

### LESSON AT A GLANCE

**WONDER TRUTH:** God Leads Us

**SCRIPTURE:** [Joshua 1](#); 3–4

**WORD OF WONDER:** [From Jeremiah 32:17](#)

### Prayer of Invitation

God, we thank You that You are a good, wise, and perfect leader. As we explore Your big story today, help us listen well and learn what You have for us. We pray that Your Holy Spirit will make us more like You as You lead us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### God's Big Story

**I open my Bible and what do I see?** *(Hold your hands together, then open your palms, as if opening a book.)*

**God's big story, waiting for me!** *(Point to yourself.)*

Let's start by reading part of God's big story from the book of Joshua in the Bible. That book of the Bible is named after Joshua, who was chosen to lead God's people after Moses. It's close to the beginning of the Bible.

Read the God's Big Story Script provided or read [Joshua 1:1–9](#) from the Bible. You can also print the Bible Story Picture to give the kids a visual depiction as you tell the story.

## GOD'S BIG STORY SCRIPT

Our God's big story today is a great story from the Bible about a man named Joshua, who was the leader of God's people. Encourage the kids to say, "Joshua." Let's find out from the Bible what happened to him.

God promised the Israelites (they were God's people!) He would lead them to a very special home that God chose for them called the promised land. God chose a man named Joshua to lead the people.

**In our story today, we'll learn about when God led His people across a river.**

**God chose a man named Joshua to be the leader of His people. God told Joshua to be strong and brave. Can you make big muscles like you're very strong and brave? Allow the kids to respond.**

**Joshua could be brave because God was leading him!**

**But the Israelites had to cross the Jordan River. It was a big river.**

**God told them that to cross the river. First, some of the people had to carry a special golden box called the ark of the covenant. They carried it across the river.**

**The box helped God's people remember that God was with them.**

**Something really cool happened when the people with the box went into the river! The water just stopped flowing! Can you imagine a river just stopping? They were suddenly on dry ground.**

**All of God's people crossed the river on dry ground! God led His people and made a way for them to get across the Jordan River.**

**To make sure the people remembered what happened, God told them to get stones from the river. So they did.**

**.After they crossed the river, the people put the stones in a pile to help them remember that God was so good to them.**

**To make sure they remembered what happened, God told Joshua to choose one man from each tribe of Israel. There were 12 tribes. Each man would pick up a stone from the middle of the Jordan River and carry it to the other side.**

**The stones would help them remember to tell lots of people what God did for them.**

**Joshua was a great leader because he followed God. God made Joshua very strong and brave. We can follow God because God leads us.**

**Watch God's Big Story**

**Worship**

## Connecting the Wonder Truth

Our Wonder Truth today is **GOD LEADS US**. Where did you see our Wonder Truth happen in the story? Allow kids to answer freely.

God promised the land of Canaan to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob's family, and many years later when Joshua became the leader of the Israelites, it was time to enter the land! God would show a new generation that when they trust Him to lead, He would do amazing things for them.

## Word of Wonder

### WORD OF WONDER

**Nothing is too hard for God.**

—from Jeremiah 32:17

Let's practice saying the Word of Wonder together.

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

- **NOTHING**—*Cross your arms in front of you, back and forth.*
- **IS TOO**—*Hold up two fingers (peace sign).* **HARD**—*Hold both arms straight up in front of you.* **FOR GOD.**
- —*Point up.*
- **FROM JEREMIAH 32:17**—*Hold your hands together as if opening a book.*
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In the God Rescues series, we've been learning the verse **Jeremiah 32:17**, which tells us nothing is too hard for God! In today's story, God did some amazing things. He set His people free from Egypt and led them in the wilderness. He led them through the Jordan River and caused the water to stop flowing so they could cross on dry land. God is powerful and strong. He can do anything! He can lead us.

Gather kids to discuss these questions in Prayer Journal:

- Have you ever tried to do something that was too hard for you, and you couldn't do it? How did you feel?
- How does the verse help you remember to trust God to lead you?
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