



The Wilderness: Joshua and Caleb

Lesson Aim: To know we can trust God with our fears.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: The God Who Sends

THE WORD

Bible Story: Deuteronomy 1:21-36

What He Has Done: God sent Joshua and Caleb to spy on the new land.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "Do not be afraid."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for Us?'
And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'" Isaiah 6:8

Unit 9: The God Who Sends			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
43	God Sends Manna, Exodus 16:2-5, 11-16, 32	God sent manna so His people would survive in the wilderness.	To know God sends us what we need.
44	The Ten Commandments, Exodus 20:1-17	God sent the Ten Commandments.	To honor our fathers and mothers.
45	The Wilderness: Joshua and Caleb, Deuteronomy 1:21-36	God sends Joshua and Caleb to spy on the new land.	To know we can trust God with our fears.
46	Promised Land: Crossing the Jordan River, Joshua 1:6-9; 3:15-17; 4:4-9, 17-18	God sent His people across the Jordan River into the promised land.	To know we can be strong, brave leaders.
47	Joshua and Jericho, Joshua 6:1-20	God sent Joshua and His people to take over the city of Jericho.	To see we can trust God's plan.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 27. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for leading the Israelites through the wilderness. Forgive us, Lord, for our grumbling. Help the children trust You in every situation. Amen."



Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a magnifying glass, binoculars, or eyes
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Do not be afraid."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs are available at ResourceWell.org.	Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Here Am I" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Blessed Are Those" "Children Obey Your Parents" "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled" "Give Thanks to the Lord" "I Am with You" "I Will Remember" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" Additional Song Suggestions: "Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: God of Wonders Unit 9, Lesson 45
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Deuteronomy 1:21-36	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Deuteronomy 1:29 Visual: Binoculars or magnifying glass
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Spy Glass	Sturdy white and any other color paper, 5-6 colorful stickers, craft stick, tape, crayons or markers
		Game: I Spy with My Little Eye	"Spy Glass" crafts
		Game: Tents in the Wilderness	Bed sheet and twine or camping tent, Bible Memory Verse Songs, such as "I Am with You" or "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled"
		Snack: Fruit in the Wilderness	Fruit snack
		Circle of Prayer	None
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 9, Lesson 45 Color This Story: "The Wilderness: Joshua and Caleb"
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Deuteronomy 1:21-36	None
	Up to 10	Game: Here Am I!	None
	Up to 10	Game: Send Me!	Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song "Here Am I"
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about trusting God with our fears

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Do not be afraid

THE WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a sticker or stamp of a magnifying glass, binoculars, or eyes. **Here is your special spy sticker (or stamp). Today, we will learn about twelve spies God sent on a special mission. Two of the spies trusted God to take care of them, even though they were very afraid. Today's Whisper Verse is "Do not be afraid."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.***

SIGN LANGUAGE: "Do not be afraid."

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com.)

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with two hand motions:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| "Do not" | Both hands, with palms facing down, begin crossed in front of the chest and then uncross outwardly with force, as if indicating something should stop. |
| "(be) afraid." | Hands move in front of the body with the right hand over the left shoulder and the left hand across the body to the right hip, as if protecting the body from something; both palms face in toward the body with fingers open. |

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "Do not be afraid," Deuteronomy 1:29. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



The God who sends **THE WORSHIP**

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play “Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God” as children move to that designated area.



It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to the God who sends us where He wants us to go. God loves us and is always with us wherever He sends us. He sent you here today and He is with you now. Giving our offering, singing, and praying are great ways we can thank God for all He has done for us. Let's start by giving our offering now. Play: “Give Thanks to the Lord” as background music while collecting the offering.



Let's see if Delbert and Lello can tell us about today's story. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 9, Lesson 45.

God had Moses send twelve spies into a new land. The people in the new land were taller and stronger than the spies, so many of them were afraid. Moses told them, “Do not be afraid.” Review the Whisper Verse together: “Do not be afraid.” Include sign language.



Have you ever been afraid to go to a new place? (Children respond.) **It's important to remember we can trust in God, just as Joshua and Caleb did. Even when we feel very small, we can trust God to take care of us wherever He sends us!** Sing: “Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled.”

God sends us to love others and tell them about Jesus. Let's sing a promise to God that we will go when He sends us. We can march around the room as we sing. Sing: “Here Am I.”

We do not need to be afraid to go to new places or try new things because His love goes with us wherever we go. Sing: “I Am with You.”



Joshua and Caleb trust the Lord

THE WORD

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;
My mouth quiet as can be,
I will listen to hear,
How God loves you and me.

Point to eyes.
Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
Cup hand around ear.
Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Last time, we learned God sent His people the Ten Commandments. Commandment number five says to honor your father and your mother. Who remembered to do that this week? (Children respond.) Today, we will learn how God sent twelve spies into a new land. Only two spies, Joshua and Caleb, trusted God to keep them safe. I'm going to open the Bible to the book of Deuteronomy to learn more about what they found in this new land. Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Deuteronomy 1:29.

WATCH THE WORD: DEUTERONOMY 1:21-36

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display binoculars or a magnifying glass to represent spying on the new land. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story picture, or any related picture.

- Moses chose twelve good men.
- He sent them out to spy on the land.
- So, up into the hills they climbed.
- They picked tasty fruit and spied.
- But, most forgot to trust the Lord;
- They were frightened to hear the spies' report.
- They grumbled for they were afraid.
- God was angry to hear them complain.

- "Our enemies are huge in that new place.
- They are taller and stronger; we are afraid.
- And the enemy walls they go so high,
- We hear they reach up to the sky!"
- Moses said, "Do not be afraid.
- Remember our God always makes a way!"
- Only Joshua and Caleb trusted in the Lord.
- God gave them the land as their reward!



What did Moses say to the frightened people? ("Do not be afraid.") Let's find our answer in the Bible. Read Deuteronomy 1:29 from the teacher's Bible.

That reminds me of our Whisper Verse. Let's say it together, "Do not be afraid." Include sign language or hand motions.



We can trust the Lord

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: SPY GLASS

Purpose: To know we can trust God with our fears.

Supplies: Sturdy white and any other color paper, 5-6 colorful stickers, craft stick, tape, crayons or markers

Prepare: On sturdy white paper, draw or print a picture of a Bible times city. From colorful sturdy paper, cut a 6-inch x 9-inch rectangle. On the paper, print:

**"Do not be afraid."
Deuteronomy 1:29**

Directions:

1. If needed, color the picture of the Bible times city.
2. Tape the Bible times city to a craft stick.
3. Decorate the 6-inch x 9-inch rectangle with 5-6 stickers and crayons or markers, being careful not to cover the Whisper Verse.
4. To create the spy glass, roll the rectangular paper lengthwise to create a cylinder.
5. Tape the ends together so the paper stays rolled.

Craft Discussion:

- **Look through your spy glass at the city, just like the spies may have done.**
- **Have you ever gone to a new place?** (Children respond.)
- **What was the most amazing thing you saw in that new place?** (Children respond.)
- **Did you see anything frightening in the new place?** (Children respond.)
- **Who was there with you?** (Parents, siblings, friends, God.)

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: I SPY WITH MY LITTLE EYE

Purpose: To help the children identify with the twelve spies who were sent to the new land.

Supplies: "Spy Glass" crafts

The spies must have seen many new things in the new land. I think there are things right here in this room we have never noticed before. Let's play a special game and see what we can find using our spy glasses!

Directions:

1. Teacher secretly chooses an object visible in the room and says, "**I spy with my little eye something that is the color of the item.**" If children cannot guess the item, give them hints about the objects size, shape, etc.
2. Children look around the room with their spy glasses and try to guess the object.
3. When a child has guessed the correct object, play again. You may choose to allow the children to take turns choosing the object while the others guess.

GAME: TENTS IN THE WILDERNESS

Purpose: To identify with God's people in the wilderness.

Supplies: Bed sheet and twine or camping tent, Bible Memory Verse Songs, such as "I Am with You" or "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled"

In the wilderness, God's people lived in tents. When they were afraid of going to the new land, they went into their tents and grumbled. Let's make a tent and go inside. We can pretend we are God's people. Instead of grumbling in our tent, we can enjoy the fruit the spies brought back from the new land.

Directions:

1. Create a wilderness tent using a camping tent or use twine to tie four corners of a bed sheet from the ceiling or cover tables with bed sheets.
2. Have the children crawl inside the wilderness tent.
3. Sing a song about trusting God, such as "When I Am Afraid," "I Am with You," or "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled."
4. Optional: Serve the snack inside the tent and enjoy the snack discussion.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: FRUIT IN THE WILDERNESS

Purpose: To know we can trust God with our fears.

Snack Suggestion: Fruit snack

Who remembers what the spies brought back from the new land? (Good fruit.) As we eat our fruit snack, let's talk about today's story.

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.
3. Lead discussion below while the children enjoy their snack.
 - **Who remembers the Whisper Verse?** ("Do not be afraid.") **Let's say it together with the hand motions.**
 - **Have you ever been afraid to go to a new place?** (Children respond.) **Did someone you trust say, "Do not be afraid?"** (Children respond.) **Did anything happen to calm your fears?** (Children respond.)
 - **When we are afraid, it can help to sing a song about God's power, His goodness, or His miracles. Remembering those things helps us trust in Him. Is there something special you do to help you trust God when you are afraid?** (Children respond.)



CIRCLE OF PRAYER

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (read every name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your "Spy Glass" craft. Use it to tell someone how Joshua and Caleb spied on the new land.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY: Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about what to do when you are afraid to go to a new place.**

COLOR THIS STORY: "The Wilderness: Joshua and Caleb." Discuss the Bible Story and play the Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Here Am I," as children color.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: DEUTERONOMY 1:21-36

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **Moses chose twelve good men.** (Point, as if choosing.)
- **He sent them out to spy on the land.** (Place imaginary binoculars on eyes.)
- **So, up into the hills they went.** (Walk in place.)
- **They picked tasty fruit and spied.** (Rub tummy.)
- **But, most forgot to trust the Lord;** (Look afraid.)
- **They were frightened to hear the spies' report.** (Cup hands at ears.)
- **They grumbled for they were afraid.** (Fold arms, as if grumpy.)
- **God was angry to hear them complain.** (Cup the hands at ears.)

- **"Our enemies are huge in that new place.** (Spread arms wide.)
- **They are taller and stronger; we are afraid.** (Show muscles.)
- **And the enemy walls they go so high,** (Look up high.)
- **We hear they reach up to the sky!"** (Reach high.)
- **Moses said, "Do not be afraid."** (Whisper Verse sign language.)
- **Remember our God always makes a way!"** (Point to heaven.)
- **Only Joshua and Caleb trusted in the Lord.** (Hold heart.)
- **God gave them the land as their reward!** (Clap hands.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for Us?'
And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'" Isaiah 6:8

GAME: HERE AM I!

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None

Our Bible Memory Verse says, "I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for Us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'" God sends us to love others and tell them about Jesus. He wants us to say, "Here am I. Send me!"

Directions:

1. Children sit in a circle.
2. As you walk around the outside of the circle, say, "**I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for Us?'"**
3. Stop and point to one of the children in the circle.
4. The child jumps up and shouts, "**Here am I. Send me!"**
5. Repeat steps 2-4, giving each child to jump up and say the Bible Memory Verse.

GOT TIME *continued...*

GAME: SEND ME!

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song "Here Am I"

Let's sing our Bible Memory Verse song together as we march around the room. When you hear the words, "Here am I, send me," I want you to stop where you are and we're going to do two motions. Demonstrate the motions and have the children practice them with you.

"Here am I," Hold hands in front of you at waist level, palms up.

"Send me." Point thumb or pointer finger to self.

Directions:

1. Choose a child as the leader. The other children line up behind the leader.
2. As you begin the music, instruct the leader to lead the other children around the room.
I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?"
I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send?"
3. When you hear "Here am I, send me. Here am I, send me. Here am I, send me. Here am I, send me." lead the children in stopping and doing the motions.
4. The children begin marching again. Repeat steps 2 and 3.
5. This is a short song (1:10). Play it several times, allowing each child a turn as the leader.

GOT TIME *continued...*



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about trusting God with our fears.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 9, Lesson 45: The Wilderness: Joshua and Caleb

PONDER! Read Deuteronomy 1:21-36 with your family. Talk about how it can be frightening to go to a new place, to meet new people, or to see big buildings. Share family tips for how to calm fears and trust in the Lord.

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Thank You, Lord, for sending Your spies ahead of Your people to protect them. Thank You for protecting us so we never need to be afraid. Amen."

PLAY! Take your family exploring to a place you have never been. Take along a drawing pad and a magnifying glass, if you have one. Take notes or draw pictures of the new things you see. Talk about how you feel when you discover new things.

Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse: Isaiah 6:8

"I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for Us?'
And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'"