

K-3rd

Large Group

September — Week 3

Large Group Leader Guide

Today's Suggested Schedule

Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Small Group (10 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Opening Activity

Large Group (30 minutes)

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Small Group (20 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect 1. Bible Story

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

→ Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)

→ Devotionals for Kids

→ Parent Cue App and ParentCue.org

THIS MONTH



Today's Bible Story

Rahab / The Promised Land

Joshua 2

Supporting Joshua 6:22-25

Bottom Line

God can give you courage to help someone in need.

Memory Verse

"When I'm afraid, I put my trust in you"
Psalm 56:3



Inclusive Pro Tips

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.

20 MINUTES

Story

10 MINUTES

Worship

① Opener

AUDIO → Play high-energy music as kids enter.
 SLIDE → Theme
 Optional Video → Theme Loop

→ Host enters.

Optional Video → Countdown
 Optional Video → Theme Intro
 Optional Video → Theme Loop

HOST: “Hello, adventurers! Welcome back! Are you ready to do some serious moving today? Because this month, we’re ‘On the Move!’

→ Pause for cheers.

“Great! For our first adventure, we’re going on a ‘Hidden Treasure Travel’ quest! Imagine we’re explorers on a big journey, and there are amazing treasures hidden all along our path that we need to find for our expedition!

“I’ve hidden some special ‘travel treasures’ all around this room—they could be shiny gems, cool explorer tools, or ancient map pieces! When I shout ‘GO!’ and the music starts, your mission is to carefully travel around the room, find ONE treasure, and bring it back here to our ‘Explorer Base Camp,’ which is right here (POINT TO DESIGNATED BASE CAMP AREA—THE BOX TO COLLECT THE “TREASURES” IN.)

“Once you drop it off, you can go search for another one! We want to see how many treasures we can collect for our big journey!

→ Make sure kids know to take only one treasure at a time and to move carefully.

“Ready, explorers? Get your traveling shoes on! On your mark . . . get set . . . GO FIND THOSE TREASURES!

→ AUDIO: Play fun, upbeat “Adventure” music

“Wow, look at this amazing haul! You are all incredible treasure hunters and travelers! Give yourselves a cheer! You know, sometimes on a big journey, or even in everyday life, we meet new people.

“Sometimes those people need our help, or maybe we need their help. Helping someone, especially if it seems a little awkward or different, takes courage. Courage is being brave enough to do hard things.

“And that’s exactly what we’re learning today, but before we get into that, let’s stand tall and get ready to worship God!”

20 MINUTES

Story

10 MINUTES

Worship

② Worship

→ Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

WORSHIP LEADER: “Hey, everybody! What’s up? It is SO good to see all of you here today! That last game looked like a ton of fun—you guys were crushing it! Now, we get to switch gears just a little bit and do something super-important, something that helps us connect with God, the One who gives us strength and courage for all those challenges. That’s worship! This is our time to sing, to shout, to focus on how amazing God is, and to tell Him how much He means to us. Are you ready to make some noise and give God your best today? Awesome! Let’s get started!”

Video → Goodbye Yesterday - Amazing Kids

“That’s it! When we know God is with us, we can be brave. Remember our Memory Verse? Let’s say it together. Psalm 56:3.

SLIDE -> Memory Verse

“Let’s read it together:”

WORSHIP LEADER and KIDS: “When I’m afraid, I put my trust in you. — Psalm 56:3”

WORSHIP LEADER: “When we trust God—when we believe that He is good and His ways are good—He becomes our hope, our firm foundation, no matter what scary things we might face, or what risks we might need to take to help someone else. Let’s sing about that hope we have in Him with ‘You Are My Hope!’”

Video → Gratitude - Amazing Kids

“Wow, that was incredible worship, you guys! I love hearing your voices and seeing you connect with God like that. Now, let’s get comfortable, find our seats, and get ready to dive into God’s Word to hear an amazing true story from the Bible!”

20 MINUTES

Story

10 MINUTES

Worship

③ Bible Story

SLIDE -> Theme Background

→ Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit. Storyteller places Bible and two shoeboxes on table so that “city/wall” and “house” labels can be seen. Puts box of the rest of props nearby. Stands near table.

INTRODUCTION

STORYTELLER: “Hello again, everyone! I’m so, so glad you’re here today!

“This year, we’re doing something amazing! We’re looking at key stories in the Bible from the beginning to the end to learn the big story God is telling in it!

“Why are we going through the stories of the Bible? Well, one of the main reasons why God gave us the Bible is so we can learn about who He is. So as we go through the Bible, learning its stories, we’ll learn about Him. He is good and He loves us so much!

GOD’S BIG STORY OPENER (OPTIONAL)

“We’re going to go through God’s Big Story! (GESTURE TO SLIDE.)

SLIDE -> God’s Big Story

“Each week, we’ll talk about an important true story from the Bible, and we’ll add a picture of that story here to our timeline! (GESTURE TO TIMELINE.) So we can see where we’ve been in God’s Big Story!

“Let’s recap where we’ve been in God’s Big Story so far!

“Way back in the very beginning of God’s Big Story, we learn that God made the very first people. Their names were Adam and Eve. And God made Adam and Eve for the same reason He made all people—to be His close, close friends. But they sinned, and it pulled them away from God. God wanted them to be close to Him, but they couldn’t anymore! It was so sad. And everyone who was born after Adam and Eve was born with the same problem—they couldn’t be close friends with God either.

“And awful things happened to the world too. Pain, sickness, and death entered into it.

“But God didn’t want to leave things that way! He wants people close to Him! He made people to be His very close friends. So He started His great rescue plan. And this great rescue was going to come through a family! So God started His great rescue with a man named Abraham. God chose Abraham and promised to bless the whole world through his family. Abraham’s family grew and grew and grew—just like God had said—and became God’s people. Eventually, God’s people were enslaved in Egypt. But then God called Moses to lead His people out of Egypt to

20 MINUTES

Story

10 MINUTES

Worship

freedom in the wilderness. God had brought His people to freedom!

“God had a beautiful land picked out for His people, and they were on their way there. But then they chose not to trust Him, and they had to wait 40 long years to enter it. And that’s where we are in God’s Big Story!

SETTING UP THE STORY

“We’re journeying right along in the Bible! Our story today comes from the book of Joshua.

→ Storyteller holds up Bible, then places it on the table.

“For those 40 long years while God’s people were waiting to enter the land He promised them, Moses died. God chose a brave man named Joshua to lead His people.

→ Storyteller picks up Joshua action figure from prop box, makes him stand tall.

“Those 40 long years had passed, and God’s people were finally at the edge of the land God had promised them—a new home!

“God told Joshua:

→ Open the Bible to Joshua 1:2 (NIRV) and read.

“Now then, I want you and all these people to get ready to go across the Jordan River. I want all of you to go into the land I am about to give to the Israelites.”

“The first big city they needed to enter was called Jericho. It was a strong city with huge walls around it, and the people who lived there were evil, evil, evil.

→ Storyteller gestures to the box “city/wall.”

THE SPIES STAY WITH RAHAB

STORYTELLER: “Joshua was wise. Before the whole army moved, he needed to know more about Jericho. So, the Bible tells us:

→ Storyteller picks up the two “spy” action figures from the prop box.

“Joshua secretly sent out two spies. He said to them:

→ Open the Bible to Joshua 2:2 (NIRV) and read.

“Go and look over the land. Most of all, check out Jericho.”

“So these two spies . . .

→ Storyteller moves “spy” figures to sneak towards the “city” box.

“. . . carefully crossed the river and slipped into the city of Jericho. They

20 MINUTES

Story

10 MINUTES

Worship

needed a safe place to stay. They found a house right on the city wall, and a woman named Rahab lived there.

- Storyteller picks up “Rahab” action figure from the prop box, holds her up, and places her by/in the shoebox labelled “house.”

“Rahab let the spies stay with her. Now, the people in Jericho, including Rahab, had heard about God and God’s people. They knew how God had helped them cross the Red Sea and win battles. They knew God was so, so strong!

“All of the people were scared because God was so mighty. So, when the king of Jericho heard there were spies who were part of God’s people in his city, he was worried!

- Storyteller picks up the two “King’s Men” action figures from the prop box.

RAHAB HIDES THE SPIES

STORYTELLER: “The king sent some men with a message straight to Rahab’s house to get the spies!

- Storyteller moves “King’s Men” action figures to the box: “house.”
- Open the Bible to Joshua 2:3 (NIRV) and read.

So the king sent a message to Rahab. It said, “Bring out the men who came into your house. They’ve come to check out the whole land.”

“What would Rahab do? Well, she wanted to be on God’s team. She had heard that He was mighty and that He helped His people when they needed help. So she chose to be incredibly brave! She helped the two spies who needed help. She quickly took them up to her flat roof and hid them under some piles of flax—that’s like tall bundles of dried plants.

- Storyteller quickly moves “spy” figures to the top of the box and covers them with the paper “flax” (THE SHREDDED AND CRUMPLED YELLOW CONSTRUCTION PAPER IN THE PROP BOX).

“Then, Rahab told the soldiers:

- Open the Bible to Joshua 2:4-5 (NIRV) and read.

She said, “It’s true that the men came here. But I didn’t know where they had come from. They left at sunset, when it was time to close the city gate. I don’t know which way they went. Go after them quickly. You might catch up with them.”

“She sent the king’s soldiers on a wild goose chase away from the city!

“After the soldiers were gone, Rahab went up to the spies.

- Storyteller brings “spy” figures back out from under the “flax.”

20 MINUTES

Story

10 MINUTES

Worship

“And listen to what she said:

→ Open the Bible to Joshua 2:9-11 (NIRV) and read.

“I know that the LORD has given you this land. We are very much afraid of you. Everyone who lives in this country is weak with fear because of you. We’ve heard how the LORD dried up the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt. . . . When we heard about it, we were terrified. Because of you, we aren’t brave anymore. The LORD your God is the God who rules in heaven above and on the earth below.”

“Rahab believed in the one, true God! She believed He rules over everything!

→ Open the Bible to Joshua 2:12-14 (NIRV) and read.

“Then she asked the spies for a promise:

‘Now then, please give me your word. Promise me in the name of the LORD that you will be kind to my family. I’ve been kind to you. Promise me that you will spare the lives of my father and mother. Spare my brothers and sisters. Also spare everyone in their families. Promise me that you won’t put any of us to death.’

So the men made a promise to her. “If you save our lives, we’ll save yours . . . Just don’t tell anyone what we’re doing. Then we’ll be kind and faithful to you when the LORD gives us the land.”

THE PLAN

STORYTELLER: “The city gates were locked for the night, so Rahab helped the spies escape in a secret way. Her house was on the wall, so she got a rope.

→ Storyteller picks up the red shoelace.

→ Open the Bible to Joshua 2:15 (NIRV) and read.

“The Bible says:

The house Rahab lived in was part of the city wall. So she let the spies down by a rope through the window.

“We don’t have a window, but you can get the idea from this shoebox!

→ Storyteller drapes the red shoelace from the roof to the table on the the “house” box. Tape the shoelace in place. Carefully pretend to lower the spy figures down the shoelace.

“Before they left, the spies told her:

→ Open the Bible to Joshua 2:18-19 (NIRV) and read.

20 MINUTES

Story

10 MINUTES

Worship

“When we enter the land, you must tie this bright red rope in the window. Tie it in the window you let us down through. Bring your father and mother into your house. Also bring in your brothers and everyone else in your family. None of you must go out into the street. If you do, anything that happens to you will be your own fault. We won’t be responsible. But if anyone hurts someone who is inside with you, it will be our fault. We will be responsible.”

“Rahab agreed to do exactly as they said. The spies returned to Joshua and told him all the people in Jericho were terrified!

“Soon, it was time for God’s people to move! They crossed the Jordan River. God gave Joshua a very special, and very strange, plan to capture Jericho. For six days, the army of God’s people marched around the city walls once each day.

→ Storyteller moves a few generic “army figures” around the box once per day, counting quickly.

“Then, on the seventh day, they marched around the city seven times! Then, the priests blew their trumpets, and all the people gave a great SHOUT!

→ Storyteller encourages kids to make a SHOUT sound with them, then gently shakes the box labeled “city” or makes a crumbling sound.

“And just like God said, ‘the wall collapsed!’ The huge walls of Jericho just fell down flat! And God’s people captured the city.

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “But what about Rahab? Did the spies remember their promise? Yes! After the walls of Jericho came down, the two spies went right to Rahab’s house—the one with the red rope still hanging in the window—and they brought Rahab and her whole family out safely!

“Rahab trusted God. She knew He was strong and powerful and that gave her the courage to help someone in need. And she and her whole family were saved! Even though she wasn’t a member of God’s family, she wanted to be! God even made her a special part of His family because she trusted Him. God brought her into Jesus’ family tree! Rahab is one of Jesus’ great-great-great . . . many greats . . . grandmothers!

“Rahab took a huge risk, but she chose to trust the One True God and showed incredible courage to help others.

“Remember this:

SLIDE -> Bottom Line

[BOTTOM LINE] “God can give you courage to help someone in need.

“Say that with me.”

20 MINUTES

Story

10 MINUTES

Worship

STORYTELLER and KIDS: **[BOTTOM LINE]** "God can give you courage to help someone in need."

→ Host enters.

SLIDE -> Theme

Optional Video (MEDIA PACKAGE) -> Theme Loop

HOST: "What a powerful story! Rahab was SO brave! She helped the spies even though it could have gotten her into big trouble! She wanted to be on God's team, so when she had a chance to help the spies from His family, God gave her the courage to do it. She believed God was powerful and could take care of her and her family. And that's the same for us! How do we tell the world we are on God's team? By loving people the way Jesus did! Jesus always helped people who needed help. Maybe it's a friend who is sad, or someone at school who doesn't have anyone to play with.

"Helping them might feel a little scary or new, but that's when we remember God is with us. You might not be hiding spies on your roof, but every day there are chances to show courage and help someone. When you see someone who needs help, ask God to help you remember He is with you, He is the strongest, and you can help people like He did. When you do, people get to see God's love working through you!

"And guess what? Rahab became part of God's big family story that led all the way to Jesus! When we trust in Jesus, we become part of God's family too. And God gives us His Holy Spirit to help us be brave and show love to others. God is always with us and God can help us like He helped Rahab.

GOD'S BIG STORY CLOSER (OPTIONAL)

"Let's take a look at the progress we made in God's Big Story this week!

SLIDE -> God's Big Story

"In God's Big Story, we're on the path that's after the picture of God working through Moses to part the Red Sea. We're traveling on the path! **(GESTURE TO SLIDE.)**

"This week we talked about Rahab. She had heard that God is strong and powerful, and she wanted to be on His team! Then when it came time to help the spies—people who were on God's team who needed help—she did! God saw her trust in Him! Not only did we learn about Rahab in God's Big Story, but this week we saw how God took care of His family again. Jericho was full of evil, and God's people would need to conquer it to enter the Promised Land! God helped His people because He is good, but also, as we'll see in God's Big Story, because He was bringing His great rescue through this family. By taking care of this family, God was also taking care of us. Even in Rahab's story, God was taking care of us! God made Rahab a great-great-many-times-great grandmother of Jesus, and Jesus would save us all!

20 MINUTES

Story

10 MINUTES

Worship

“Let’s put the next image on our timeline!”

SLIDE -> Week 3 Timeline Image

→ If you’re making a timeline of printed images on your wall, take this moment to place today’s timeline image on the clothesline.

“This week we talked about Rahab!”

WHAT’S OUR PART IN THE STORY?

STORYTELLER: “When we think about Rahab, we can remember that God really, really likes it when you trust Him. God was so pleased with Rahab’s trust in Him that He made her a part of Jesus’ family!”

“We also saw how God helped Rahab, and He also helps us! When we choose to follow Jesus, His Holy Spirit comes to live inside of us! And God’s very Spirit inside of us will help us be kind like He is!”

“People on God’s team are like Him and help people who are in need. So, this week, let’s be on the lookout for ways we can be like Jesus and help someone. Let’s ask God for help with that!”

③ Prayer

HOST: “Dear God, thank You for the story of Rahab and her amazing courage. Thank You for showing us that You go with us and You can help us be brave enough to help others, even when it feels risky or we feel afraid. Please help us to notice when people around us need help, and give us Your courage to reach out and show Your love. Help us to always trust in You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

Transition -> Dismiss kids to their small groups.

AUDIO -> Play high-energy music as the kids exit.

SLIDE -> Theme

Optional Video (MEDIA PACKAGE) → Theme Loop