

OF TENTS AND KINGS



“Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

— JOSHUA 1:9

FOCUS THIS WEEK

God promised Abraham and Sarah they would have a son and all the families of the world would be blessed through them. The fulfillment of this promise continues through Moses, who gave the law, King David, who made Israel a great kingdom, and Jesus, who was born in David's line and came to save the world. God's promise continues to reach each of us today. God wants to speak to each of us. God wants to protect us. God wants to use us to bless the world.



SHARE

highs and lows to set the stage for a more open and meaningful discussion.



READ

and highlight the theme verse, Joshua 1:9, then connect it to one or more of the following texts:

- Genesis 28:15
- Deuteronomy 31:8
- Matthew 1:17



TALK

about how the Bible reading might relate to today's highs and lows. Supplement your discussion with some of the following.

A. IMAGES IN WORDS AND ART Take a look at the theme art. What do you see in the art? How might the art and the theme verse connect?

B. ROLE PLAY

1. Your best friend is having bad headaches and will be going in for a brain-scan tomorrow. She is afraid she might have a tumor or a brain disease. First read this week's key verse, then talk to her.
2. Your older sibling is getting ready to go off to college. Your younger sibling is crying and already feeling the loss. What do you say? How do you give comfort and hope?

C. QUESTIONS TO PONDER

1. What is one thing you are waiting for? Why is it difficult to wait when you want something that seems far off? *Accept and affirm all thoughtful answers. Human nature, especially in modern times, leans toward instant gratification.*
2. What is one thing you worried about lately? A move? A tough choice? A relationship? How did you handle the worry? Were you frightened? Did you pray? Looking back, how did God help you through it? *Accept and affirm all thoughtful answers.*

D. TERMS OF THE WEEK

Review these key terms and write definitions.

Moses: An Israelite whom God chose to set the Hebrew slaves free and to bring them to the Promised Land.

Promised Land: The land promised to Abraham for his descendants. Modern Israel.

David: The great king of Israel from 1000 - 962 B.C. and writer of many of the psalms.

Solomon: David's son, the third king of Israel, and builder of the temple in Jerusalem.

Covenant: A binding agreement between God and God's people.

Blessing: The ceremonial passing on of God's promised favor from father to son.

E. QUOTATIONS

Ask youth to choose a quotation and share their thoughts and questions about it.

I have a great responsibility because I can afford to be honest.

– Mary Sarton

Discoveries are often made by not following instructions. By going off the main road, by trying the untried.

– Frank Tyger

All things are possible until they are proven impossible—even the impossible may only be so, as of now.

– Pearl S. Buck

F. WRAP UP

Summarize the event with your group, assigning someone to share what you learned at closing.

- One new thing we learned today
- One thing we already knew that is worth repeating
- One thing we would like to know more about
- The highest highs and lowest lows which our group will bring to the closing prayer



PRAY

for one another. Praise and thank God for your highs. Ask the Holy Spirit to be with you in your lows. Include your friend's highs and lows in your prayers. Is there something going on in the world that calls for prayer.



BLESS

one another by name. Face one another as you make the sign of the cross. Look them in the eyes and give them a smile. Ask for their blessing as well!