

KIDMUNITY | God's Word, My Life

Lesson 10: Rooted in God's Word

Small Group Guide

Bottom Line:

I can live by God's Word in everything I do.

Memory Verse:

Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. **Joshua 1:8**

Activity One: The Way to Win

Introduction for Leaders

This cooperative game helps kids see that *success* comes from following the **right directions**—just like Joshua was told to live by God's Word to find success. Some instructions help us move forward, while others distract or slow us down. The group must work together to decide which directions are truly helpful. By following the right ones, they'll see how God's Word leads to success.

Supplies Needed

- Painter's tape or string to mark a **Start Line** and a **Finish Line** (across the length of the room)
- **Instruction Cards** (10 total — 5 Helpful, 5 Unhelpful; see list below)

Activity Instructions

1. Use tape to mark a **Start Line** and **Finish Line** on opposite sides of the room (make it long—one side of the room to the other).
2. Choose **one child to be the pawn**—they'll move along the path. Everyone else will be the "instruction readers."
3. Explain that the group's goal is to work together to help their pawn reach the finish line.

Round 1: Sorting the Directions

1. Each player takes turns drawing the top card and reading it aloud.
2. As a group, decide whether it's a **Helpful** or **Unhelpful** instruction.
 - If it's Helpful, the pawn follows the instruction. Place that card face up in a pile labeled **Helpful Pile**.
 - If it's Unhelpful, the pawn ignores the instruction. Place that card face down in a **Trash Pile** on the other side.
3. Continue until every card has been read once.

Round 2: The Way to Win

1. Collect only the cards from the **Helpful Pile**.
2. Play through those cards again, one by one, letting the pawn follow every Helpful direction in order.

Teaching Connection

“Great job, team! At first, you had to figure out which directions helped and which ones didn't. Some moved you forward, but others just slowed you down or distracted you. Once you decided to only follow the Helpful ones, you reached the goal fast!

That's a lot like life. Every day we hear lots of directions—from friends, social media, or even our own thoughts—but not every direction leads to success.

God told Joshua, *'Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.'*

If we want to win at life—God's way—we have to follow the right directions: the ones found in His Word. When we live by what the Bible says, we move forward in the right direction and find the kind of success that lasts.”

Discussion Questions

Kinder / 1st Grade

- What happened when your team followed the right directions?
- What happened when you followed the wrong ones?
- How can God's Word help you make good choices?

2nd / 3rd Grade

- Why do you think it's hard to tell good directions from bad ones sometimes?
- How does the Bible help you know which path to take?
- What are some "bad directions" people might listen to in real life?

4th / 5th Grade

- What does "success" mean to you?
- How is God's idea of success different from the world's?
- What's one area where you want to follow God's directions more closely this week?

Activity Two: Say, Think, or Do?

Introduction for Leaders

This activity helps kids understand how to live out Joshua 1:8 in their everyday lives. In this verse, God gives Joshua three instructions for a successful life:

- **Keep this Book of the Law on your lips** – Speak God's Word (Say It)
- **Meditate on it day and night** – Think about God's Word (Think It)
- **Be careful to do everything written in it** – Live by God's Word (Do It)

When we let God's Word fill our thoughts, shape our words, and guide our actions, we build a life that's strong, successful, and full of His truth.

Supplies Needed

- Mini dry-erase boards and dry-erase markers (one per child or pair)
- Erasers or tissues for wiping boards

Activity Instructions

1. Start by reviewing Joshua 1:8 together.
Explain: "God told Joshua to *say* His Word, *think* about His Word, and *do* His Word. That's how we live by God's Word in everything we do."
2. Tell the kids that you'll read a scenario. Each one shows a way we might live out God's Word.
3. After you read each scenario, kids will decide whether it fits best with **Say It, Think It, or Do It**.

- On their whiteboards, they can either **write the phrase** (“Say,” “Think,” or “Do”)
 - OR **draw the matching symbol**:
 - **Lips** = Say It
 - **Brain** = Think It
 - **Hand** = Do It
4. After everyone writes or draws, count down “3, 2, 1 — show me!”
- Have everyone hold up their boards.
 - Briefly discuss why that’s the best answer before moving to the next scenario.

Scenarios

1. You choose to forgive someone who hurt your feelings. **(Do It)**
2. You write a new Bible verse on a sticky note and put it on your mirror so you can memorize it. **(Think It)**
3. You and a friend talk about what you learned at Kidmunity this week. **(Say It)**
4. You decide to be honest even when lying would be easier. **(Do It)**
5. You remember a verse when you’re worried, and it helps you calm down. **(Think It)**
6. You encourage a friend who’s sad by reminding them of a Bible verse you know. **(Say It)**
7. You help someone in need because you remember that Jesus said to serve others. **(Do It)**
8. You read a Bible verse out loud before dinner with your family. **(Say It)**
9. You spend a few quiet minutes before bed thinking about something you read in your Bible. **(Think It)**
10. You make up a song or rhythm to help you remember a Bible verse. **(Think It)**

Teaching Connection

“Joshua 1:8 gives us a picture of what success looks like in God’s eyes. It’s not about winning trophies or being the best at everything—it’s about building your life on God’s Word.

When we **say** God’s Word, it reminds us and others of His truth.

When we **think** about God’s Word, it stays in our hearts and minds.

When we **do** what God’s Word says, our actions show His love to the world.

That’s how we live by God’s Word in everything we do.”

Instruction Cards from Activity One

Helpful Cards (move forward):

1. Take two big steps forward.
2. Take one small step forward.
3. Take a giant leap forward.
4. Hop forward three times.
5. Skip forward two steps.

Unhelpful Cards (don't move forward):

1. Take two steps backward.
2. Spin around in a circle and sit down.
3. Make a silly face for three seconds.
4. Sing "Happy Birthday" to yourself.
5. Pretend to sleep for five seconds.