

JOSHUA

LESSON 1: JOSHUA LEADS ISRAEL ☆

Lessons in this series: 1 [2](#) [3](#) [Overview](#)

In this lesson, the children learn how the Lord appointed Joshua to be the leader of Israel after the death of Moses. God gave Joshua the big job of leading His people into the promised land.

TOPICS

Courage, Faith, Following God, Guidance, Joshua, Listening

AS KIDS ARRIVE (10 MINUTES)

Joshua and the Promised Land (Coloring Page) [Click here](#)

WORSHIP TIME (5 MINUTES)

Further info? [Click here](#)

BIBLE VERSE (5 MINUTES)

"Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9b NIV

Read the verse to the children and then ask them to name some things that frighten them. As each child calls out the things that frighten him or her repeat the verse. Explain that we do not have to be afraid of anything because God is with us.

BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

Gather the children around you in a circle for story time. After the introduction, read the story about Joshua right from the Bible. If possible, use a Children's Bible so it will be easier for the kids to understand. .

Introduction:

Today, we will begin to learn about a man named Joshua. The Lord selected Joshua to be the next leader of Israel after the death of Moses. God gave Joshua the task of leading the people into the promised land. It was a big responsibility to be the new leader and Joshua probably wondered if he could do such a hard job.

Read Joshua 1:1-11, 16-18 (The Lord Commands Joshua)

Discussion Questions:

1. Who did God select as the next leader after Moses died? (*Joshua.*)
2. What did God command Joshua to do? (*Lead the people into the promised land.*)
3. How did the Lord expect Joshua to act? (*God commanded Joshua to be strong and courageous.*)
4. How could Joshua remain brave when he had such a big job to do? (*God promised to be with Joshua as long as Joshua followed His instructions.*)
5. Did Joshua listen to God and become the next leader? (*Yes.*)
6. What did Joshua tell the people to do? (*Get their supplies ready.*)

7. Did God's people accept Joshua as the new leader? *(Yes, the people said that they would obey Joshua just as they had obeyed Moses.)*
8. How did God's people want their new leader to behave? *(The people wanted Joshua to follow God and to be strong and courageous.)*

FUN TIME (15 MINUTES)

Promise Land Trail Mix (Craft) [Click here](#)

ALTERNATE FUN TIME (10 MINUTES)

Pass the Baton (Game) [Click here](#)

PRAYER/SNACK (10 MINUTES)

Further info? [Click here](#)

Today's snack will be the "Promised Land Trail Mix", which the children created during today's lesson. As the children enjoy the snack, talk about what it may have been like for God's people to move from the hot desert into a beautiful new land.

CLOSING ACTIVITY (5-10 MINUTES)

Play a game of "Joshua Says." *(Same rules as the game Simon Says.)*

The leader (Joshua) calls out actions for the children to follow, such as touch your nose or flap your arms like a bird. If the command is preceded with "Joshua Says," the children should carry out the action. If the command is not preceded with "Joshua Says," children should ignore the command. Any children following the command which is not preceded by "Joshua Says" are eliminated from the game.

NEXT WEEK

Come back next week to find out who helped save the lives of Joshua's spies.

TAKE HOME PAGE

Give one copy to each child at the end of the class to take home [PDF]. [Click here](#)