is the longest book in the Bible and often in the very center of the Bible. Read 'Bible Explorers' at the top of page 664 as the kids follow along. Explain that proverbs are short, wise sayings. Tell the kids that many proverbs recorded in the book of Proverbs were written by King Solomon, the wisest person who ever lived.

Focus on today's Memory Link

Direct the kids to turn one page to find Proverbs 3:5 (KBC Study Bible, page 666). Ask a volunteer to read aloud Proverbs 3:5-6. *Trusting God isn't always easy. It can take great courage to wait on God's timing or obey something difficult that God has commanded you to do. Today's Bible connection is about a woman who was able to courageously stand up for what was right because she trusted God with the outcome.* Draw the kids' attention to 'Digging In' on page 666. Talk about how the truth of God's word can help the kids trust God and can give them courage to stand up for what is right.

Explain to the kids that they will only memorize Proverbs 3:5a, which is a small portion of the proverb. Challenge them to memorize all of Proverbs 3:5-6 at home with their families.

Option 1 - SING IT OUT

Balls

Explain that kids will use the familiar melody of the song "Mary Had a Little Lamb" but substitute the words of today's Memory Link. Example: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, all your heart, all your heart. Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Proverbs 3:5a." Guide each surf team to sit in a separate circle. Give a ball to one clubber in each surf team. Explain that surf teams will compete against each other. When the leader gives the signal to start, kids will pass the ball around the surf team while singing the memory link to the tune "Mary Had a Little Lamb" as many times as they can before time is called. The surf team who repeats the song the most times during play wins. Play several rounds as time permits.

Option 2 - ACTIVE VERSE

Slips of paper, marker

Prepare: Write each action listed below on a slip of paper. You can add your own.

Guide the kids to take turns selecting one slip of paper. They must say the verse in the way that is explained on the paper. Each clubber takes a turn while looking at the verse and a second turn while reciting the verse from memory.

- In fast forward while jogging in place
- In a whisper while tiptoeing
- Shouting while marching
- In slow motion while jogging in place
- In a normal voice while walking backward

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Proverbs 3:5a

*"Trust the LORD
with all your heart."*

(KBC Study Bible pg. 666)

Teaching Tip

Visuals help kids see and learn Memory Links. Visuals can be as high-tech or low tech as you prefer. Just remember, the larger your group size, the larger the words will need to be for every child to see. Low tech options: Hand write the verse on a poster board. Write it on a white board and erase a word or two each time kids recite the verse. High tech options: Make a slide for the Memory Link in your video presentation. If you have access to a plotter, you can create and print your own large Memory Link posters. No matter how you visually show the Memory Link in large group, always remember to provide each surf team leader a printed copy of the Memory Link poster for them to use in small group teaching situations.



*“Trust in
the Lord
with all
your heart.”*

Proverbs 3:5a

KBC Study Bible page 666