

God Is with Moses and Joshua

Lesson 2



Scripture: Deuteronomy 31:1-8, 14-23; 34:1-9; Joshua 1













Bible Memory: Joshua 24:15

Focus: ♥ We know God is always with us.

Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

Think of all the things you did yesterday. Maybe you fixed dinner for your family. Maybe you helped children or grandchildren do a project. Maybe you mowed the lawn. Or maybe you did all these things and more! Did you stop to think that God was with you as you were doing each task? We serve the same God who guided the Israelites into the promised land. What a blessing to know that God is always with us. He never leaves us!

Lesson 2 at a Glance

<p>1 FOCUS IN Use one of these activities to help children explore times when courage is needed.</p>	<p> Quick Step Promised Land March</p> <p> Option Would You Try It?</p> <p> Bible Memory Introduce the Bible Memory verse.</p>	<p>HeartShaper Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources CD Promised Land March printable file • none • Resources sheet 1 Unit 1 Bible Memory Poster 	<p>Other Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none • slips of paper, pencil, paper bag • Bible, reusable adhesive
<p>2 EXPLORE HIS WORD Use all of these activities to help children tell about the promises God made to Moses, Joshua, and the people.</p>	<p> Bible Exploration Deuteronomy 31:1-8, 14-23; 34:1-9; Joshua 1</p> <p> Bible Review Activity</p> <p> Bible Memory Joshua 24:15</p> <p> Optional Bible Skill Builder</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources sheet 1 Moses and Joshua Bible Story Name Cards and sheet 3 Bible Story Cue Cards, Teaching Pictures 1 and 2 • Resources sheet 2 Race to the Promised Land Game Cards (lessons 1 and 2), Resources CD Unit 1 Review Game printable file • none 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • whiteboard, dry-erase marker, Bibles, ruler, tape, staff • masking tape • whiteboard, dry-erase markers, Bibles
<p>3 MAKE IT REAL Use one of these activities to help children discover times God is with them.</p>	<p> Quick Step God Is with Me When . . .</p> <p> Option God Is Always with Me!</p> <p> Option Story from <i>Weekly Bible Reader</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none • none • <i>Weekly Bible Reader</i> issue 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none • roll paper and markers • none
<p>4 LIVE IT OUT Use one of these activities to help children plan to be strong and courageous because God is with them.</p>	<p> Quick Step Badge of Courage</p> <p> Option God Is Always with Me! Prayers</p> <p>Saying Good-bye</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities pp. 5 and 6 and sticker • none • <i>Weekly Bible Reader</i> issue 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • markers, scissors, hole punch, thin ribbon • posters made in Make It Real Option activity, reusable adhesive • none

Focus In (10-15 minutes)

- 1 Use one of these activities to help children **explore times when courage is needed**. Use the Bible Memory activity to introduce the memory verse.

Welcome

- Welcome each child by name.
- Engage early arrivers by offering one or more of the activities described on the Additional Activities for Unit 1 page.

Quick Step Promised Land March

Have children sit on chairs or on the floor. SAY: **Last week we learned about 12 men who spied out the promised land. Let's think about the courage it might have taken to go into enemy territory.** Lead children in an activity, similar to a traditional bear hunt. Start with hands alternately clapping and then slapping on thighs. Have the children repeat each phrase you say as you lead in the rhyme.

ASK: **Why do you think it would have taken courage for God's people to enter the promised land?**

When have you needed courage to do something hard?

Acknowledge the real fears and challenges children face.

SAY: **We're going to hear how God helped His people to have courage. God was with His people, and ♥ we know God is always with us.**

Option Would You Try It?

Have the children gather in a circle. SAY: **Today we are going to talk about courage. A person who has courage is brave. She is willing to try something even though it might be hard to do. Let's take turns acting out and guessing things that might take courage to do.** Have the kids take turns choosing slips of papers. Give help as needed in reading the situations and suggesting actions kids might do. Discuss why each action might take courage to do.

SAY: **We're learning how God helped His people to have courage. God was with His people. ♥ We know God is always with us too.**

Bible Memory Joshua 24:15

ASK: **What does the word choose mean?** (to decide, to pick) **If I asked you to choose between playing basketball or soccer, which would you choose?** Let kids respond. **Either one is not a wrong choice; it is just which you like to do best. If I asked you to choose between obeying your parents or not obeying your parents, which would you choose?** Wait for a response. **In this case, there is a wrong choice.**

Read Joshua 24:15. SAY: **Joshua made the right choice. He knew God would always be with him. ♥ We know God is always with us too.** Display the Bible Memory poster. Read the words while pointing to them. Pause when you come to an empty space, and let kids attach the correct words. Say the complete memory verse together.

Focus

♥ We know God is always with us.

Materials

copy of *Resources* CD
Promised Land March
printable file



If it appears that some kids don't have the motor coordination needed for alternating clapping and slapping, simplify the actions by just slapping knees.

Materials

slips of paper, pencil,
paper bag



Before Class

On individual slips of paper, write situations that might require courage to do: speak in front of a class, sing (or play) a solo, meet someone for the first time, ride a roller coaster, climb to the top of a jungle gym. Place the prepared papers in a paper bag.

Materials

Bible, *Resources* sheet 1
Unit 1 Bible Memory
Poster, reusable adhesive



Transition to Explore His Word

See the *Resources* CD Transition Tips printable file. As children gather, make sure you have all the materials you need.

Focus

♥ We know God is always with us.

Explore His Word (20 minutes)

2 Use all of these activities to help children **tell about the promises God made to Moses, Joshua, and the people.**

Bible Background for the Teacher

Moses was 120 years old and knew that his tenure of leadership was about to end. He reminded the Israelites that God had gone with them. Moses had disobeyed God when he struck the rock at Meribah (Numbers 20:6-12). This was the reason God did not allow Moses to enter the promised land. God appeared to Moses and Joshua at the door of the tabernacle. The pillar of cloud represented His presence.

God gave Moses a song that would be used by the people for many generations. In a way this song was a prophecy of future times when the Israelites would turn away from God, be chastised, but also forgiven by God (Deuteronomy 32).

Mount Nebo is in Moab near the Dead Sea and would have allowed Moses to have a great view of the land of Canaan. After the people mourned the death of Moses, Joshua assumed the position of leadership given by God and sanctioned by Moses.

Worship Time

If you want to have a time of worship, see the *Resources* CD Unit 1 Worship Time Ideas printable file.

Materials

whiteboard, dry-erase marker, Bibles, prepared *Resources* sheet 1 Moses and Joshua Bible Story Name Cards, and sheet 3 Bible Story Cue Cards 2a and 2b, ruler (or paint-stirring stick), tape (or glue), staff (or length of dowel rod), *Teaching Pictures* 1 and 2



Before Class

If you did not prepare the Moses and Joshua name cards for lesson 1, do so now. See the instructions in Bible Exploration for lesson 1. Fold cue cards 2a and 2b so they are back to back; attach a ruler between the cards. Show the cue cards as directed in the lesson.

Bible Exploration Deuteronomy 31:1-8, 14-23; 34:1-9; Joshua 1

SAY: Today's Bible story comes from two books in the Old Testament, **Deuteronomy and Joshua**. Write "Deuteronomy 31:1" and "Joshua 1" on the board. Help kids turn to Deuteronomy 31:1 in their Bibles. Ask for a volunteer to read the verse.

Ask for two volunteers to play the parts of Moses and Joshua; give them name cards to wear. Give Moses a staff to hold. Show cue cards 2a and 2b. Practice reading the cards. Explain that whenever you hold up the cards, everyone should say the words together. **SAY: Listen for the promises God made to Moses, Joshua, and the people.**

Have Moses stand beside you. **When God's people were slaves in Egypt, God told Moses to go to the people. God promised Moses** (show card 2a and have kids read with you): **"I will be with you." God kept His promise. God helped Moses bring plagues on Egypt.** Have Moses hold out the staff as though calling a plague on the land. **God parted the Red Sea so His people could leave Egypt. God helped Moses lead the people.**

One day Moses said to God's people, "I am now 120 years old! I can no longer be your leader. The Lord told me I would not be able to cross the Jordan River and go into our new land. But God will lead you to fight and destroy the nations that now live in the land. Then God will give you the land for your own."

Many years before, God had promised He would bring His people to "a land flowing with milk and honey." The 12 men who explored the land said that the land really *did* have milk and honey—and plenty of other food to eat. Show *Teaching Picture* 1. **God was keeping His promises.**

Now Moses called Joshua to come up in front of everyone. Show *Teaching Picture* 2. Have Joshua stand beside Moses. **Moses said to Joshua, "God wants you to lead His people into the promised land.**

Show 2b; have kids read with you. **“Be strong. Have courage.”** Then **Moses told Joshua, “Don’t be afraid. Remember what God said (show 2a): ‘I will be with you.’”**

Soon Moses and Joshua met at the tent of meeting to listen to God’s words. God said, “Moses, you will soon die. I will lead these people into the good land I promised them. They will have all they want to eat. But then they will forget me. I will give you a song to teach the people. The song will be a reminder that I knew they would disobey me.” So Moses wrote down the song and taught it to the people.

That same day, Moses climbed Mount Nebo. From on top of Mount Nebo, God showed Moses all the promised land. Moses saw how good the land was. Then Moses died, and God buried him. Have Moses sit down. **The people were sad. They cried for 30 days.**

After that, God told Joshua to lead the people across the Jordan River and into the new land. God said (show 2a): “I will be with you. Show 2b. Be strong. Have courage.” God also said, “Follow all my rules that Moses gave you. Do not be afraid. I will never leave you.”

Joshua obeyed God. Joshua told the people to get ready. He said that in three days they would cross the Jordan River and enter God’s promised land. The people answered Joshua: “We will obey you as we obeyed Moses. We will do whatever you ask us to do. May God be with you.”

Bible Review Activity

ASK: **What promises did God make to Moses, Joshua, and the people?**

(God would bring them to a land where there would be plenty of food. God would be with them. He would never leave them.)

SAY: **Let’s see what else you remember from the Bible story.** Show the picture and question cards for lesson 2. Shuffle together the cards from both lessons 1 and 2, and place them facedown in a stack. Use masking tape to mark off a finish line. Explain how the game is played. Form teams. Let the kids play until one team has reached the finish line, or determine which team is closest to the line when it is time to end the game.

SAY: **Moses, Joshua, and the people learned that God keeps His promises. They knew God was with them. ♥ We know God is always with us too.**

Bible Memory Joshua 24:15

“Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve. . . . But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

Write “Joshua 24:15” on the board. Ask the kids to find the table of contents in their Bibles. Help them find and turn to the book of Joshua. Then help them find chapter 24, verse 15. Ask a volunteer to read the verse.

Teach the American Sign Language (ASL) motion for *serve*. SAY: **Hold both hands with palms up. Think of handing someone various choices, one at a time. Start by sliding one hand forward, then move it back while sliding the other hand forward.** Practice the sign. Have kids say the verse and do the sign each time they say “serve.” Repeat, but this time do not say “serve” aloud as you do the motion. SAY: **♥ We know God is always with us. This is a good verse for telling others that we choose to be with God!**

Materials

Resources sheet 2 Race to the Promised Land Game Cards for lessons 1 and 2, *Resources* CD Unit 1 Review Game printable file, masking tape



Note

Instructions for playing the game and answers to questions are included with the *Resources* CD unit 1 printable files.

Materials

whiteboard, dry-erase markers, Bibles



Optional Bible Skill Builder

Print and use the unit 1 Optional Bible Skills activity. Help kids review the names of the first five books of the Bible. Display the books of the Old Testament and New Testament posters provided with the *Resources* CD Classroom Tools. Ask children to find Deuteronomy and Joshua on the posters.



Focus

♥ We know God is always with us.

Make It Real (10–15 minutes)

3 Use one of these activities to help children **discover times God is with them.**

Materials

none



Teaching Tip

Most children this age are still learning how to tell time. Some children will be able to tell more exact times when they do activities; others will not.



See the *Resources* CD lesson 2 printable files for another way you can offer this activity.

Materials

roll paper and markers
(or whiteboard and
dry-erase markers)



Before Class

Write “God Is Always with Me” at the top of three long pieces of paper.

Materials

Weekly Bible Reader issue 2



Quick Step God Is with Me When . . .

SAY: Moses, Joshua, and God’s people learned that God was always with them. Let’s play a game and name times when God is with us. Have kids sit in a circle. Explain how to play an alphabet game, naming specific places or situations when God is with them. You can start the game.

SAY: I know God is with me when I am at the airport. The person on your right should repeat what you have said and add something starting with the letter *b*. (Example: I know God is with me when I’m at the airport and at a ball game.) As the game continues, kids can help each other remember what was said previously.

ASK: When is it important for you to remember that God is with you?
Encourage responses.

SAY: God is with us wherever we are. God is with us in good times and bad times. ♥ We know God is always with us.

Option God Is Always with Me!

SAY: Moses and Joshua learned that God was always with them—even when they were traveling to a new homeland. Let’s discover times when God is with us. Have the class form three groups. Note: If you have a small class, kids can work individually or with partners. Give each group markers and a length of roll paper. The kids in group 1 should draw things they do in the morning. Group 2 kids can draw things they do in the afternoon. Group 3 kids will draw things they do in the evening and at nighttime.

When the groups are done, ask children in group 1 to show their drawings. Talk about things they do in the morning. Then ask the other two groups to show their drawings. Talk about things they do in the afternoon, evening, and nighttime.

ASK: What do you do during the day that is easy? Let kids respond.
What things are harder to do? Encourage discussion.

SAY: ♥ We know God is always with us—at home or away from home, when things are easy and when they are difficult.

Option Story from *Weekly Bible Reader*

SAY: Moses and Joshua learned that God was always with them. Let’s listen to a story and hear how a boy like you learned that God was with him. Read “David’s New Home.” Discuss times when the children need to remember that God is with them. **SAY: God is with us no matter what time of day it is. God is with us no matter where we go or what we are doing. ♥ We know God is always with us.**

Live It Out (10 minutes)

- 4 Use one of these activities to help children **plan to be strong and courageous because God is with them.**

Focus

♥ We know God is always with us.

Quick Step Badge of Courage

SAY: **Moses was able to be strong in leading God's people because Moses knew God was with him. Joshua and God's people knew God was with them too. They were able to be strong and have courage, even though they knew they would face enemies when they entered the promised land. ♥ We know God is always with us too. Let's make badges of courage that can help us remember to trust God and be strong.**

Distribute the activity pages and supplies. Explain how to make the craft, one step at a time. Assist as needed in cutting out and assembling the badges.

When finished, ask the kids to bring their badges to a closing prayer circle. Ask for volunteers to share about what they drew inside their badges. Lead in a closing prayer. PRAY: **Thank You, God. We know you are always with us. Help us remember to be brave and strong because You will never leave us. In Jesus' name, amen.**

Encourage the kids to take their badges home and wear or display them as reminders that God is with them.

Option God Is Always with Me! Prayers



Display in three separate places around the room the posters that the children created in Make It Real. SAY: **We've discovered that God is with us in the morning, in the afternoon, in the evening, and at nighttime. Sometimes it is harder to remember in the morning that God is with us. Sometimes it is harder to remember at nighttime that God is with us. Move to the poster that shows when it might be hardest for you to remember that God is with you.** Allow children to do so. Explain that you will lead them in prayer. When you pause, they can pray to God about things that are hard for them to do at that time of day. Note: If time allows, give children the opportunity to move to the other posters and pray about things that are hard for them to do at those times too.

PRAY: **Dear God, You are a wonderful God. You always keep Your promises. Help us to be strong and remember You are with us in the morning.** Pause; children pray. **Help us be strong and remember You are with us in the afternoon.** Pause; children pray. **Help us be strong and remember You are with us in the evening and during the night.** Pause; children pray. **Thank You, God. ♥ We know You are always with us. In Jesus' name, amen.**

Saying Good-bye

- Distribute issue 2 of *Weekly Bible Reader*.
- Make sure children have projects and activity sheets they have done.
- If you have time before parents arrive, use some of the activities on the Additional Activities for Unit 1 page.

Materials

Activities pp. 5 and 6 and sticker, markers, scissors, hole punch, thin ribbon (or yarn)



Materials

posters made in Make It Real Option activity, reusable adhesive (optional: 2 sheets yellow and 1 sheet white construction paper and scissors)



Note

Instead of using the posters made during Make It Real, you can cut from construction paper two yellow suns and a white crescent moon. Attach one sun to the wall in a low position (morning). Attach one sun to the wall in a higher position (afternoon). Attach the moon to the wall in a third location.

Weekly Bible Reader

Give each student a *Weekly Bible Reader* to take home.

Be sure parents know about the *Faith & Family* pages available online to print and use with their children at home. Go to www.heartshaper.com.

