Week 4

# God Will Give You Courage to Honor Him!

**Memory Verse:** Philippians 4:6 *"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God."*

**Main Teaching:** God will give you courage to Honor Him! **Word Up:** God gives courage!

**Supplies:**

- Word Up Visual – Word Up (Resource Pack)
- Recording for "His Name is Jesus", "Everything by Prayer" and "Trust in the Lord" - Worship (Sing About the King 2 CD)
- Optional Song Visuals for "His Name is Jesus" (cefpress.com)
- Piece of paper, and book or prayer journal – Word Up
- Arrow flashcards – Object Lesson (Resource Pack)
- Memory Verse Visual – Memory Verse (Resource Pack)
- Recording for "Everything by Prayer" – Memory Verse
- Worry skit cards – Memory Verse
- Red/Green card or Wordless book – Memory Verse
- Robert Foster Flashcards part 3 – Missionary Story (Resource Pack)
- Ball or Beanbag - Activity
- Memory Verse Token Philippians 4:6 for each child – Dismissal (Resource Pack)

**Schedule at a Glance (75 min club):**
15 min – Small Group
10 min – Worship / Rules / Word Up
10 min – Object Lesson
15 min – Memory Verse
10 min – Game
5 min – Missionary Story
10 min – Small Group Wonder Time

## SMALL GROUP

**Courage Discussion**

Courage is doing the right thing even when we are scared.

For discussion:

What are some things that kids your age might be scared of?

How can you trust God when you are scared?

Ask kids for prayer requests.

Pray together asking God to help kids turn to Him when they are scared.

## WORSHIP

*To learn songs and motions, go to YouTube and type in CEF and the name of the song in the search bar.*

***"His Name is Jesus"***

***"Trust in the Lord"***

## CLUB RULES

Review the Up Rules reminding the kids that following the rules helps everyone be able to feel safe and learn. If there is a particular rule the children are having trouble with, do a skit to highlight that rule and why it is important.

## WORD UP!

**"God gives Courage!"**

"Sometimes I am so scared. I feel flimsy and afraid like this little piece of paper. (Show piece of paper.) What if this little, flimsy piece of paper had to hold up a whole book. Do you think it could do it? This book is a lot heavier than this paper. My friend said this paper would hold up the book, but I don't think it can. I'm getting really discouraged and frustrated trying. How can this paper hold up the book?"

Do you ever feel afraid and frustrated? Sometimes we get afraid, or things look impossible. But, if you have believed in Jesus as your Savior, He always has a good plan for you. He can give you courage. He may show you a different way to do things. His plans are always good. What if I curled this paper like this. (Tightly roll the paper into a tube about an inch or so in diameter.) Now the paper will have no problem holding up the book. Sometimes we don't think we have what it takes to be courageous and do the right thing. But God can turn our weakness into strength. If we let Him show us His plan, we can have His courage to do the right thing even when we are scared. Our Word Up today is; **WORD UP!,** "God gives Courage!"

## OBJECT LESSON

**"Right Way/Wrong Way" Gospel Spotlight**

**Flashcard 1**

This arrow reminds me of living in this world. Everyone is born wanting to go the wrong way because of sin.

**Flashcard 2**
You and I sin—we do, say, and think things that are against God. People usually don't realize how serious sin is. If you have not believed in Jesus as your Savior, sin separates you from God right now and will separate you

from Him forever. The direction of your life is going the way of the world and sin, which is away from God, the perfect Creator who made you and loves you.

But God does not want you to keep going the wrong way. God sent someone to Earth to show us what it means to live God's way. Jesus lived in Heaven with God where everything is perfectly good. In fact, Jesus is God the Son. *(Read Philippians 2:7.)* But Jesus "humbled Himself"—He became a tiny, helpless human baby! This was the opposite of the way the world lives!

**Flashcard 3**
Jesus didn't go the way of the world. He went the opposite way. He grew up and lived a perfect life! Even though He is the great King of the universe, He became a servant by helping others and giving His life for them! He loves you so much that He gave Himself in the greatest way possible. *(Read Philippians 2:8.)* Jesus took the punishment for your sin when He allowed Himself to be nailed to a cross. By giving His life, He was making the only way for you to be close to God. Then He showed His power by coming to life again! Today, Jesus is in Heaven, where He is exalted as King. *(Read Philippians 2:10a.)* Jesus humbled Himself and showed what life in God's kingdom looks like. He made the way for you to be in God's forever kingdom. Jesus gave Himself for others instead of living for Himself. This is backwards from how the world lives *(point to panel 3).* When you believe in Jesus, you receive life with God forever instead of separation from Him forever. This means you will have a special friendship with God and He will help you live your life going His way—the right way.

**Flashcard 4**
To go God's way and not the way of sin, you need to believe Jesus died and rose again for you. *(Read John 3:16.)* To believe means to trust completely that Jesus took the punishment for your sin. When you believe in Him, you receive everlasting life—new life with God that starts now and lasts forever. Part of this new life is God helping you to live His way.

Will you believe in Jesus today? Do you know that you have sinned? God gave His only Son Jesus to die on the cross, so that if you believe in Him, you can have eternal life. I want everyone to bow their head and close their eyes. If you have never believed in Jesus and would like to do that today for the very first time or if you have questions about believing in Jesus, please show me by raising your hand. If you raised your hand, please meet me by the back door and I'll show you from God's Word how you can have eternal life.

## MEMORY VERSE

*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your request be made known to God," (Philippians 4:6)*

### INTRODUCTION

**"Worry" skit**
*(Person 2 comes in looking obviously worried, shaking head.)*

**Person 1:** You look very worried! Is everything all right?

**Person 2:** No, everything is NOT all right! There are SO MANY things I am worried about. The weather report says a big thunderstorm is coming. I have a big test tomorrow and I'm not sure I'll do well. We're moving and I don't know if I'll make friends.

**Person 1:** Wow, those are certainly things that can make you worried. But it sounds like you really need to hear our memory verse for today because God doesn't want you to stay so worried.

## PRESENTATION

Read Philippians 4:6 from Bible then from visual with children.) Our verse is in the book of Philippians. Do you think Philippians is in the Old Testament or New Testament? *(Allow response.)* Philippians is a smaller book in the New Testament in a section called *the epistles.* An epistle is a letter. Philippians is a letter written by a follower of Jesus named Paul to believers in the city of Philippi. The Philippians had many problems and worries in their lives, much like you and I do. Paul wanted to remind the Philippians how *big* God is and that He would take care of them. God helped Paul write the book of Philippians and that is why we have it today—it is part of God's true Word, the Bible.

## EXPLANATION

*Do not be anxious about anything*— To be anxious is to worry a lot. Many things can make us worry. But this verse says, "Don't worry about anything!" How is that possible? The next part gives the answer.

*but in everything by prayer and supplication*— "Everything" means every part of your life. Do you see where it says what you should do instead of worrying? *(Point to the words "prayer" and "supplication.")* Prayer is talking to God. God wants his children (those who have believed in Jesus) to talk to Him about everything—good and bad! "Supplication" is when you ask God for something. You can ask God something for yourself or for other people.

*with thanksgiving*—Thanksgiving is being grateful to God for who He is and what He has done. When you pray, thank God that He will answer. And then when He answers, thank Him for what He has done!

*let your requests be made known to God*—Paul is saying again, "Take the things that worry you to God." God is the one who is always there to help you. Whenever you are anxious, tell God about it, thank Him, and trust He will help you.

## APPLICATION

**Saved:** If you have believed in Jesus, **pray to God and trust Him to help you.** God is always available! He is powerful enough to answer even the biggest prayers. He is also wise—He will answer in the best way for your life. You never have to try to solve problems on your own. God wants you to pray to Him for help, believing that He will hear and answer your prayer. **WORD UP!**, **"God gives Courage!"** *(Say with children.)*

**Unsaved:** Everyone becomes worried and anxious about things. This verse encourages those who trust Jesus as Savior, that they can pray to Him and trust Him to help them. Jesus wants to be with you always and help you. But first you need to trust Him with your biggest need—to be saved from your sin. You can put your trust in Jesus and be saved.

## REPETITION

**Stop and Go**

Have a piece of construction paper with red on one side and green on the back, or use your Wordless book open to the red and green pages.

When the green side shows, the kids start to say the verse. When the red side shows, kids stop saying the verse and freeze. When the green side shows again, kids continue saying the verse. After the teacher controls the paper the first time, let a child control the sign. Limit the child to 3 red stops per verse.

**Sing Memory Verse Song *"Everything by Prayer***

## ACTIVITY

**Ball Name Game**

Explain to the group we will be passing the ball (or beanbag) to the person on our right around the circle. Before you pass the ball, you will need to say "Hello _____" (name), who will accept the ball and will have to say the name of the person to their right, "Hello _____". Before we begin, make sure you know the person's name who is on your right. Ready? Let's go! When the ball returns to the leader, repeat the activity to the left. If the ball moved slowly, give yourselves another turn around to the right and then again to the left. Instruct the group that we'll now take turns saying "Hello _____" to a friend across the circle, giving the ball one bounce. We'll make sure everyone gets one turn. (When an easy bounce is demonstrated and caught by the child it is intended for, the children seem to repeat that careful behavior so the activity doesn't get out of control.)

## MISSIONS STORY

**Robert Foster**
**Part 3**

Who can share one thing we learned last week that happened to Bob? *(Allow response.)* Bob learned that the people in Africa had been praying for a doctor. He believed God was speaking to his heart. He wanted to go and be a doctor in Zambia, Africa. Although he was willing to go to Zambia, he had something he needed to do first.

After Bob graduated from medical school, he had to take a test to see if he could become a doctor. He had studied and was ready for the test, but he did not have the $50 he needed to take the test. Do you think he was upset? Why not? *(Allow responses.)* Bob knew he could trust God. The morning of the test arrived and he still didn't have the money. Now what? He began to feel discouraged. In those days $50 was like $500 today. After all those years in college it seemed as if Bob would not get to be a doctor after all.

Even though Bob didn't have $50 he decided to go to the exam.

On the way he met the mail carrier.

"Is there any mail for me?" he asked.
"I do have one letter for you," the mail carrier said as he handed Bob an envelope. Bob quickly opened it. Can you guess what was inside? *(Allow response.)* Bob found $50 inside—just what he needed! Bob never found out who sent him that money. But once again he thanked God for His faithfulness in providing what he needed.

There were many ways God proved His faithfulness to Bob as he

prepared to be a missionary doctor. Each time you hear a way God helped him, point up and say, "God is faithful!" *(Indicated by *.)*

Bob passed the test to become a doctor.* Bob was close friends with a woman named Belva and he loved her. Would she be willing to come to Zambia with him? He asked Belva to marry him and she said yes.* After they were married, Bob had to work two years in hospitals to finish the requirements to become a doctor. After those two years he became a doctor.* Later Bob and Belva had a baby boy named Stephen.* They also signed up to be missionaries with South Africa General Mission.* It was a busy two years! "Do you think we'll be able to raise the money we need to serve as missionaries?" Bob asked Belva.

They agreed it wouldn't be easy but they trusted God would help them. That year they traveled around the country asking Christians to give so they could go to Zambia. Before Bob could even ask, his church in Nashville, Tennessee gave him money for an ambulance to use in Zambia!* Many gave money toward Bob and Belva's salaries.* Christians also gave enough money to equip a hospital with beds, medicines, tables, and surgical instruments.* God did much more than Bob and Belva had asked for!

Bob was planning a wonderful modern hospital for the Zambian people. They would no longer have to die from simple illnesses. But, even with all the support Bob and Belva had, Bob did not have money to build the hospital building that would hold all the supplies!

**Would God take care of that need? Come back next week to find out.**

## SMALL GROUP / WONDER TIME

**"God Listens to Me"**

Today we are going to learn about a third treasure you receive when you believe on Jesus as your Savior. Our treasure today is, "God listens to me." When you have believed on Jesus as your Savior, the Bible says God always listens to you when you pray.

*(Read Psalm 4:1, 3.)* These verses say that God hears when you call to Him. There is never a time God is too busy or uninterested in you and your life or needs.

What are some things you can talk to God about? *(Allow response.)* You can talk to God about anything and everything!
If you have believed on Jesus as your Savior, God promises to hear when you pray! He always answers. He may answer yes and give you the thing you asked for. God may answer no, not because He doesn't like you or because He's mean, but because He knows what is best for you. God may answer wait. However, God answers, you can trust God's plan for your life and you can trust that He will always answer your prayers in a way that is best for you and that will bring the most glory (praise) to His name. God wants you to come to Him—He promises to listen! Let's talk to God right now and thank Him for listening to our prayers. *(Close in prayer.)*

## DISMISSAL

Hand out memory verse token to each child and encourage them to memorize the verse and bring the token back completed next week.  Remind the kids they can talk to God anytime in prayer and that He will give them courage.