



WEEK ONE – OCTOBER 2025 – PRESCHOOL

Bible Story: *Esther* | *Esther 2:2-8:17*

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)*

Basic Truth: *God made me*

Series Overview: Deep down, everybody wants to be a super kid, and nothing defines super kid better than the word ‘brave.’ What we do to be brave—and Who can help us be brave—is what this month is all about. We can pray, like Esther, and be brave. We can remember that God is with us, like David, and be brave. We can trust what God says, like Gideon, and be brave. And when we pray, remember, and trust, God can help us be brave so we can help others, like Abigail. We want our preschoolers to grow up knowing that when they are afraid, God can help them be brave, and that is what makes them a super kid. Join us as we pray for our preschoolers and their families, as well as those of us who lead them. Pray that we will look to God and God alone when we are afraid and have to do hard things, because God can help us be brave.

9:05 - 9:20 | 11:05 – 11:20 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY

OPENING ACTIVITY

What You Need: Deck of cards

What You Do:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
 - Remove the Ace, Joker, and instruction cards and set aside.
 - Shuffle the remaining cards.
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
 - Encourage children to draw a card.
 - If a child pulls a King or Queen card, say “King/Queen, you’re invited!”
 - And ask them to stand with you.
 - If a child pulls a number card, say the number out loud and ask all the children to do a motion (jump, clap, wiggle, stomp, etc.) that number of times.
 - Call one child at a time.
 - Repeat as desired.
- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*
 - Introduce the Bible Story.

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- For a version with less movement, seat children in a circle. Call out simple movements that your children can do while seated.

What You Say:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
 - “Hello, hello friends! It’s great to see you today! I have a card game for us to play today!”
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*

- “When I call your name, I want you to come draw one card, and then you’ll either stand with me or we’ll all do a motion together. Let’s play! [Child’s name], come draw a card. *(Pause.)* You drew the [number] card. Everyone jump [number] times while I count. *(Pause.)* Great job! [Child’s name], come draw a card. *(Pause.)* You drew the king/queen card! King/Queen [child’s name], you’re invited! Come stand with me and draw another card. *(Pause.)* You drew the [number] card. Everyone clap [number] times while I count. *(Pause.)* Great job! Go back and stand in your spot. *(Continue with each child.)* That was fun playing the card game with you today!”
- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*
 - “Today we are going to hear a Bible Story about a queen named Esther. She prayed and God helped her be brave! Let’s go hear all about Queen Esther!”

9:20 - 9:50 | 11:20 – 11:50 – LARGE GROUP

Story Focus: I Can Pray + Be Brave

9:50 – 10:10 | 11:50 – 12:10 – SMALL GROUP

MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

[Hear From God | Memory Verse Review]

What You Need: “*Memory Verse Hand Motions*” PDF

What You Do:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
 - Say the Memory Verse and demonstrate the motions for the children.
 - Invite the children to do them with you several times.

- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
 - Teach the Memory Verse motions.
 - Invite the children to do them with you several times.
- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*
 - Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- Invite children to say it with you or repeat words after you.

What You Say:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
 - “Friends, come stand with me, and let me tell you our brand-new Memory Verse! Ready to hear it? It goes like this. ‘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.*)
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
 - “Now, let’s learn the motions. The first part of our verse says: ‘Be strong and courageous.’ (*Muscle arms.*) Put both arms up and show me your muscles like this (*both arms out to the side, bent at the elbow and flex*) and say, ‘Be strong and courageous.’ (*Repeat with children.*) Great job!
 - “The next part of our verse says: ‘Do not be afraid . . .’ (*Cross and uncross hands.*) Put your arms out in front of you, elbows bent, and one arm over the other. (*Pause.*) Now move your arms out to the side like this (*arms in front of you, stacked one over the other then swiftly move them out to your side*) and say, ‘Do not be afraid . . .’ (*Repeat with children.*) Wonderful! Now let’s put that together. ‘Be strong and courageous. (*Muscle arms*) Do not be afraid . . . (*cross and uncross hands*) Great job!
 - “The next part of our verse says: ‘for the Lord your God.’ (*Flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down.*) Put one hand up straight in front of you with your thumb almost touching your forehead like this.

(Straight, flat hand with thumb at your forehead.) Then you move your hand straight down in front of you like this, *(pull down)* and say, ‘for the Lord your God.’ *(Repeat with children.)* Nice job! Now let’s put that together. ‘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.)*

- “The next part of our verse says: ‘goes with you.’ *(March in place.)* March in place like this, *(stand in one spot and alternate lifting one knee up at a time)* and say, ‘goes with you.’ *(Repeat with children.)* Nice job! Now let’s put that together. ‘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)*
- “Now the last part is: Deuteronomy 31:6. *(Open hands like a book.)* Put your hands together in front of you and open them like you are opening a book *(open hands like a book)* and say: Deuteronomy 31:6. *(Repeat with children.)* Great job! I think we are ready to do it all together! Ready friends? ‘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.)* Nice job. Let’s do it again!” *(Repeat several times.)*
- **AFTER THE ACTIVITY**
 - **“The Bible teaches us that we don’t need to be afraid, that we can be strong and courageous because God is with us! [Bottom Line]** God can help me be brave. Who can help you be brave? *[Bottom Line]* God can help me be brave.”

BEDAZZLE THE CROWN

[Live for God | Application Activity]

What You Need: Bedazzle the Crown” Activity Page; Cardstock; Clear tape; Butcher paper; Large colorful jewels; Sparkly pom-poms; Masking tape; Scissors; Permanent marker

What You Do:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
 - Assemble the cube and tape the sides together.
 - Cover the table with a piece of butcher paper and tape it to secure.
 - Draw an outline of a large crown on the paper.
 - Place some pom-poms and jewels on either side of the crown.
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
 - Show children the colorful die, turn to one color, and ask children to find a jewel or pom-pom in that color and place it somewhere on the crown.
 - Encourage children to take turns rolling the die.
 - Each time a child rolls, they will add a jewel or sparkly pom-pom to the crown that matches the color they rolled.
 - Encourage them as they work together to make the crown beautiful, just like a real queen’s crown.
- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*
 - Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- If a child has difficulty rolling the dice, allow them to point to a color, verbally choose one, or have a buddy assist them.
- Provide larger, easy-to-grasp jewels and pom-poms for children with fine motor challenges.

What You Say:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
 - “Hello friends! Come sit at the table with me. What do you see? (*Point to the crown.*) You’re right! It’s a crown like Queen Esther would have worn, but it’s empty! There are no jewels on it, they’re all on the side. (*Point the jewels and decorations.*) Why don’t we play a game to fill it in and make it beautiful!”
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*

- “Look at this die, this is a special die, it has a different color on each side! *(Turn the cube to one color.)* What color is this? *(Pause for responses.)* Yes! It’s [color]! Look at the table and find a [color] jewel or sparkly pom-pom, then place it somewhere on the crown. *(Pause.)* Now we’ll take turns, and each friend can roll and add to the crown. Let’s start with [child’s name]. Roll the die. *(Pause.)* What color did you land on? *(Pause for response.)* Yes! Pick one jewel or sparkly pom-pom and add it to the crown. *(Pause.)* Pass the die to the friend next to you, and they can have a turn. *(Continue until each child has a turn to roll the die.)* Wow *(Repeat as desired until all the decorations have been added.)* Great job, everyone! Look at our beautiful crown!”
- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*
 - “Today, in our true story from the Bible, we learned how God helped Queen Esther be brave! Esther asked God’s people to pray and talk to God with her. The people prayed together for three days. Esther trusted that God could help her be brave, so she went and asked the king to keep God’s people safe. The king said yes, and everyone celebrated! Esther prayed, and God helped her be brave. And do you know what? You can pray and God can help you be brave, too! **Who can help you be brave? [Bottom Line] God can help me be brave.**”