

God Encourages Us  
Children's Bible Lesson  
March 20, 2020  
Greenfield Church of Christ

Have you ever felt overwhelmed or scared? Have you ever felt alone? Of course you have! All of us have felt scared or alone from time to time, but the Bible tells us that God will be with us always. He will always help us when we are scared or feeling alone.

In the Deuteronomy 31 and Joshua 1, we learn of the story of Joshua.

The Lord called to a young Joshua to follow Moses as leader of his people. Moses had been leading the Israelites out of Egypt and to the promised land, Canaan. After almost 40 years of travel, Moses was a lot older. The Bible says that Moses was 120 years old when he died. God needed someone younger to take over the leadership of this huge nation of people and to lead the people into the land of Canaan. Can you imagine the pressure Joshua must have felt? He was to follow one of the greatest prophets and leaders of the Bible - a man who had seen God face to face - Moses! Those are big shoes to fill! Joshua would be leading a HUGE nation of people to their new home, and I'm sure Joshua was afraid and doubtful. Joshua was encouraged seven times within these chapters of the Bible to "**be strong and courageous.**" This was spoken to him over and over again as he became the leader of a group of people who were tired and discouraged. Imagine, traveling through the desert for 40 years, living in tents, eating quail and manna each and every day. Imagine never having a home to go to. For years, the Israelites had traveled through the desert with hopes of reaching the land God had promised them. They traveled with their families having only what they could carry with them. Can you imagine how the Israelites felt as they traveled in the desert for 40 years? What would you be thinking? The Israelites had yet to see that promised land when their faithful leader, Moses, died and a new, young man, Joshua, took his place. Joshua was strong and he was definitely courageous. He obeyed the calling and leading of the Lord and saw the people enter the promised land.

*"Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the sight of all of Israel, 'Be strong and courageous, for you shall go with this people into the land that the Lord has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall put them in possession of it. It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; He will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.'" Deuteronomy 31:7-8*

Just as God was with Joshua and the Israelites, God is with us! We need only to pray to Him and ask Him for his help, love, and guidance.

*"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." Isaiah 41:10*

Sometimes, we see things on the news that are scary. Sometimes, we hear adults talking about things that are scary. We need to remember that God is with us and is watching everything. God will never leave us. He will help us - always - just as He once helped Joshua and the Israelites.

You are loved,  
Ms. Shantelle

Be  
**STRONG**  
and have  
**COURAGE;**  
Do NOT be  
**AFRAID.**

**Joshua 1:9a**



Joshua, the new leader

## God's Promise

JOSHUA 1:5

Use the key below to complete the verses about God's promise to Joshua.  
How do you think Joshua felt after hearing God's promise?

"THERE SHALL NOT



BE ABLE TO



BEFORE THEE ALL THE



OF THY LIFE: AS I WAS WITH



THEE, SO WILL I BE WITH THEE. I WILL NOT



THEE, NOR FORSAKE THEE."

JOSHUA 1:5 KJV

K  
E  
Y

