

LESSON SNAPSHOT

BOTTOM LINE:

God is our greatest source of strength!

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn that a follower of God grows in strength and confidence to trust God no matter what.

KEY PASSAGE:

Acts 27:9-44, Paul Is Shipwrecked

MEMORY VERSE:

“Have your roots in him. Build yourselves up in him. Grow strong in what you believe, just as you were taught. Be more thankful than ever before.” Colossians 2:7 (NirV)

SUMMARY:

Even though Paul was a prisoner on a boat, he was strong in the Lord and never lost heart. When everyone around him was panicking about the shipwrecked boat, Paul relied on the confidence and strength that God had given him to get through. Use brown bricks to build the boat Paul was in that wasn't strong enough to withstand the storm.

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Give us your strength so we can be good witnesses for you.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

MEMORY VERSE

“Have your roots in him. Build yourselves up in him. Grow strong in what you believe, just as you were taught. Be more thankful than ever before.” Colossians 2:7 (NirV)

“Rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.” Colossians 2:7 (NIV)

LARGE GROUP:

Pick out some kids at random from the crowd and see who can recite the memory verse. Then repeat it all together.

SMALL GROUP:

Pair the kids off and have them recite the verse to each other.

SKIT

BUILD A BOAT

ITEMS NEEDED:

None

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

2 M

CHARACTERS:

Drew - A construction worker

Clyde - Drew's supervisor

Drew and Clyde enter together.

CLYDE: Well, this is it. We've reached the end of our construction project.

DREW: I can't believe it's almost over. What are we building today?

CLYDE: For our last project, we are building a boat.

DREW: A boat? Out of brown building bricks?

CLYDE: You got it.

DREW: Sir, I know you're the boss and I'm just the guy who builds things and learns life lessons along the way, but a boat made of brown bricks isn't going to work.

CLYDE: And why not?

DREW: If you put a boat made out of those bricks in water, it's gonna sink!

CLYDE: Well that's kind of the point.

DREW: No, it's kind of not. Boats are support to float in water. You see, the idea is to go across the water while staying dry, not end up on the bottom of the ocean with the lobsters.

SKIT

CLYDE: Not our boat. This boat reminds us of the boat the Apostle Paul was on that was shipwrecked.

DREW: So you want to build a boat that reminds us boats sink?

CLYDE: No, I want a boat that reminds us that we need to place our trust in God and not the things of man. All the men on Paul's ship were scared of dying. Only Paul had faith. He knew the Lord would protect him and everyone on board the ship, and that made him strong.

DREW: Ohhhh, I get it. So the boat reminds us that our strength comes from God!

CLYDE: There you go, buddy.

DREW: You know, it's funny how much I've learned about God on this construction set.

CLYDE: It is. But following God is like any building project. You don't become a faithful Christian overnight. One step at a time. One brick at a time.

DREW: And our strength doesn't come from the mortar in between building bricks but our faith in God. Awesome.

CLYDE: Come on, buddy, get to building. We've got a boat to sink!

DREW: Can we call it the Titanic?

CLYDE: No.

DREW: Okay, just checking. Let's build a boat!

OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

ITEMS NEEDED:

A cheap plastic boat with a hole drilled in the bottom

A spray bottle of FlexSeal

A large tub of water

Prior to this lesson, use the FlexSeal to coat and close the hole in the boat.

How many of you guys have seen the commercial with the guy using this product to seal off the bottom of a boat? If you haven't seen it, a man takes this stuff and sprays it on a screen door attached to the bottom of a boat. He then gets in the boat and paddles away across a lake.

I used this same material to close the hole in this tiny boat. How many of you guys think that the boat will float?

Put the boat in water, and watch to see what it does.

In today's Bible story we read about a boat that was shipwrecked. I don't think that even Flexseal could have saved that boat, but the men on board were saved by something much stronger. God is our strength in difficult times. God is stronger than any storm. He is greater than any problem. He is strong enough to help you through any challenge.

Don't rely on the things of this world. Let God be your strength, and He will build a strong faith in you.

LARGE GROUP GAME

WILL IT FLOAT? - LEGO EDITION

ITEMS NEEDED:

A LEGO-built boat (a kit, or your own creation)

INSTRUCTIONS:

Choose one player for this game. Show them the boat and ask the student, "Will it float?" Then test it out in the water tub. If they guess correctly, they win a prize.

VARIATION:

For a longer, more challenging game, have two older kids build a LEGO boat to be tested in the water. They will have 90 seconds to make their boat before it's time to give it a trial in the water.

WHAT'S THE POINT?

God is our greatest strength.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

BOTTOM LINE:

God is our greatest source of strength!

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn that a follower of God grows in strength and confidence to trust God no matter what.

KEY PASSAGE:

Acts 27:9-44, Paul is Shipwrecked

INTRO:

Some LEGO master builders are pretty amazing. Take the story of Brynjar Karl Birgisson, a boy from Iceland who was diagnosed with Autism. From an early age, Birgisson was fascinated by the story of the ocean liner Titanic. With his father's help, the then eleven-year old created a blueprint to build a LEGO model of the Titanic. It took him eleven months to complete and 700 hours of hard work, but 56,000 LEGOS later, he was finished. The model is 26 feet long, five feet high, and four feet wide, with working interior lights. If you ever travel to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, you can see it at the Titanic Museum. (It is on display through 2020. Source: <https://www.knoxnews.com/story/news/2018/04/16/titanic-26-foot-model-56-000-legos-autistic-boy-pigeon-forge-tn-museum/504329002/>)

The Titanic is one of the one of the most fascinating stories of our time. The state-of-the-art ship was said to be unsinkable. Someone forgot to tell that to the iceberg that tore a hole in the side of the ship and caused the Titanic sank into the Atlantic Ocean. It was a stunning reminder that we are not as strong – or invincible – as we think we are.

You don't need the story of the Titanic to realize how very weak and small we are. Any time a big storm comes, we are reminded of this fact. The storms that come in our personal lives can be just as devastating. When there's trouble at home, when illness strikes, when our friendships take a hit, we can feel pretty helpless and weak. But that doesn't mean we are going to crumble! If we are followers of Jesus, we have strength we can't even imagine at our disposal. God wants to be our strength. He wants to give us a strong faith.

Today's Bible story is about a shipwreck. This was no super ship like the Titanic.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

It was a cargo ship transporting the Apostle Paul and other prisoners for the Roman Empire. When a storm hit, the sailors became terrified. They knew their ship was no match for the wind and waves. Paul knew that God was stronger, and he shows us how God can strengthen us in times of need.

READ ACTS 27:9-44

MAIN POINT:

Paul was not afraid of the wind and waves. Paul knew his life was in God's hands, and he trusted God to protect him and everyone else on board. Paul's faith gave him the confidence to stand strong and become the emotional leader in a time of crisis. He passed that strength on to the crew and passengers. God used Paul to be a witness during a difficult and dangerous trial.

If you are facing storms in your life, God wants you to know that He can give you the same confidence as Paul. No matter how big the storm may seem, our God is bigger and stronger. God will be your strength, and He will use you to give strength to others.

DRIVE IT HOME:

I doubt that the 26 foot LEGO Titanic in Pigeon Forge would have fared any better against an iceberg than the real Titanic, but I know that ship is stronger than any LEGO boat you or I have ever built. Why? Because the more LEGOs you use on a project, the stronger it becomes. The taller and wider your LEGO creation becomes, the sturdier it becomes.

We've been talking about building a strong faith the last four weeks, and wouldn't you know it, just like LEGOs, all the things we've discussed can build up a stronger faith in us. Repentance, turning away from sin, can build up our faith and draw us closer to God. Trust grows our faith as well because the more we trust God, the easier it is to turn from sin AND obey God's Word. Brick by brick, step by step, repentance, trust, and obedience can build our faith.

Every LEGO construction project begins with the first brick, and building your faith is no different. God wants you to take that first step, to repent of your sins and place your trust in Jesus. God wants you to make Jesus your Savior and commit to a life of faith and obedience to His Word. God will not change you in an instant or overnight, but step by step, brick by brick, He will begin to work in your life, and He will not stop until His work is made complete.

God will give you strength to withstand any storm. He will build a strong faith in you that will allow you to share that strength with others, just like Paul did in the midst of a storm. God will use you to witness to others so that they can begin the same journey you have chosen.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

Brick by brick, God will build your friends, your family, anyone who believes in Jesus into strong, faithful believers.

Are you ready to take that first step? Have you taken that step and want to commit to growing even more? Let God know you are ready to trust Him. He will give you strength that no storm on Earth can ever break.

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Give us your strength so we can be good witnesses for you.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

ICEBREAKER:

Have you ever been out on a boat?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Colossians 2:7

Pair the kids off and have them recite the verse to each other.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Bring in a big bucket of LEGOs for every group. Have each group work together to build a boat. If time allows, let each group test to see if their boat will float, too.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Acts 27:9-44

Who was Paul?

How did Paul know the boat was going to sink?

What made Paul so confident and strong?

What happened to the men on the boat when the ship finally wrecked?

How can we become strong in our faith?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Make us strong and confident believers in Christ.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

ICEBREAKER:

Have you ever been out on a boat?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Colossians 2:7

Pair the kids off and have them recite the verse to each other.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Bring in a big bucket of LEGOs for every group. Have each group work together to build a boat. If time allows, let each group test to see if their boat will float, too.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Acts 27:9-44

How did Paul know the boat was going to sink?

What made Paul so confident and strong?

How can we become strong in our faith?

How can our strength and confidence be passed on to others?

What is the first step to growing into a strong, confident believer?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Make us strong and confident believers in Christ.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

FILL IN THE BLANK

_____ was put on a ship that got lost in a storm.

PAUL

The sailors were _____ because they thought the ship would sink.

AFRAID

Paul remained strong because he had faith in _____.

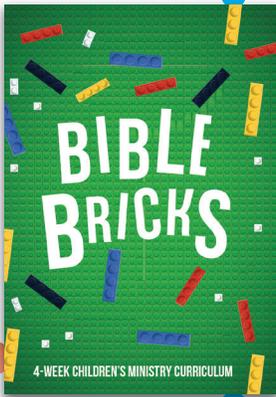
GOD

God is _____ than any storm you will ever face.

STRONGER

The first step to building a strong faith is to make _____ your Savior!

JESUS



MAKE IT STICK

5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With your Kids

Bible Bricks Lesson 4

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: BUILD STRENGTH



IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

Even though Paul was a prisoner on a boat, he was strong in the Lord and never lost heart. When everyone around him was panicking about the shipwrecked boat, Paul relied on the confidence and strength that God had given him to get through. Use brown bricks to build the boat Paul was in that wasn't strong enough to withstand the storm.

Acts 27:9-44, Paul is Shipwrecked



HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

Review your family's emergency action plan in case of bad weather. Where do you go if there's bad weather? What makes you confident in your safe place? Ask your kids how God can make them strong and confident when a storm comes their way.



AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- Why was Paul so confident in the midst of a terrible storm?
- How can God give us that same strength?
- How can our strength make us a witness to other people?



AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

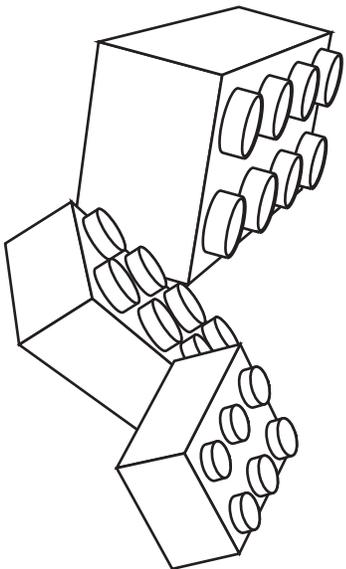
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PARENT TIME:

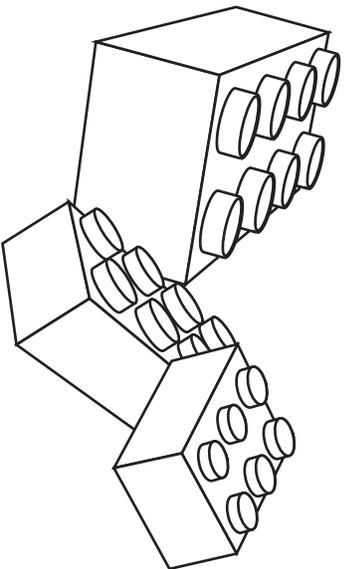
What you need to know:

When we let God become our strength, God can make us a witness to others. Our confidence and our faith can lead others to Jesus. Ask God to make you a strong, confident leader in your family, and ask Him to instill that same strength in your children as they grow in the Lord.



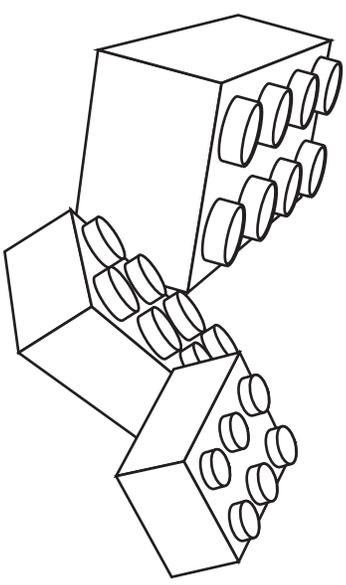
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- Colossians 2:7 (NIRV)



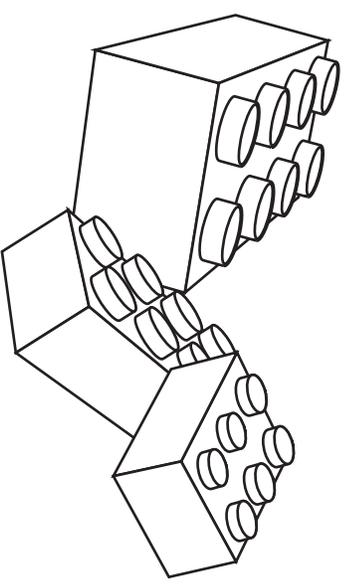
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- Colossians 2:7 (NIRV)



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- Colossians 2:7 (NIRV)



"Have your roots in him. Build yourselves up in him. Grow strong in what you believe, just as you were taught. Be more thankful than ever before."

- Colossians 2:7 (NIRV)

CRAFT ACTIVITY

Give each kid a blank sheet of paper, and a brown piece of construction paper. As with last week, the kids will cut out squares from the brown paper and use those squares to make a boat on the blank page, gluing them on one at a time.