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## God's Plan – Joshua

### “Be Strong & Courageous”

#### OPENING:

This week we will continue to follow the story of the Israelites and their journey to the Promised Land.

Our lesson focus' on a new leader for the Israelites. Joshua!

We will focus on:

- **HAVING FAITH THAT GOD WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU. JOSHUA 1:5**
- **BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS – JOSHUA 1:6**
- **MEDITATE ON GOD'S WORD AND HIDE IT IN YOUR HEART – JOSHUA 1:8**

It's been 40 years now that the Israelites have been wondering in the wilderness and constantly complaining to Moses and to God about their circumstances.

Moses is very old and God has decided it is time for Joshua to take over.

#### Read: Joshua 1:1 – 1:9

“Moses was the servant of the Lord. Joshua, son of Nun was Moses' assistant. After Moses died, the Lord said to Joshua: “My servant Moses is dead. Now you and all these people go across the Jordan River. Go into the land I am giving to the people of Israel. I promised Moses I would give you this land. So, I will give you every place you go in the land. All the land from the desert in the south to Lebanon in the north will be yours. All the land from the great river, the Euphrates, in the east, to the Mediterranean Sea in the west will be yours. This includes the land of the Hittites. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. No one will be able to stop you all your life. **I will not leave you. I will never leave you alone.**

“Joshua, **be strong and courageous!** You must lead these people so they can take their land. This is the land I promised their fathers I would give them. **Be strong and courageous.** Be sure to obey all the teachings my servant Moses gave you. If you follow them exactly, you will be successful in everything you do. Always remember what is written in the Book of the Teachings. Study it day and night. Then you will be sure to obey everything that is written there. If you do this, you will be wise and successful in everything. Remember that I commanded you to **be strong and courageous.** So don't be afraid. The Lord your God will be with you everywhere you go.”

### Discuss:

Joshua was one of the greatest leaders in Bible history, succeeding Moses and leading Israel into the promised land. His life provides many lessons for us today, as we can learn about his faithfulness, courage and trust in God even in the midst of challenging circumstances.

Here's a few things we have learned about Joshua so far:

1. **Birth and childhood of Joshua:** Joshua was born in Egypt and was one of the enslaved Israelites there. Joshua was the son of Nun and was born into the tribe of Ephraim. (Exodus 33:11)
2. **Joshua is chosen as a spy:** Joshua was one of the 12 spies sent by Moses to explore the land of Canaan. (Numbers 13:1-16) He was one of the two who trusted God and wanted to enter the promised land.
3. **Joshua serves as Moses' assistant:** Joshua led the battle against the Amalekites (Exodus 17:8-13).
4. **Joshua succeeds Moses:** After the death of Moses, God chose Joshua to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land. (Numbers 27:15-23) .

Let's read about the Israelites new leader from the Action Bible.

### Read: *"A New Leader"*

### Discuss:

#### **HAVING FAITH THAT GOD WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU. (JOSHUA 1:5)**

- We face all sorts of challenges in life, from schoolwork and friendships to family issues and personal struggles. It can be tough to navigate these ups and downs, but we can find guidance and strength in knowing that God is with us.
- Just like Joshua, we can find strength and direction by turning to God for guidance (Joshua 1:5). No matter what we're going through, prayer and trust in God can help us overcome any obstacle.

Later on we will learn how Joshua faced the Amorite kings in battle (Joshua 10:12-15) and he asked God for help and experienced a miraculous victory!

- There are many other Bible verses that remind us of God's constant presence and support. Here are a few to remember:
- *"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."* **(Deuteronomy 31:6)**
- *"Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."* **(Psalm 23:4)**

We can learn from Joshua's example and put our trust in God's promise to never leave us. Instead of trying to handle everything on our own, we can ask God for guidance and courage. We can be sure He is with us every step of the way, making all the difference in our lives.

### **BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS – JOSHUA 1:6**

- In Joshua 1:1-9, God tells Joshua THREE times to Be Strong & Courageous!
- Why do you think that is? Is he just reminding Joshua that He is there with Him all the way?
- Remember in the story of the 12 spies, how brave Joshua and Caleb were to stand up when everyone else disagreed with them. They trusted God then. They were **strong and courageous** because they knew that God was on their side.

Think about how we don't have to be afraid since God is with us.

After Moses died, God spoke to Joshua.

God told him, *"Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."* (Joshua 1:9)

What an amazing Promise from God!

## **MEDITATE ON GOD'S WORD AND HIDE IT IN YOUR HEART – JOSHUA 1:8**

Joshua 1:8 says, *"Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; 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."*

- Living a successful Christian life is impossible without relying on Scripture.
- Joshua 1:8 reminds us that we can be prosperous only if we meditate on the Word diligently and do what it says. We must never ignore or cast aside the Bible because it is our source of wisdom, knowledge, and peace.
- We need to study it and apply its principles faithfully to live a life that honors God.
- The Bible encourages us to meditate on God's Word to grow closer to Him and learn His will for our lives. Memorizing God's word (His promises and how He wants us to live) will help get us through those difficult times.
- Biblical meditation is a practice of prayer and reflection in God's Word, allowing us to absorb its teachings.
- Psalm 1:2 says, "But his (the blessed) delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night."
- The more of the Bible you can remember, the easier it is to be strong and courageous when you are faced with difficult things.

Joshua's life is a testament to the incredible things that can happen when we put our faith in God and follow His guidance. By meditating on God's Word, trusting in His timing, and choosing to serve Him wholeheartedly, we can find strength, guidance, and fulfillment.

### Prayer:

Dear God,

*Thank you, God for always being near. Thank you for never leaving us. Help us to be strong and courageous in difficult times and make the right decisions.*

*In Jesus' name – Amen*

### Memory Verse:

*"Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)*

### Watch Video Stories:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vqhPOd0JxBs>

Joshua called to Lead – *saddleback kids*

<https://app.pureflix.com/videos/404186150823/veggietales-josh-and-the-big-wall>

– Josh and the Big Wall

## Crafts: God Never Leaves Magnet

## Or – Be Strong Bead Bracelet

Needed Items:

Kits provided by [www.orientaltrading.com](http://www.orientaltrading.com)



Feel free to take a picture of their art work or share how your activity went! Post it on our Facebook page or share it on GroupMe. Have a Blessed Day & Week! Until we can meet again

~ Teacher Chrissy

Thank you to [www.truewaykids.com](http://www.truewaykids.com) for their lessons and <https://www.orientaltrading.com/> for crafts ideas.

Also, [www.truewaykids.com](http://www.truewaykids.com), [www.teacherspayteachers.com](http://www.teacherspayteachers.com) and [www.Sundayschoolzone.com](http://www.Sundayschoolzone.com) for their coloring pages and wordsearch.



Joshua 1:9

# Joshua 1:9 Word search

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

Joshua 1:9

Z F J H W I H N T Q E G Q I G J K F  
V K S U T N D R L R M V O N V Y N R  
O T C O U R A G E O U S J D D Z J I  
W D Q I A D E Y J C I Q O J H B I G  
H M H R W I K T L W G L S K S H I H  
E Y Q U M S V H L M N U H U J A O T  
R A O Y H M J R O P L S U G A E D E  
E M Z S I A N N U Z F O A E B R J N  
V E R T P Y S T R O N G R K H K I E  
E I C X B E L B T F F A G D P G T D  
R D Z R M D F S Q P K I L S W W Y P  
Z S P C R E Y H G B F M O N A E B Q

## Words

COURAGEOUS

JOSHUA

DISMAYED

LORD

FRIGHTENED

STRONG

GOD

WHEREVER





# Coded Words for Joshua – The New Leader

Each number stands for a letter of the alphabet. Write the correct letter in the blank to find the coded words and phrase.

## Code key

A 1	J 10	S 19
B 2	K 11	T 20
C 3	L 12	U 21
D 4	M 13	V 22
E 5	N 14	W 23
F 6	O 15	X 24
G 7	P 16	Y 25
H 8	Q 17	Z 26
I 9	R 18	

12 1 14 4

15 2 5 25

12 5 1 4 5 18

10 15 18 4 1 14

16 18 15 19 16 5 18

## GOD TOLD JOSHUA,

“

2 5 19 20 18 15 14 7 1 14 4

”

3 15 21 18 1 7 5 15 21 19