

Joshua and Caleb: Lesson 1

SuperTruth: I will live by faith and not by sight.

SuperVerse: “The LORD is with us! Don’t be afraid of them!” Numbers 14:9b (NLT)

Bible Story: Numbers 10–11, 13–14:39; Deuteronomy 1:1–40; Joshua 14:1–9

LARGE GROUP / GRADES 1–6

Today we start a new Superbook adventure about two men of great faith named Joshua and Caleb. This is the same Joshua who had his soldiers march around the walls of Jericho for 7 days!

- Chris has a chance to become a starter on his soccer team when he finds some teammates cheat to win. When they ask him to join the scheme, he doesn’t know how to stand up to them.
- Superbook takes Chris, Joy and Gizmo to meet Joshua, Caleb, and 10 other spies sent by Moses to explore the Promised Land. Joshua and Caleb are amazed by Canaan’s abundance—yet their good report is undermined by the other spies, who fear giants in the land. The children learn that God blesses faithfulness, while the Israelites are punished for their lack of trust.

SMALL GROUP / GRADES 1–6

Game: I Spy (10 minutes)

Objective: Scout the land on a secret mission.

- Joshua was one of the spies sent out by Moses to explore the land of Canaan. Later, Joshua sent his own secret spies to explore the city of Jericho to gather information before he attacked.

Game Instructions:

- Explain that you are Moses and you need each spy team to explore the room and find certain items on the card. Each team may list as many additional items that fit the descriptions as possible for possible extra points.

Teaching: No Fear (15 minutes)

Objective: Discuss living by faith.

- When we follow the Lord and live by faith, sometimes we may be outnumbered by those who don’t. It takes courage not to be afraid and stand up for what is right.

Take Home Activity—Discipleship Challenge (5 minutes)

- The challenge is to look up Heart #1 verse and discover God’s promise. Try to memorize the verse to put it deep in your heart! Place the heart in the Promise Pouch. For the second part of the challenge, set aside time each day to read the Bible to discover more promises from God.

SuperVerse: Superbook Pop up (5 minutes)

Objective: Memorize the SuperVerse with a group activity.

- The SuperVerse is what Joshua and Caleb told the Israelites when the people believed the bad report of the ten spies instead of believing God. Today, God wants us to live by faith, not by sight.
- Teams will sit side-by-side, facing the other team. The first player on each team will stand and shout the first word of the SuperVerse at the same time, then quickly sit down. The second player on each team will then quickly stand and shout the second word at the same time, and so on.

Prayer: Intercession Prayers (5 minutes)

Objective: Communicate with God.

- Moses stood between God and the people and pleaded on their behalf. This type of prayer is called intercession.
- Close your eyes. Imagine yourself standing between God and the people you are interceding for. Pray silently, asking God to speak to their hearts and give them new hope and faith.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES (REFER TO THE LESSON GUIDE FOR DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS)

Soccer Game: Work together as a team to pass the balls. | **Grades 1–6** | 10 min

Tossing Game: Play a game about God’s miraculous provision. | **Grades 1–6** | 15 min

Coloring Activity: Color a page to find items in the Promised Land. | **Grade 1–3** | 10 min

Drawing Activity: Children explore the church and draw a floorplan. | **Grades 4–6** | 15 min

Game Materials Needed:

- Spy Card Pages
- Cardstock, 4 sheets
- Scissors
- Timer: clock/watch with second hand, stopwatch, timer app
- Pencils
- Bibles or the Superbook Bible App

Teaching Materials Needed:

- Roll of paper towels
- Marker
- Promised Land Sign
- Two volunteers to be Israelites
- Painters tape or masking tape
- Bible or the Superbook Bible App

Discipleship Challenge materials:

- Promise Pouch
- Promise Hearts
- Children’s scissors
- Tape or fast-drying children’s glue
- Pencils
- Optional: red, green, and purple crayons, colored pencils, washable markers

SuperVerse Materials Needed:

- Whiteboard and marker or chalkboard and chalk
- Bible or the Superbook Bible App

Prayer Materials Needed:

- Bibles or the Superbook Bible App