

Devo Minute

A Resource to Assist Families in Growing Their Children Spiritually

Take Courage in God's Faithfulness

Text: Joshua 1:1-16

Purpose: To encourage families to take courage knowing that God will take care of them.

Memory Verse (Optional): Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

Background: Joshua has just been appointed to do the unimaginable: replace Moses as the leader of the Israelites. The gravity of trying to fill the shoes of the one who talked with God "face to face" (Num. 12:6-8) must truly have been setting in. To compound Joshua's anxiety, he and all Israel stood poised to enter the Promised Land. The last time Israel had prepared to enter Canaan, the result was 40 years of wandering because of the people's lack of faith. Surely Joshua must have wondered if this would be a case of déjà vu. In this passage, God confirmed Joshua as leader of Israel and encouraged him to be courageous in his leadership, because God would be with him.

Suggested Flow:

- Read passage
- Ask questions about passage
- 3) Recite memory verse
- 4) Pray

Questions to Get You Started:

- Why did Joshua need encouragement from God?
- What do you think Joshua must have felt before and after God's encouragement?
- Why did God say that Joshua should have courage?
- What areas in your life do you need to be strong and courageous?
- How can you look to God to grow in your strength and courage?

Keys for Devo Success

- Remove distractions such as phones, tablets, and TV.
- Assign each family member a role in the Devo.
- Aim for consistency in devo location, time, and length.
- Start small.
- Insist on everyone's involvement.
- Create a devo time that is custom fit for your family.
- Remember the goal is for you and your family to grow spiritually together, so don't sweat the small stuff.

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates."

-Deuteronomy 6:4-9