

## Basket Case

**Bible Story:** Basket Case (Moses Is Born) • *Exodus 2:1-10 (Supporting: Exodus 1)*

**Bottom Line:** You can do what you should, even when you don't know what will happen next.

**Memory Verse:** *Be strong and brave. Do not be afraid. Do not lose hope. I am the LORD your God. I will be with you everywhere you go.* Joshua 1:9b (NIRV)

**Life App:** Courage—Being brave enough to do what you should do, even when you're afraid

**Basic Truth:** I can trust God no matter what.

Be strong and brave. (*Flex muscles.*)

Do not be afraid. (*Hold up one finger and shake it back and forth.*)

Do not lose hope. (*Hold up two fingers and shake them back and forth.*)

I am the LORD your God. (*Point to heaven.*)

I will be with you everywhere you go. (*March in place.*)

Joshua 1:9b (NIRV)

**NOTE:** Robby and Mark will be out of town this week, so we'll divide into only two groups: K1 and 2-4

**Amy lead 2-4 with Jo assisting**

**Nicki lead K1 with Nicolas assisting**

## PLUGINS

### 1. Baby Moses in a Cup - Nicolas

#### [Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

*Made to Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery*

**What You Need:** “Baby Moses Cutouts” (Activity Page) OR small plastic baby dolls; scissors (*optional*); markers; cups; small objects to use as weights; plastic tubs filled with water; paper towels

#### **What You Do:**

- Give each kid a baby Moses cutout/doll and a cup, and set out the scissors and markers.
- Tell kids to cut out (if using cutouts) and color their baby Moses cutouts/dolls.
- While they decorate, set out the tubs of water on top of the plastic tablecloth(s).
- Instruct kids to carefully set their cup on top of the water and then add weights to it until it sits as low in the water as possible without sinking.
- Tell kids to take their cups out of the water but leave the weights in them.
- Encourage kids to retell the Bible story and use their baskets and baby Moses cutouts/dolls to help re-enact it.
- Let kids guide the re-telling if possible. Or read Exodus 2:1-10 as kids use their props to act out the story.

#### **What You Say:**

“Moses’ mom and sister had no clue what would happen next when they put Moses in the basket in the river OR when Pharaoh’s daughter found him. Do you think Moses’ sister and mom were scared? (*Pause.*) Would you have been scared? (*Pause.*) The storyteller in the Bible doesn’t say if Moses’ family was scared, but they almost surely were. But they did what they needed to do even in the face of fear. They didn’t let fear get the better of them. God was with them, and He’s with us, too. You might be scared sometimes when life is uncertain, but **[Bottom Line] you can do what you should, even when you don’t know what will happen next.**”

Clean up: Return cups and dolls to supply room. Clean up water, and hang towel in back right closet.

## 2. What's Next Comic Strips - Self Directed

### [Live for God | Application Activity]

*Made to Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing*

**What You Need:** "What's Next Comic Strips" Activity Pages, colored pencils

#### What You Do:

- Give each kid an Activity Page. Set out the colored pencils.
- Tell kids that there are three comic strips on this page. Two have been started for them, and the third will be completely up to them.
- Explain that each of the three comic strips is/should be about a scenario where someone starts out being afraid of what might happen next.
  - The first scene shows the situation with the kid who's afraid.
  - The second scene will show what they do to help them face that fear.
  - The third scene will be the result, or what happens next.
- Tell kids to look at the first already-drawn scene. Ask what the kids think she might be doing. Various responses are fine: she's about to give a speech, sing, introduce someone, etc.
- Then ask them to think about what she might do to help give her the strength to do what she should, such as: pray, think of a verse of Scripture, remember that God is with her. They should draw that thing in the second scene.
- Instruct kids to then draw what's next in the third scene: the girl singing, speaking with a smile, etc.
- Repeat the process for the second comic strip.
- For the third strip, ask kids to think about a scenario they might be facing or have faced in the past where they were uncertain or afraid about how something might turn out.
- Tell them to draw all three scenes of that scenario.

#### What You Say:

"There are a lot of times in life when things are uncertain and we might be afraid because we don't know what will happen next or how things will turn out. This could be things like *(mention some of the things kids drew)*. **[Make It Personal] (Share your own story of a time when you did what you should even when you didn't know how things would turn out. Be sure to tell kids what it felt like to be scared or nervous but to do what you knew you should anyway.)** What we need to remember is that God is always with us, and HE always knows what will happen next. And you know what? What happens next won't always be good. But even so, God is ALWAYS with us during whatever is happening, and He will help us. Because of that, **[Bottom Line] you can do what you should, even when you don't know what will happen next.**"

### 3. Moses in a Basket - Jo

**What You Need:** Envelopes, scissors, chenille wire, tongue depressors, scotch tape Optional – Background and grass

**What You Do:**

Have children:

- Cut off top of envelope. (You may want to draw a line guide for younger students.)
- Draw a basket pattern on envelope.
- Draw a face on the tongue depressor.
- Tape the chenille wire onto the envelope to make a basket handle.

**What You Say:** “In our Bible story, Miriam and Jochebed didn’t know what would happen after they made their basket and put the baby inside. They could have given in to fear and frozen up. But instead, they did what they could—made a good strong basket and got the baby far away from the soldiers—and then trusted that God could handle the rest. They showed true courage by doing everything they could for baby Moses, despite how afraid they probably were.

“Just like them, **[Bottom Line]** you can do what you should, even when you don’t know what will happen next. Sometimes when we’re afraid of what might happen, we just don’t do anything. Has that ever happened to you?”

Clean up:Return extra envelopes, chenille wire, and tongue depressors to supply room.



**4. Beginners' Hieroglyphics - Nicki (they stole our idea from last week. ☺ )**

**[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]**

*Made to Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing*

**What You Need:** "Beginners' Hieroglyphics" Activity Pages; pencils or pens; Bibles

**What You Do:**

- Gather kids and look up Joshua 1:9 in the Bibles, using the Bible Navigation Tips below.
- Pass out the Beginners' Hieroglyphics Pages and pencils.
- Encourage older kids to help younger ones as they figure out the secret code and discover our Memory Verse.
- *Note: If you use a translation of the Bible other than NIV or NIV, hand out one version of the Activity Page and some blank paper. Guide kids to use the original page as an example as they come up with their own symbols for key words.*

**What You Say:**

"I love this verse! If you're having a tough time figuring out how **[Bottom Line] you can do what you should, even when you don't know what will happen next**, this verse has some great advice! It reminds us that God is with us everywhere. There is nothing that will ever happen to you that could separate you from God. He is with you when you feel confident and when you feel afraid. God is with you in every unknown situation. He will never leave you, so you can be brave and have hope!"

Cleanup: Ask me to show you the resource envelope.

## 5. Bumps in the Night - Amy

### [Live for God | Application Activity]

*Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group*

**What You Need:** “Bumps in the Night Cards” and “Bumps in the Night Answer Sheet” Activity Pages

#### What You Do:

- Divide the group into smaller groups of five, making sure every group has one older kid who can read the cards if younger kids need help.
- The older kids will also be their group’s leader. Give each group leader the answer key, instructing them to make sure no one else sees it!
- Give each group a deck of cards.
- The first player draws a card and answers the question on it. If they get the question right, they keep that card and draw another one.
- The first player will keep drawing and answering, collecting her right-answer cards, until she gets a question wrong.
- Then play passes to the next person, who repeats the process.
- Whenever a BUMP card is drawn, that player loses all the cards they’ve collected to that point and their turn is immediately over.
- The person with the most cards at the end of the game is the winner.
- Group leaders will keep the game moving in an organized manner, using the answer key to settle any “disputes” about what counts as a correct answer.
  - Make sure you choose kids who are mature enough to handle their momentary position of authority!

#### What You Say:

“This game was tricky, but I like it! It reminds me of real life. Every time you took a new card, there was a risk it was a BUMP. In fact, the only way guaranteed to not get BUMPed is to not play the game. How did it take courage to play this game? *(You had to keep playing even though there were bumps ahead; you had to balance the hope of winning more cards with NOT getting a BUMP card.)* You absolutely never know what’s going to happen for sure, but all you can do is keep answering the challenges in front of you and reaching for the next one.

“You could focus on all that unknown future ahead and be really nervous all the time, or **[Bottom Line]** **you can do what you should, even when you don’t know what will happen next.** So go ahead, smile at the new kid at the bus stop, or tell the truth when it’s a little scary. Have courage and be brave!”

Clean up : Recycle

## All Groups

### Bible Story Review

#### Act It Out

#### [Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

*Made to Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment*

**What You Need:** The baby doll and blanket

#### What You Do:

- Assign the kids to play the following roles from the Bible story: Pharaoh, Soldiers who search for the baby, Jochebed (Moses' mother), Miriam (Moses' sister), princess, and the princess's servant.
- Read the following script as the "actors" play their roles in the story.
  - Hand the baby doll to "Jochebed" to hold.
  - Lay the blanket on the floor as the "water" in the river.

There was a powerful **Pharaoh** who ruled over all of Egypt. He was mean and forced the Israelites living in his land to work as slaves. Soon, there were more and more Israelites. This worried **Pharaoh**, so he made a terrible rule. **Pharaoh** said, "Take all the newborn Israelite baby boys and throw them into the Nile River." This was awful news for the Israelites. There was an Israelite mother named **Jochebed** who was determined to save her baby boy. **Jochebed** had to keep her baby quiet so that **Pharaoh's soldiers** wouldn't find him. **Miriam**, the baby's older sister, helped care for him too. But as the baby grew, **Jochebed** knew she couldn't keep him quiet in their home. So she came up with a plan. She covered a basket with thick tar so water couldn't get in and placed her baby gently inside. She had to be careful so **Pharaoh's soldiers** wouldn't catch her!

**Jochebed** carefully put the basket with her baby boy near the river while **Miriam** watched. Soon Pharaoh's daughter, the **princess**, came to the water with her **servant** beside her. The **princess** saw the basket in the water and asked her **servant** to go get it. When she looked inside, she found a crying baby! The **princess** knew this was an Israelite baby, but she wanted to help. **Miriam**, who was watching, walked up to the **princess** and asked, "Would you like for me to find an Israelite woman to help you take care of the baby?" The **princess** said yes, so **Miriam** went to **Jochebed**, the baby's own mother! They returned to the **princess**, who asked **Jochebed** to feed the baby, and she even offered to pay her to do this. **Jochebed** would be able to take care of her baby until he was old enough to return to the palace. The **princess** named him "Moses," which means "pulled out of the water."

#### What You Say:

"Great acting, my friends! I love this story. Jochebed and Miriam had NO idea what would happen that day, but they had courage and trusted God. Because of their courage, Moses' life was saved, and when we he grew up, God used him to save the lives of MILLIONS of others. We'll hear more about that next week. I know sometimes it's hard to do the right thing—to do the thing you know you should do—when you don't know what will happen. Making the wise choice is always best. Let's remember

this week that like Jochebed and Miriam, **[Bottom Line]** you can do what you should, even when you don't know what will happen next."

**[Make It Personal]** (Tell the kids about a time when you had courage to make the wise choice even when you had no idea how things would turn out. What happened? How did you feel when you were making that choice? How did your faith and trust in God grow when you chose to obey even when you weren't sure of the outcome?)

### Memory Verse Motions

#### [Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

*Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

**What You Need:** Bibles

#### What You Do:

- Pass out a Bible to every two or three kids.
- Use the navigation tips below to help kids look up Joshua 1:9b and read it together as a group.
- Teach the following motions to the children to help them memorize this month's memory verse. (Adjust as needed, based on your preferred translation of the Bible.)
  - Be strong and brave. (*Flex muscles.*)
  - Do not be afraid. (*Hold up one finger and shake it back and forth.*)
  - Do not lose hope. (*Hold up two fingers and shake them back and forth.*)
  - I am the LORD your God. (*Point to heaven.*)
  - I will be with you everywhere you go. (*March in place.*)
- Repeat several times together as a group.

#### What You Say:

"This is such an AWESOME verse to memorize! We can be strong and brave (*flex muscles*). We don't have to be afraid or lose hope, because God is with us everywhere we go. Is God with us on the playground? Yep. Is God with us when we're lying in bed and all the lights are out? Is God with us when we need to tell the truth or stand up for someone else? Yes! Where else is God with us? (*Let a few kids each name a different place, to help bring home the truth that God is everywhere!*) God is with us, and He will give us the courage to make the wise choice. So this week, when you face a situation where you need some courage, say this verse to yourself as a reminder that God is with you so that **[Bottom Line]** you can do what you should, even when you don't know what will happen next."

### OPTIONAL for 2-4 Only

#### Fear on My Mind

*Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group*

**What You Need:** "Fear On My Mind" cards (Activity Pages), headbands

#### What You Do:

- Choose one player to begin.
- Place the headband on their head, so that a Fear On My Mind card can be placed between the band and their head, facing out.

## Wednesday Treehouse

- When the first player has a card on his forehead, he can begin asking the group yes-or-no questions to help him guess what fear is on his head.
- Once he has guessed correctly, play passes to the next person.

### **What You Say:**

“Fear is a very powerful emotion! It can make us do strange things—like avoiding the grates in the sidewalk—and fear can motivate us to not do other things—like hiding the trash bags near the house instead of taking them out to the spooky garbage bins at the end of the street. **[Transition] Let’s go hear about what we can do when we have these fears.**”

**Cleanup: Replace headbands in right back closet. Recycle cards. Replace dolls and blankets in supply room.**

## Wednesday Treehouse