

3-5 Year-Olds

Small Group

October — Week 4

# Small 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 (15 minutes)

### Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Gift of Food
2. Save the Superheroes!
3. Shaving Cream Sheep  ALLERGY

## Large Group (20 minutes)

### Worship: Inviting people to respond to God Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- "Super Duper Kid" and "Be Brave"
- Bible Story
- Prayer

## Small Group (25 minutes)

### Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. Super Verse
2. Abigail Helps  ALLERGY
3. Sheep Haircuts
4. Superhero Course
5. Super Kid Mask
6. Journal and Prayer

### Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Going Home
- Memory Verse Card
- Parent Cue Card (print or email)
- [Parent Cue App](#) and [ParentCue.org](#)

THIS MONTH



### Today's Bible Story

**I can be brave and help others.**

**Abigail**

1 Samuel 25:1-35

### Key Question

**Who can help you be brave?**

### Bottom Line

**God can help me be brave.**

### Memory Verse

**"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid... for the Lord your God goes with you."**

Deuteronomy 31:6 NIV



### Inclusive Pro Tips

This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional inclusive pro-tips. Check out the Special Needs Resource Kit for more ideas for adapting each segment.

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GROUPS 1/6

# Super Verse



## Memory Verse Review

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- "Super Verse" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Crayons
- Permanent marker

### Inclusive Optional Supplies

- Adaptive crayons

### Note

You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.



### Inclusive Pro Tips

Create an example for children to see and follow.

For children with fine motor difficulties, let children use the inclusive optional supplies.

## ① What You Do

**Note** → You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.

### Before the Activity

1. Copy "Super Verse" on cardstock, one per child.
2. Write each child's name on their paper.
3. Say the Memory Verse together with the motions.

### During the Activity

4. Encourage children to decorate their capes while they say the Memory Verse.

### After the Activity

Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

## ② What You Say

### Before the Activity

"Friends, come over here with me and let's say our Memory Verse together while we do the motions. Everyone ready? Here we go! 'Be strong and courageous. **(MUSCLE ARMS)** Do not be afraid . . . **(CROSS AND UNCROSS HANDS)** for the Lord your God **(FLAT HAND WITH THUMB TO FOREHEAD, PULL DOWN)** goes with you," **(MARCH IN PLACE)** Deuteronomy 31:6. **(OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK.)** Great job, everyone! Come sit at the table with me."

### During the Activity

"Today we heard about how Abigail was brave and helped others! We can be brave and help others, too! Look, I have a picture of a cape for you to decorate. You can decorate it while we say our verse. 'Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid ... for the Lord your God goes with you,' Deuteronomy 31:6. **(REPEAT UNTIL EVERYONE HAS DECORATED THEIR CAPE.)** Your capes look super!"

### After the Activity

"Sometimes superheroes wear capes like this one on your paper. So, when you look at your super cape, you can remember that God can help you to be brave and courageous just like Abigail in today's true story from the Bible. Who can help you be brave? **[BOTTOM LINE] God can help me be brave!** Let's say that together one more time! Who can help you be brave? **[BOTTOM LINE] God can help me be brave.**"

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GROUPS 3/6

# Sheep Haircuts



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- White butcher paper
- Black chisel tip marker
- Masking tape
- Adult scissors
- Safety scissors



Inclusive Pro Tips

Pair children up to do the activity together.

For children with fine motor difficulties, let them tear the paper instead of cutting.

Offer adaptive scissors.

## ① What You Do

**Before the Activity**

1. Cover the table lengthwise and widthwise with butcher paper, allowing the lengths to hang freely over each of the edges.
2. Draw a sheep's head on one of the short ends.
3. Cut 2- to 3-inch wide strips from the floor to the edge of the table, all around the table.
4. If needed, add a few tape rolls to keep the paper secure.

**During the Activity**

1. Seat children on the floor spaced out around the table and encourage them to trim the strips on the sheep.
2. Rotate and repeat as desired.

**After the Activity**

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

## ② What You Say

**Before the Activity**

"Whoa! Look at this giant sheep! I think it's sheep shearing time!"

**During the Activity**

"Everyone, sit down on the floor around the table. The sheep has these strips all around it. Let's use these scissors to carefully cut the sheep's wool shorter. (PAUSE.) Keep going! Scoot over and cut the next piece of wool. (REPEAT AS DESIRED.) Great job, friends. You sheared the sheep just like Nabal."

**After the Activity**

"In our Bible Story today, Abigail did something super! Abigail and her husband Nabal had a lot of sheep, and one day, Nabal's shepherds brought all those sheep to where David and his men were. David and his men protected the sheep and shepherds so nothing bad could happen to them. Later, Nabal was cutting the wool off all his floofy sheep, and they had a party! David sent some men to Nabal to ask for food since they took care of his shepherds and sheep, but Nabal said no! This made David very upset. Very mad! Very angry!"

Abigail knew that if she didn't do something to help, a lot of people would get hurt. So she quickly took a lot of food and drinks to David and his men as a gift. David and his men took the food and said, 'Thank God for you and for your help.' Abigail helped a lot of people because she was brave! We can be brave and help others, too. Who can help you be brave?

**[BOTTOM LINE]** God can help me be brave!"

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GROUPS 4/6

# Superhero Course



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Crepe paper streamers
- Painter's tape
- Scissors

Inclusive Pro Tips



Pair children up to do the activity together.

## ① What You Do

**Before the Activity**

1. Use the streamers to make an obstacle course.
2. Tape the streamers from the wall to the wall, wall to the floor, and wall to the table.
3. See the example on our Pinterest Board here <https://bit.ly/4kcDbFL>.

**During the Activity**

1. Encourage children to make their way from one side of the room to the next without touching the streamers.
2. Offer direction if needed.
3. Cheer for everyone as they make their way through.
4. Repeat as desired.

**After the Activity**

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

## ② What You Say

**Before the Activity**

"Wow! Look at our room! There is an obstacle course made from these streamers. How will we get through? (PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.) Yes, we'll have to go over and under and be careful not to touch the streamers. You want to give it a try? (PAUSE FOR RESPONSES.) Fantastic! Let's line up and we'll go one at a time. We can cheer for each other too!"

**During the Activity**

"[CHILD'S NAME] make your way through the obstacle course. (PAUSE.) Let's cheer [CHILD'S NAME] on! (PAUSE.) Way to go! You did it, you made it through! (PAUSE.) [CHILD'S NAME], it's your turn. Be careful to go over and under the streamers. Everyone, let's cheer for [CHILD'S NAME]! (CONTINUE WITH EACH CHILD. REPEAT AS DESIRED.) You were so brave making your way through the obstacle course and you all looked just like superheroes! Amazing!"

**After the Activity**

"The Bible teaches us that we can be brave and help others like you did today by cheering for your friends through the obstacle course. We can be strong and courageous because God is with us! And God can help us be brave. God can help me be brave and [BOTTOM LINE] God can help me be brave. Who can help you be brave? [BOTTOM LINE] God can help me be brave."

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GROUPS 6/6

# Journal and Prayer

## Prayer Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- Bible
- Journal
- Fun-shaped pen



## ① What You Do

**Note** → You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.

### Before the Activity

1. Encourage children to make a different super kid pose each week as you lead them to your Small Group spot.
2. Sit down and gather the children around you.

### During the Activity

1. Review the Bible Story and Memory Verse Hand Motions, then encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of ways we can help others.

### After the Activity

Pray with children using the list you made in the journal.

### Before the Activity

"It's Small Group time! Today, we are going to make one more super kid pose while we walk to our Small Group spot! Do you want to know what the super kid pose is? (PAUSE.) It's any super kid pose you want to do! It can be this (DEMONSTRATE A POSE), or this (DEMONSTRATE A POSE,) or this (DEMONSTRATE A POSE). Just pick a pose and follow me! (MAKE A SUPER KID POSE AS YOU LEAD THE CHILDREN TO YOUR SMALL GROUP SPOT.) This is our spot! Let's sit down so we can talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

### During the Activity

(OPEN THE BIBLE AND LAY IT IN FRONT OF THE CHILDREN.) "In our Bible Story today, we learned that God helps us be brave so we can help others. That's what happened with Abigail! When Abigail heard that David and his men were angry, and they were coming to her town, Abigail quickly took food and drinks and gave them to David and his men as a gift. When David saw what Abigail had done, he told God thank you for Abigail's help, and he wasn't angry anymore. David and his men went home, and no one was hurt! God helped Abigail be brave so she could help a lot of people. And God can help you be brave too! So let me hear you say it in a big, brave voice! Who can help you be brave? [BOTTOM LINE] God can help me be brave! Who can help you be brave? [BOTTOM LINE] God can help me be brave! Yay, God! [BOTTOM LINE] God can help me be brave!"

Continued on the next page. →

GROUPS 6/6

# Journal and Prayer

## Prayer Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- Bible
- Journal
- Fun-shaped pen



## ② What You Say

### During the Activity (CONT.)

"Okay super kids, we have been learning a Bible verse that has some other words for brave in it. The words are strong and courageous! If you know the verse, stand up and say it with me! 'Be strong and courageous. (MUSCLE ARMS) Do not be afraid . . . (CROSS AND UNCROSS HANDS) for the Lord your God (FLAT HAND WITH THUMB TO FOREHEAD, PULL DOWN) goes with you,' (MARCH IN PLACE) Deuteronomy 31:6. (OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK.) Now I want everyone to stand up so we can say it together! Just say what I say and do what I do! 'Be strong and courageous. (MUSCLE ARMS) Do not be afraid ... (CROSS AND UNCROSS HANDS) for the Lord your God (FLAT HAND WITH THUMB TO FOREHEAD, PULL DOWN) goes with you,' (MARCH IN PLACE) Deuteronomy 31:6. (OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK.)"

"You sound SUPER...sooooo super that I think you're ready to try and say that Bible verse all by yourself! I want everyone to sit down, and we will take turns saying it. Who wants to go first? I have my stickers/star hand-stamp ready! Way to go, [NAME OF CHILD]! (GIVE TWO THUMBS UP.) Here is a sticker/stamp for you! (SAY AND DO THIS WITH EACH CHILD AS THEY TRY AND SAY THE BIBLE VERSE.) I am very proud of how brave you are for trying to say that Bible verse. When I count to three, I want everyone to stand up and show me your sticker/stamp. One, two, three! (PAUSE TO LOOK.) Yay! (CLAP.)"

"Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (OPEN JOURNAL.) Abigail helped a lot of people when she took food and drinks to David and his men. Let's make a list of things we can do to help others in our prayer journal. Then we can use the list when we pray. When I say your name, tell me one thing you can do to help others, and I will write it in our journal." (REMEMBER TO PRINT, AS YOU WRITE IN THE JOURNAL, SO THE CHILDREN CAN RECOGNIZE THEIR NAMES AND THE LETTERS.)"

### After the Activity

"This is a super list! (HOLD UP JOURNAL.) Let's pray and ask God to help us be brave and do these things so we can help others. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (GIVE EACH CHILD WHO WANTS TO PRAY THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO.) Dear God, Thank You for making us to help others, like You help others. That is SUPER cool! Please help us be brave and do things like (READ THE LIST THE CHILDREN MADE). Sometimes it's hard to be brave and help others, but we know You are always with us and can help us be brave! We love You, God! In Jesus' name. Amen."