

LESSON OVERVIEW

Big Idea: A true Christian will stand up for God

Key Question: How can we stand up for God?

Memory Verse: *Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.* **Romans 12:2**

Overview: We're continuing in our series about what it really means to be a Christian. A Christian is just another name for a follower of Jesus. We've already learned what a "kinda sorta" Christian is like- they say they believe in God but they don't make him a priority in their life. We learned that God doesn't want it to be this way. He wants to be our best friend. Last week, we talked about how we should relate to God. We shouldn't treat him like he's our favorite restaurant where we order exactly what we want from him. That's not how God works. We don't tell God what we want. He tells us what we **should** want. The reason- God knows what's best for us. A true Christian trusts that whatever God gives us is good for us. Today we're going to talk about being strong for God. Now, when we say strong, we don't mean being physically strong like you can lift a car off the ground! We mean that you should be strong enough in your relationship with God to stand up for him. The world around us doesn't really care about God's opinion. So, as Christians, it can be scary to stand for God's way when noone else does. Think about your own life. Maybe your friends have encouraged you to lie to stay out of trouble with your parents. But you know what the Bible says about lying. You have to be strong enough to say "No" to your friends and "Yes" to God's way. We need to be strong enough to stand up for God!

CLASSROOM AGENDA

5 min **PLAY:** Begin working on Activity Page #1.

5 min **WARM UP:** Who is the strongest person you know? What makes them so strong?

5 min **PREVIEW:** Write out the Big Idea and Memory Verse and Key Question on a whiteboard. Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1. (if applicable)

20 min **LARGE GROUP:** Gather for songs and videos with other kids. Then return to small group to finish this guide.

5 min **RECAP:** Read the **Lesson Overview** from the Teacher's Guide to the class and then **answer** the KEY QUESTION.

5 min **EXPLORE:** Read [1 Corinthians 16:13](#). What can we do to be strong for God? What do we need to guard against?

10 min **PLAY:** Do the group activity from Activity Page #2.

5 min **CLOSE:**

- How will you stand up for God this week?
- Share prayer requests and pray as a class.

TEACHER TIPS

2nd-5th puzzle key: trust, God, Romans, strong. Phrase will say "Be strong for God"

Allow each kid to share. The point: We all want to be strong. Nobody likes to be weak. We should all want to be strong for God, too.

Answer: We live out what the Bible says.

The Bible is our instruction manual for how to live. If we follow what the Bible says, then we are representing God to the world around us. Our friends will notice that we act differently than everyone else. And when they ask us why we're different we can say, "Because Jesus is my best friend and I obey what the Bible says." Now that's standing up for God!

Bonus Questions: What is our instruction manual for life? Give some examples of what the Bible tells us **not** to do.

4-5th: Why is it important that Christians look different than the rest of the world?

There are lots of ways we can be strong for God. Here are a few examples:

1. When our friends are gossiping about someone we can say something nice about that person instead of joining in on the gossip.
2. When our friends encourage us to go somewhere we know we're not supposed to go, we can say "No, I won't disobey my parents."

As Christians, we need to guard ourselves against things like lying, cheating, greed, gossip, selfishness, unforgiveness.

Allow each kid to share.

ACTIVITY PAGE #2

Classroom Activities 2nd-5th

Option #1

Be Strong For God Game

- Put the class into two teams. Give each team a ringer.
- Teacher will ask a question from below. First team to ring in gets a chance to answer. If correct, they get a point and get to say, "I will stand up for God." Losing team has to do one of the following: 10 jumping jacks, 10 high knees, 10 arm circles, 10 toe touches, 10 push ups. Repeat if needed.

Questions:

1. In which book of the Bible is the memory verse found? (Romans)
2. Who's stronger, Iron Man or God? (God)
3. What book tells us how to honor God? (Bible)
4. Who died on the cross for our sins? (Jesus)
5. Who helps us to be strong? (God/Jesus)
6. Does God want us to be weak or strong? (Strong)
7. True or False: the Bible says you can lie. (False)
8. Is the memory verse in the OT or NT? (NT)
9. Who should be our best friend? (Jesus)
10. True or False: God is love. (True)

Supplies needed

- bells or ringers

Bonus Activity:

Play Bible Hangman

Words or Phrases: Be strong
Read the Bible, Jesus

Option #2

Stand Up For God Bookmark

- Give each kid a bookmark template (**page 5**)
- Have kids cut out each piece
- Have kids glue each square onto the bookmark
- Have kids color and decorate
- As they work, remind the kids that they should be strong and stand up for God

Supplies needed

- bookmark template (pg 5), one per kid
- scissors
- glue
- crayons

Bonus Activity:

Play **True or False**

See who's the fastest to answer correctly.

1. We should be weak (F)
2. Romans is in the NT. (T)
3. We should obey our parents. (T)

1 Discover Truth

Watch this week's lesson video as a family (see link above) and fill in the blanks.

1. If you're a " _____ " Christian:
 - a. you care more about your friend's opinion than what the _____ says.
 - b. you only _____ to God when you want a toy or something.
 - c. you don't live like _____ wants you to live.
2. If you're a _____ Christian kid:
 - a. you care more about _____ opinion than anything else.
 - b. you _____ and read the Bible everyday.
 - c. you _____ like Jesus is your best friend.
3. A true Christian will _____ for God

2 Talk about it

Answer these questions together as a family.

1. Who is the strongest person you know?
What makes them strong?
2. Why shouldn't we listen to the world?
Why should we listen to the Bible?
3. When we pray, what else should we do besides just asking for stuff?
4. How often do you read the Bible and pray? Why is that important for us to do?
5. Read [1 Corinthians 16:13](#). What can we do to be strong for God? What do we need to guard against?

3 Live it out

Memorize this week's Bible verse:

"Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think."

Romans 12:2

Bonus: Read these additional passages as a family this week

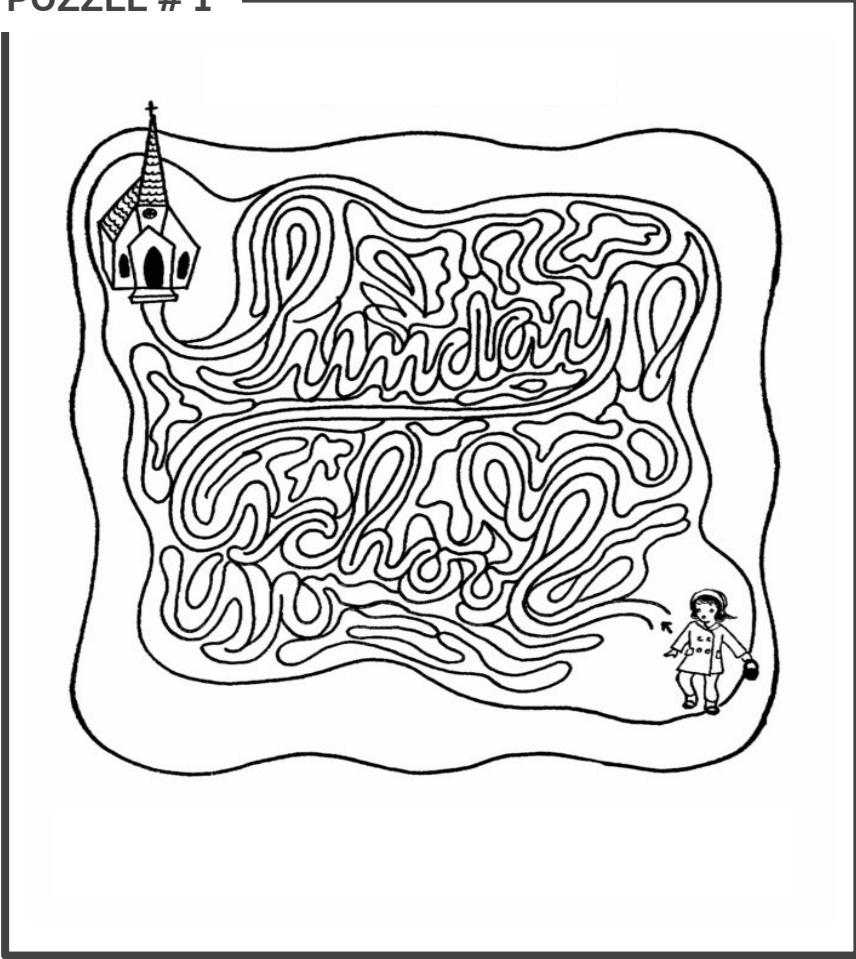
- Read [Isaiah 40:29](#). Who gives us strength?
- Read [Joshua 1:9](#). What does this verse say about God?
- Read [Philippians 4:13](#). Who should you turn to when you are scared or worried?

Parent Signature _____

Learn the 3 basic truths of the Christian faith in the [Foundations for Kids](#) series.



PUZZLE # 1



BIG IDEA →

KEY QUESTION →

MEMORY VERSE →

PUZZLE #2

TURST
3

DGO
9 4 11

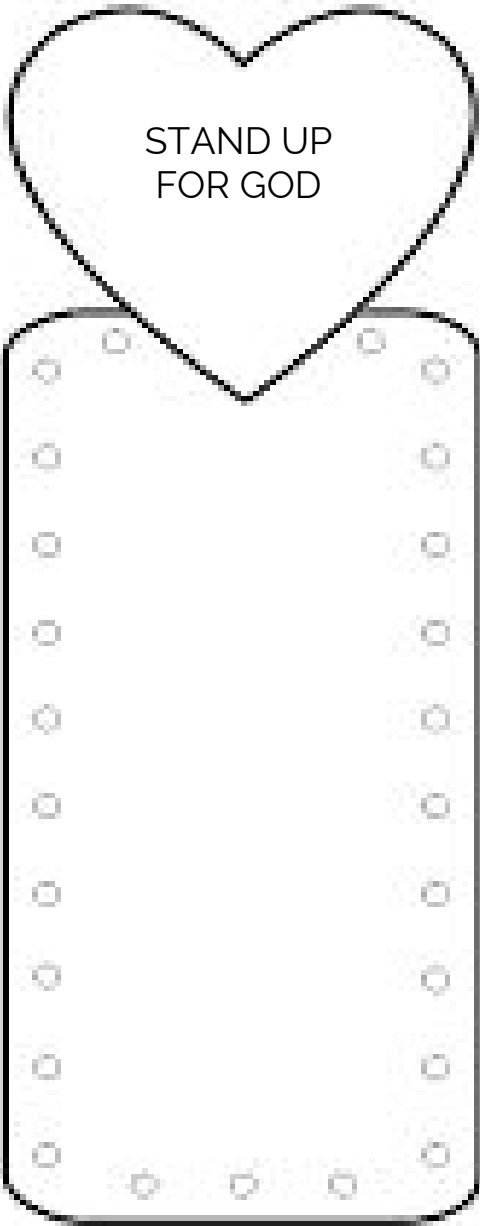
SOARMN
8 7 1

SGTORN
2 10 5 6

B **E**
1 2 3 4 5 6

F
7 8

9 10 11



OBEY THE BIBLE

DON'T LIE

OBEY YOUR PARENTS