LESSON 11 "DETERMINATION" (page 1)



BIBLE CONNECTION

Joshua 3:1-4:24 (page 227-229)

CHARACTER WORD

<u>Determination</u> – to continue on, regardless of the circumstances

TEACHING OBJECTIVE

Because of God's promise to be with me wherever I go, I can show determination.

MEMORY LINK

Joshua 1:9b

"The LORD your God is with you wherever you go." (KBC Study Bible pg. 226)

SUPPLIES NEEDED THIS WEEK

GET CONNECTED

Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens, highlighters

MEMORY LINK ACTIVITY

Option 1: Paper, index cards, tape Option 2: Index cards

BIBLE CONNECTION

River rocks or rock shapes

SURF TEAM LEADER

Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens

MAKE-IT-STICK REVIEW GAME

Option 1: Plastic cups
Option 2: None

Joshua Leads the People Across the River

WHAT'S THE POINT?

God was <u>determined</u> to give the Israelites the land He had promised them. He gave instructions to Joshua and a promise to be with him just as He was with Moses. Joshua showed <u>determination</u> as he followed God's instructions and led the people across the Jordan River. Not only did Joshua show <u>determination</u>, but the people did also. They marched bravely into the river believing God that they would safely arrive on the other side. Sometimes, the toughest part of a journey can be stepping out on faith and leaving the rest to God. Encourage your students today that they too can trust God in a difficult situation. Some of your students may be in difficult family situations or being raised in a home where they know little about trusting and depending upon Jesus. Share the good news of our lesson today that Jesus is with them wherever they go and in every situation. Because of God's promise to be with them wherever they go, they too can show <u>determination</u>. Pray for them to experience <u>determination</u> that can only come from trusting in Jesus..

GET CONNECTED



Building relationships in Surf Teams; introducing today's lesson

Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens, highlighters

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

- Our Character Word is <u>determination</u>. Let's find the definition in our KBC Bible on the fourth page. What does it mean to you? (allow the kids to read it aloud together)
- In what kind of circumstances do you find it hard to be determined?
- I'm glad you show <u>determination</u> to come to Beach Club each week. How has it helped you?



Guide students 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 TIME



Pointing hearts toward God

Worship is sometimes forgotten in a crisis. Sometimes we are in a mess and we desperately need God's help. Then when He answers, we forget to thank Him. Today you'll hear that God took care of His people, the Israelites. His people and their leader, Joshua, were <u>determined</u> to trust and obey Him and to worship Him. Today, let's worship our God who hears us and answers our prayers. Try these song choices: "God is Listening" by Group Publishing, "He Reigns" by Newsboys or "Be Strong & Courageous" by Michael W. Smith.

MEMORY LINK



LESSON 11 "DETERMINATION" (page 2)

Joshua 1:9b

"The Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (KBC Study Bible pg. 226)

Bible 101 🛄

Our bible story talks about the Ark of the Covenant. Show students the Dictionary-Concordance section in the back of their KBC Study Bible and how they will find the phrase "ark of the testimony" (page 1390) and the word "covenant" (page 1394).

Have Fun

As you lead students in a game or activity, have fun! Engage with them and tune in to what's going on. They can tell if you enjoy playing with them. When you do, they will have more fun and will be more apt to listen to you as you teach.

2 Minutes - Teaching the Bible verse to students 8 Minutes - Activity to help them memorize the verse

No supplies needed

Focus on the Bible

Who brought a Bible? Each week in Memory Link, count who remembered to bring their Bible. Encourage kids to hold up their Bibles high in the air while you count. Keep a running total each week and try to increase the number of Bibles brought every week.

Focus on Today's Memory Link

Determination is to continue on regardless of the circumstances. In today's Bible story you will learn about Joshua. He had to continue on in some tough circumstances. Moses, the leader of the Israelites who brought them out of Egypt, had died and now Joshua was the new leader. God asked Joshua to lead the people across a rushing river and to face the enemy.

Ask the kids to find Joshua 1:9b (page 226) in their KBC Study Bible and read the verse aloud.

Option 1 - Places I Go

Paper, index cards, tape

Prepare

Step 1. Make 8-10 signs with a "place you go" listed on each. (grocery store, home, zoo, playground, classroom, cafeteria, beach, mountains, Beach Club, church). Hang the signs around the room. Step 2: Write each "place you go" on an index card. Make a set of cards for each Surf Team. Ask the Surf Team leaders to place the cards face down in the middle of the Surf Team.

The kids in each Surf Team will take turns picking up a card. If they pick up the card that says "zoo," they must run to the sign in the room that says "zoo," say the memory verse, then run back to the Surf Team. Continue until each student gets to participate or until time is up.

Option 2 - I Will Obey

Index cards

Prepare

Think of 8-10 fun things you can ask students to do. Write each instruction on an index card. (Example: Do five jumping jacks, make a scary face, turn three times in a circle, sing "Let it go.")

Ask each Surf Team Leader to send one clubber to the Memory Link leader. Pull a card from the stack and read the instructions. On the count of three, ask the students to gather at the front to complete the instructions as a group (or in unison). Then ask them to repeat today's Memory Link in unison.

When the students have completed both tasks, ask them to go back to their Surf Team and tag another student from their team to send to the front. Repeat until all the tasks have been completed or until time is up.

BIBLE CONNECTION



LESSON 11
"DETERMINATION"
(page 3)

Teaching today's Character Word through a gospel-centered Bible story

Small river rocks or rock shapes cut out of paper, one rock per student

Set the Stage

Moses died and now Joshua was in charge of God's people the Israelites. God spoke to Joshua and told him to take the people and cross over the Jordan to the land which He had given them. God told Joshua that as He was with Moses, so He would be with him. God said He would never leave him or forsake him. God told him to be strong and courageous and obey the laws that He gave Moses. We find those instructions in our Memory Link, Joshua 1:9. Ask the kids to read all of Joshua 1:9 (page 226) aloud with you.

Ask the kids to find Joshua chapter 3 (page 227) for more of the story.

Tell the Story

Joshua told the people to get ready to cross the Jordan River. Can you imagine their excitement? All of their lives they had heard about the Promise Land. Food had to be prepared and packing had to be done. More importantly, Joshua told them to sanctify, or purify, themselves because God was going to work among them. What does it mean to sanctify yourself? It means to get yourself in a place of obedience so God can work among you. God would drive out their enemies and give them the land He had promised. God gave Joshua specific instructions and told him what was going to happen. Joshua told the people what God had said. He told the people to cross the Jordan River when they saw the priests step into the river carrying the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord and follow them.

Explain the Ark of the Covenant. For more information, direct students to the Dictionary-Concordance section in the back of their KBC Bible. You will find the phrase "ark of the testimony" (page 1390) and the word "covenant" (page 1394).

Back to our story. When the priests carrying the ark stepped into the river, the flowing water stopped and rose in a heap very far away. Stop and think for a minute what that must have looked like. The people crossed the Jordan River on dry land! The river had been at flood stage and now the river bed was totally dry!

What would you have thought if you were told to cross a rushing river? It took a great deal of <u>determination</u> and faith in God for the priests and the Israelites to step into that rushing river! God wants us to be in a state of obedience or right relationship with Him so we can step out into scary places knowing that He will be with us.

While the priests stood in the middle of the river bed holding the ark, thousands of God's people crossed the river. When everyone crossed over the Jordan, the Lord told Joshua to have 12 men, one from each of the 12 tribes, to bring a large stone from the Jordon River. When everyone had crossed over and the priests who carried the ark came up out of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan returned to their place and overflowed all its banks as before. The people set up the 12 stones in their camp at Gilgal on the east border of Jericho as a memorial to what God had done for them on that day.

Invite a Speaker

While students best connect hrough the consistency of a regular Bible Connection teacher, from time to time you may want to invite a guest speaker. Guests can make the day special and enhance the teaching content, especially when the guest's personal experience reflects that day's lesson in some way.

-	

They were instructed to teach their children that "God dried up the waters of the Jordan as He did the Red Sea – that all the peoples of the earth may know the hand of the Lord, that it is mighty, that you may fear the Lord your God forever." (Joshua 4:23-24)

Joshua was <u>determined</u> in his heart to worship and obey only God, no matter what. Joshua was <u>determined</u> to lead the people to worship and obey God, too. They all took time to give thanks to God. God wants you to be like Joshua and <u>determine</u> in your heart that you will worship only God and give Him thanks in all things. Because you know that God will be with you wherever you go, you can show determination, like Joshua did.

Remembering what God has done for us and that He has promised to be with us wherever we go is an act of worship. We can have <u>determination</u> to continue on regardless of the circumstances in our lives. Right now, I would like you to pick up a stone from your Surf Team leader. Take a moment to remember God's promise to be with you wherever you go and <u>determine</u> in your heart that you will follow God and obey Him. Then, quietly stand up and bring the stone to the front and place it where I am standing. (Pause while the kids bring their stones.)

Application

Just as Joshua showed <u>determination</u> as he followed God's instructions, we can show <u>determination</u> by choosing to follow Jesus. We can find how to follow Jesus by reading our Bible. God told Joshua to meditate/think about the Book of the Law – not turning to the right or to the left – but straight ahead in obedience. Remembering that God will be with us wherever we go can help us to be <u>determined</u> to obey.

Gospel Connection

God still works in the lives of His people. God was <u>determined</u> to provide an opportunity for us to be in relationship with Him. He kept his promise and sent Jesus to pay the price for our sin. Sin is choosing our way rather than God's way. Romans 3:23 tells us that we are all sinners. So what are we to do? The A-B-Cs can help us understand. All you have to do is ADMIT, BELIEVE and CHOOSE TO FOLLOW. ADMIT you're a sinner and ASK Jesus to forgive your sin and come into your life. Next, BELIEVE that Jesus' sacrifice paid the debt for your sin and then CHOOSE TO FOLLOW Jesus by turning away from your sin and choosing God's way rather than your own way.

Invite students wanting to know more about praying to ask Jesus to be their forever friend to move to the designated counseling area to talk with a leader one on one. Be sure to have all the decision supplies available.

LESSON 11 "DETERMINATION" (page 4)

Connection Tip

Remember, you are connecting kids to Christ and putting Bibles in their hands. Be sure to follow up with students who make professions of faith, notifying their families and invite them to your church for ongoing discipleship.

-	
-	

SURF TEAM TIME

5-10 MINUTES

LESSON 11
"DETERMINATION"
(page 5)

Connecting with kids in small groups; applying today's Bible Connection and Character Word

Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens

Today's Bible Lesson

- Before you begin, ask if there are any students who would like to talk with the Bible Connection leader about praying to ask Jesus to become their forever friend. If so, let them go to the designated area.
- What questions do you have about today's story?
- What kind of difficult circumstances do kids your age face?
- How can remembering that God is with you wherever you go help you to live out determination this week at home or at school.

Use the Bible

Give each child a Memory Link card. Review today's Memory Link and Character Word. Guide kids to use cards to mark today's story in their KBC Study Bibles. Lead them to highlight today's Memory Link.

Hang 10 Pages

Give each child a Hang 10 page. Challenge kids to hang out with God 10 minutes each day by praying and reading the Bible, using the Hang 10 page as a guide. Encourage kids to bring back their Hang 10 pages next week.

On Day 4, you are going to have an opportunity to write a note to God. Putting our thoughts on paper is a great way to talk to God. Remember, you can tell him anything!

Pray

Give the kids a few minutes to share their prayer requests or write them on index cards. Ask someone to lead the group in prayer. Take the cards home and remember to pray for the kids in your Surf Team this week.

Jesus, please help me be <u>determined</u> to serve You no matter what I am facing. Help me to remember that You are always with me. Thank You for loving me. In Jesus' name, amen.

Teaching Tip

When does Beach Club begin? When the first student arrives. Even though we want to talk to each other and catch up with our fellow volunteers, resist the urge! Be sure that you are greeting students by name and talking with them as they arrive.

-	
-	

MAKE IT STICK - REVIEW GAME

Playing a game to review today's Bible Connection and Character Word





Option 1 - STACK IT

12	Plastic	cups	ner	Surf 7	Геат
14	I lastic	CUDS	וסט	Juli	ıcaııı

Prepare

Stack 12 cups together per line and set out on table or floor

Instruct students to line up single file in each Surf Team and let them know they are going to build a memorial like God instructed Joshua. The first person in each line must run odwn and stack the cups, bulding a memorial. It will not be a pyramid like many kids are used to building (with only 10 cups). Instead it will look more like a "mesa" with five cups on the bottom row, then four cups and then three. The first person to stack all 12 cups gets to answer for their group. Ask students to restack the cups inside each other before they run back to the end of the line. At the end of the game, ask students if they can remember the significance of the number 12 in the story. (There were 12 memorial stones.)

Option 2 - MINGLE MINGLE

No supplies needed

Call out a number and ask the kids to gather into a group with that exact number. Choose one of the groups to ask a review question. Repeat. At the end of the game, ask the kids to tell you how this game reminded them of the Bible story. (The people crossed the Jordan River on dry ground in groups.)

REVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1. How did Joshua know what to do when Moses died? (God spoke to him)
- 2. What did God tell Joshua to do? (lead the people to cross the Jordan River)
- 3. What did the priests carry? (the ark of the covenant)
- 4. What did Joshua tell the people about the living God and their enemies? (He was among them and would drive out their enemies)
- 5. What happened to the waters of the Jordan River? (stood still and rose in a heap very far away)
- 6. As the people crossed the Jordan River, where was the ark of the covenant? (in the middle of the river)
- 7. After everyone crossed the river, what did God tell Joshua to do? (take 12 stones from the river to where they were lodging that night)
- 8. What did God say to tell the children when they asked about the 12 stones? (Israel crossed this Jordan on dry land just like the Red Sea. God is mighty. Fear the Lord forever.)
- 9. The people of Israel used the stones to tell what God had done. How can we show we remember what God has done for us?
- 10. What is an example of a tough circumstance you face and how can you show determination in that circumstance?

