



*Kids Camp*  
**HEROES SMALL GROUP MATERIAL**



## LEADER TRAINING:

By the way you welcome them as they come in each session you can help set the tone for your kids learning experience. Children may feel intimidated by groups and activity. When they see your familiar face and hear you use their names while greeting, they will know they are in a safe, secure, and special place where Jesus loves them.

## ON-THE-GO-TRAINING

- Jesus welcomed children and wanted relationships with them. Though he was surrounded on all sides by tons of people, Jesus nurtured the children in his midst. We'd do well to follow his example.

- Take the initiative to get to know the children in your small group. Here are a few easy tips to help you get started:

- Talk eye to eye. When you're speaking with children, squat down so you can make direct eye contact.
- Greet kids by name. Let children know that you're glad they're in your small group!
- Find out what games kids like to play and what their favorite (or least favorite) interests are. Jot notes so you can remember.
- Offer to pray for children—then pray! Follow up the next session on whatever the prayer request was. Let kids know that you've been praying for them.
- Engage kids in meaningful conversation, using open-ended questions rather than questions that require a "yes" or "no" answer. For example, you'll learn far more by asking, "When is a time you had to forgive someone?" than by asking "Have you ever forgiven someone?" Kids know you're interested in them and their answers when you ask open-ended questions.

And nothing communicates care like listening when kids talk.

Make your kids feel cherished. Many adults don't make the effort to truly see children. Be the exception to the rule, and you'll quickly become a favorite grown-up!

## Session 1

Moses Leads the Israelites  
Through the Red Sea. Exodus 13:17 - 14:31

## Session 2

David Defeats Goliath  
1 Samuel 17:1-50

## Session 3

Elijah Challenges the Prophets  
1 Kings 18:16-39

## Session 4

David Survives the Lions' Den  
Daniel 6: 1-23

## Theme Verse:

"Be strong and courageous."

—Joshua 1:9

## Theme:

Heroes

## Materials you need:

- 1 white 13-gallon handle-tie trash bag per child
- permanent markers
- clear mailing tape
- A piece of paper



## SESSION 1 - DAY 2

Group leaders: Do not limit yourself to these questions. You know your group best, so you are more likely to come up with the questions that will really energize your discussion of the passage. Do not feel like you need to answer all of the questions below. Pick and choose as you see fit.

### OPENING:

- Welcome each child
- Ask what they remember about the large group lesson.
- Set some goals for how they are to listen while in the small group.
- Pray with them.

### INTRODUCTION:

Say: God helped Moses do an amazing thing in parting the Red Sea. Moses could have taken the credit for parting the Red Sea, but he knew that God deserved the credit. God gives each of us amazing talents and abilities. Let's make pictures to remind us that true heroes give God the credit for their talents.

### OUR THEME VERSE:

Be strong and courageous. Joshua 1:9

### WRITE:

Inside the camp books, have them write down or say their talents God has given them.

### DISCUSS:

Have the kids share what their talents are to each other. Say: God gives each of us all sorts of hidden talents, and God should get the credit for those talents. Get with a partner, and show your papers to each other. After kids show their papers, have partners discuss these questions.

*Why did Moses give God the credit for saving the Israelites?*

*What can you give God the credit for in your own life?*

*Why is it important to give God the credit he deserves?*

Moses Leads the Israelites Through the Red Sea.

### Bottom Line:

True heroes give God the credit.

### READ:

Exodus

13:17 - 14:31

### Make the Connection:

Say: We know Moses was a true hero because true heroes give God the credit. Moses was the leader of the Israelites, but he knew that it was God who saved and protected them. Now we're going to learn a Bible verse that will help you to be a true hero!



## CAMP MEMORY MAKER:

### DISTRIBUTE:

Give a CR Kids wristband to each child.

### SAY THE VERSE:

Say: There's part of a Bible verse written on your wristband. The verse in the Bible says, "Be strong and courageous" (Joshua 1:9). Let's practice saying our Key Verse together.

### FIND A PARTNER:

Say: Tell a partner about a time you had to be courageous or brave.

### DISCUSS:

- Was it easy for you to be courageous in that situation? Explain.
- Did you give God the credit for helping you be courageous? Why or why not?
- What situation do you need God's help with this week? How will you give God the credit for helping you in this situation?

### DAILY CHALLENGE:

1. At camp this week, tell your leader or parent one thing God helps you to do well, such as writing, singing, drawing, or playing gaga ball. Remember, God gets the credit!
2. Tonight before you pray, make a list of all the things that God did for you today. Then thank God, and give him the credit for the good things he did for you.
3. Encourage a friend with the Key Verse: "Be strong and courageous" (from Joshua 1:9). Tell your friend about a time you were courageous, and give God the credit!

## Group Prayer

Moses Leads the  
Israelites Through the  
Red Sea.

### Bottom Line:

True heroes give God  
the credit.

### Scripture:

Exodus  
13:17 - 14:31

### NEXT UP?

In our next small group we  
are going to talk about:

David Defeats Goliath.



## SESSION 2 - DAY 2

Group leaders: Do not limit yourself to these questions. You know your group best, so you are more likely to come up with the questions that will really energize your discussion of the passage. Do not feel like you need to answer all of the questions below. Pick and choose as you see fit.

### OPENING:

- Welcome each child, and ask them how they did with the Daily Challenge.
- Ask what they liked about the tribal arena.
- Set some goals for how they are to listen while in the small group.
- Pray with them. Let the kids share any important things or prayer request.

### INTRODUCTION:

Say: Who is your Favorite? Cartoon superheroes wear capes and costumes that give them special strength. Their strength is imaginary, but we can have real strength from God. Let's make a cape to help us remember where true strength comes from.

### OUR THEME VERSE:

Be strong and courageous. Joshua 1:9

**GIVE:** Hand out trash bags and markers.

**THINK:** Encourage children to think about the special costumes and emblems worn by superheroes.

**MAKE CAPES:** Have children create capes with a G emblem because true super strength comes from God. Encourage kids to make their capes unique.

**MODEL:** Help kids model their new capes by taping the handle-ties to their shoulders with clear mailing tape. Supervise children closely while they are wearing or playing with the trash bags.

### TITLE:

David Defeats Goliath

### Bottom Line:

True heroes rely on God for strength.

### READ:

1 Samuel 17:1-50

### Make the Connection:

Say: David knew what it took to be a true hero. He knew that it was God's strength that would defeat Goliath. We can be true heroes, too, when we remember where our strength comes from. True heroes rely on God for strength.

### DISCUSS:

- How do you feel as you wear your cape?
- How do superheroes rely on their costumes for strength?
- How do true heroes rely on God for strength?



## CAMP MEMORY MAKER:

**SHOW ME** Say: Show me your wristband.

### SAY THE VERSE:

Say: "Be strong and courageous" (Joshua 1:9). Joshua knew he could be strong and courageous because God was with him. To help remember our verse, let's sing a song. .

### SING A SONG:

Sing this song several times to the tune of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow":  
Be strong and courageous; be strong and courageous;  
Be strong and courageous; this is God's command.  
The Lord your God is with you; the Lord your God is with you; The Lord your God is with you wherever you may go.

### ASK

When do you need to be strong and courageous?  
How can you be strong and courageous during those times?

### Make the Connection:

Say: David knew what this verse was all about. He could be strong and courageous and rely on God for strength because he knew God was with him. We can be true heroes just like David if we remember true heroes rely on God for strength.

Have you ever faced a problem that seemed too big for you? Just like David, we've all had to struggle against a Goliath. David trusted God to help him. God helped David be strong, and we can ask God for strength like that, too.

### Do You Remember?

- Why did David fight Goliath?
- How did David know he would defeat Goliath?

### Daily Challenge:

1. Ask someone about a time God gave him or her strength in the past.
2. Do you know someone who doesn't believe in God? Pray and Rely on God's strength to help you tell him or her about God when you get home from camp.
3. Each morning, look in the mirror and flex your muscles. Say, "God, help me be a true hero and rely on you for strength!"

Pray with your group.

## TITLE:

David Defeats Goliath

## BOTTOM LINE:

True heroes rely on God for strength.

## READ:

1 Samuel 17:1-50

## NEXT UP?

In our next small group we are going to talk about:

Elijah Challenges the Prophets of Baal.



## SESSION 3 - DAY 3

Group leaders: Do not limit yourself to these questions. You know your group best, so you are more likely to come up with the questions that will really energize your discussion of the passage. Do not feel like you need to answer all of the questions below. Pick and choose as you see fit.

### OPENING:

- Welcome each child, and ask kids how they did with the last Daily Challenges.
- Ask what kids remember about today's large-group lesson.
- Let kids share important news or prayer requests, and pray with them.

### FIND A PARTNER:

Say: Our true hero from the Bible today is Elijah. Elijah stood up for God against many enemies. Read the story. Then talk with a partner about what you remember from the story today. Give kids a few minutes to talk.

### INTRODUCE GAME:

Wad the paper into a ball. Say: Do you think you can throw this paper through a hoop?

**CIRCLE HANDS:** Choose one child to make a circle out of his or her hands. Ask the other children to try to throw the paper ball through the "hoop."

**ASK:** Why couldn't you get the ball to go through the hoop?  
Shall we try a bigger hoop?

**CIRCLE ARMS :** Have one child make a hoop with his or her arms while the others throw the paper wad through. Let everyone have a turn being the hoop-maker.

**DISCUSS:** How did you feel when you tried to throw the paper ball through the small hoop?

How confident were you that the ball could fit through each hoop?

Do you think Elijah was confident that God would light the fire on the altar?

Why or why not?

What are some ways we can confidently stand up for God?

### TITLE:

Elijah Challenges the Prophets of Baal.

### BOTTOM LINE:

True heroes stand up for God.

### READ:

1 Kings 18:16-39

### *Make the Connection:*

Elijah had confidence in God's power just as we had confidence that the ball would fit through the large hoop. We can stand up for God just as Elijah did because we know God is powerful!  
True heroes stand up for God!



## CAMP MEMORY MAKER:

**SHOW ME:** Say: Show me your wristband.

## SAY THE VERSE:

Say: The Key Verse on our wristbands is from Joshua 1:9. Let's practice saying this verse together: "Be strong and courageous" (Joshua 1:9). Each of you strike a pose to show me how strong you are! Now turn to a neighbor, and say the verse while showing your pose.

## FIND A PARTNER:

What does it mean to be strong and courageous when standing up for God? How can you be strong and courageous like Elijah was?

**PRAY:** Say: As we pray, think about a time you can stand up for God. When you're ready, put your wristband in the center of the circle, and tell God, "I will be strong and courageous because you are with me." Pray aloud, asking God to help kids be strong and courageous as they stand up for God in their own lives.

## MAKE A CONNECTION:

Say: Elijah was strong and courageous because he knew God had the power to light the fire. Elijah could stand up for God because he had confidence that God would always be with him. True heroes stand up for God.

True heroes stand up for God! God showed the prophets of Baal how powerful he was when Elijah was courageous and stood up for him. You can be a true hero and stand up for God just as Elijah did!

## DO YOU REMEMBER?

Why did Elijah challenge the prophets of Baal to a contest?  
What happened when Elijah stood up for God?  
How can you stand up for God?

## DAILY CHALLENGE:

1. See if you can find another character in the Bible who was willing to stand up for God
2. Tell someone else the Key Verse, "Be strong and courageous" (Joshua 1:9). Then tell one way you can be courageous by standing up for God.
3. Each time you stand up from your chair today, pray: "Dear God, help me to remember you are with me today and to stand up for you. In Jesus' name, amen."

## TITLE:

Elijah Challenges the  
Phophets of Baal.

## Bottom Line:

True heroes stand up  
for God.

## READ:

1 Kings 18:16-39

## NEXT UP?

In our next small group we  
are going to talk about:

Daniel Survives the Lions'  
Den





## SESSION 4 - DAY 3

Group leaders: Do not limit yourself to these questions. You know your group best, so you are more likely to come up with the questions that will really energize your discussion of the passage. And do not feel like you need to answer all of the questions below. Pick and choose as you see fit.

### OPENING:

- Welcome each child, and ask kids how they did with the last Daily Challenges.
- Ask what kids remember about today's large-group lesson.
- Let kids share important news or prayer requests, and pray with them.

### INTRODUCTION:

Say: Today we learned about how Daniel trusted God to protect him. Let's open our Bibles to Daniel 6:22 and hear what Daniel said about God. Have willing children read aloud Daniel 6:22-23. Say: To remind us to trust God to protect us, let's make a lion.

### MANE:

Have your kids gather leaves to make lions' manes.

### EYES AND NOSE:

Have kids place sticks on top of the leaves to make eyes and a nose.

### MOUTH:

Gather rocks to make lion's open mouth.

### DISCUSS:

If your lion suddenly came to life, how would you feel, and what would you do? When do you feel afraid at home? at school? at church? How does God protect you from those scary things? Tell about a time you've trusted God for protection—just as Daniel trusted God.

### TITLE:

Daniel Survives the  
Lions' Den

### BOTTOM LINE:

True heroes trust God to  
protect them.

### READ:

Daniel 6:1-23

### MAKE A CONNECTION:

Say: God protected Daniel by sending angels to keep the lions from hurting him. Daniel was a true hero because true heroes trust God to protect them. Let's see how our Key Verse can help us be true heroes this week.



## CAMP MEMORY MAKER:

**SHOW ME:** Say: Show me your wristband.

### SAY THE VERSE:

Say: "Be strong and courageous" (Joshua 1:9). Daniel was strong and courageous when he prayed to God even though he knew he could be thrown into the lions' den. But Daniel knew God was with him and that he could trust God to protect him.

**FIND A PARTNER:** Say: You can be strong and courageous like Daniel when you trust God to protect you. Find a partner, and ask your partner one way that God protects him or her. Remember the answer, because you'll use it in a minute!

**PRAY:** Say: Have kids hold onto their own wristbands and their partners' wristbands. Have kids bow their heads and finish this prayer for their partners. All kids will pray out loud at the same time. Pray: God, help us be strong and courageous. Help us always trust you to protect us. Thank you for protecting my friend by...Allow children time to fill in their partners' answers. Say: Amen.

**DISCUSS:** How does it feel to know that God is with you and you can rely on God to protect you? How can you use your wristband to help you remember to be a true hero this week?

### MAKE A CONNECTION:

Say: Daniel was strong and courageous because he trusted God. You can be a hero just like Daniel when you trust God to protect you. True heroes trust God to protect them. As you take your wristband home and wear it this week, let it remind you to be strong and courageous and to trust God to protect you! Like Daniel, we face scary situations in which we need God's help and protection. God helped Daniel when lions surrounded him, and God will help us, too. How awesome and powerful God is! We can rely on God because God is greater than any lion or scary thing we face. True heroes trust God to protect them!

### DO YOU REMEMBER?

- Why was Daniel put in the lions' den?
- How did Daniel survive in the lions' den?
- How can you rely on God to protect you like Daniel?

### TITLE:

Daniel Survives the  
Lions' Den

### BOTTOM LINE:

True heroes trust God to  
protect them.

### READ:

Daniel 6:1-23

## GOING HOME!

1. Draw a picture that shows a situation in which you'd need to trust God to protect you. Then show the picture to a friend, and tell him or her that true heroes trust God to protect them
2. Be like Daniel, and show you trust God to protect you by praying where others can see you praying.
3. Make a small sign that says, "True heroes trust God for protection" and stick it in a place you will see it as reminder to trust God.

