Plan

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| SuppliesBasic Supplies: CEB Deep Blue Kids Bible | Deep Blue Bible Storybook | Deep Blue Adventure Video | Pencils | Crayons | Markers | Scissors | Glue | Paper | Blocks or small boxesSupplies for Extra At-Home Activity: Extra Activity Page  |

Before You Teach

Joshua had been Moses's helper for a long time, so when Moses died, Joshua became the new leader of the Israelites. God spoke to Joshua and gave him clear instructions about entering the promised land. God promised to give them the land and no one would be able to stop them. God would always be with them, but they needed to follow all of God's Instruction. Three times God told Joshua to be brave and strong.

Find the Letters (Puzzle)

Before class: Make a copy of the puzzle for each child.

SAY: Look for hidden letters in your picture of Joshua leading the Israelites into the promised land. When you find a letter, circle it and write that letter at the bottom of your page. When you have written all the letters at the bottom of the page, decide what word the letters make.

* Allow the children time to find their letters and write the word.
* Allow the children to color their pictures.

**ASK:** What word do you think the letters make?

Signs (Craft)

* Read Joshua 1:1-9 in your Bible.

**ASK:** What are some important things God said to Joshua in our Scripture*?* *(Ex. Be brave and strong. I will always be with you. Allow the children to say more.)*

* Give each child some paper. Set out crayons and markers.
* Have the children choose what message they want to write on their papers.
* The children can write out the message, then design the page the way they would like.
* Invite the children to share their signs with Cokesbury Kids at [www.facebook.com/cokesburykids](http://www.facebook.com/cokesburykids) .

Read the Bible Story

* Find Joshua 1:1-9 in your Bible, or read “God Chooses Joshua” from the Deep Blue Bible Storybook
(pp. 88–91).

ASK: How long had the Israelites been waiting to enter the promised land? (40 years) What made this event so important? How do you think this event has affected the future?

See the Bible Story

SAY: Asia’s mother, Layla, has received a great promotion at work. She is excited but also very nervous.

* Watch today’s episode here: <https://my.amplifymedia.com/amplify/series/unitedmethodistpublishinghouse/35799-deep-blue-connects-adventure-summer-2020/35802-lessons/114916-communities-are-faithful>

ASK: What makes you nervous?

Sacred Conversations

SAY: Change is a natural part of life. We are continually changing and growing. Changing leaders is one of those things that we deal with frequently. Every year when school starts, you are assigned a new teacher. You have to learn the new teacher’s rules and ways of doing things.

* ASK: How do you learn the new rules? How long does it take to get used to a new leader? What is the best way to adjust to a new leader?

Blessing

SAY: Before we end today, we are going to share a blessing with each other. Blessings show how special you are to God.

* Go around the room and say the blessing to each child.

SAY: (Person’s name), God loves you. God remembers you. God will always be with you.

PRAY: Dear God, help us search and learn God’s instructions so we can discover the leadership traits we have to lead God’s people. Help us follow Moses and Joshua’s examples and be leaders; in Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

Follow God’s Rules (Extra At-Home Game)

ASK: How did God speak to the Israelites? (through Joshua) What did God say the Israelites needed to do to be a success? (follow God’s laws exactly)

SAY: Let’s see if you can follow my instructions exactly. Listen carefully and do exactly what I tell you when I start with “God says” at the beginning.

* Have the children line up in a single line and spread out.
* Give them some instructions such as hop on your right foot 5 times and then your left foot 3 times.
* When a child doesn’t follow the instructions, have them sit down in their place. Keep giving instructions until only one person is left standing. Reward this person for following instructions exactly as given.

ASK: Was it hard to follow the instructions exactly as they were given? Do you think it was hard for the Israelites to follow God’s rules exactly? Who helped them? (Joshua)

SAY: God’s laws were not just for the Israelites. God gave them to us too.