

WEEK 3

LESSON GUIDE

ONE STEP

BIG IDEA

Take a big step – the Holy Spirit makes us brave.

BIBLE

Stephen Before the Sanhedrin: Acts 6, 7:54–59

SUNDAY: COMMUNITY GROUP TIME

(Please start your classroom time at 9:45-50)

ACTIVITY | Activity Pages

- INSTRUCTIONS:
 - *Hand out Activity Pages as given by Kid Director*

WELCOME!

Star Cards"

- Attendance
- Bring Someone?
- Bring Your Bibles
- New Bible Verse! – Psalm 19:1 (NIV)

MEMORY VERSE | Psalm 19:1 (NIV)

- "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."
- INSTRUCTIONS: *Say the memory verse aloud for the kids as you do the hand motions. Have the children repeat after you (in chunks).*
 - *The heavens* (Sweep your arms over your head to the right.)
 - *Declare* (Cup hands to mouth.)
 - *The glory of God* (Hands spread out and gesture up into the sky.)
 - *The skies* (Sweep your arms over your head to the left.)
 - *Proclaim* (Cup hands to mouth.)
 - *The work of his hands* (Hold up both hands and wave them.)

Great Job kids!!

- You all are so impressive and do such a great job with the memory verse!!

ACTIVITY | Mission Control And Astronauts

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Partner the children up. Blindfold one child to be the "Astronaut." The other child will be "Mission Control." Scatter a few inflatable balls on the floor. "Mission Control" needs to help their "Astronaut" navigate (by holding their hands or giving verbal instructions) around the room to find and pick up one planet (ball). It may be easier only to have two pairs go at a time. Once the "Astronaut" finds their planet, "Mission Control" must help them navigate back to the rocket ship (sitting area).*
 - **TODDLER HACK:** *Toss a bunch of ball pit balls into the room and pretend they are planets. Show the toddlers how to throw the balls into a basket or roll them along the floor.*
- It takes a whole team for astronauts to go into space. All of the scientists, engineers, and other experts who stay on Earth to help are called Mission Control.
- Did you feel a little scared while walking around blindfolded?
- Did you feel less scared knowing that your partner was watching out for you?
- We trusted in our partner to help us . . . just like we can trust in the Holy Spirit to help us.
- Take a big step — the Holy Spirit makes us brave.

And, that is our BIG IDEA this week! The Holy Spirit makes us brave!

Say it with me...

BIG IDEA | Take a big step — the Holy Spirit makes us brave.

- *Take a (Raise up one foot.)*
- *Big step (Take a giant step with the same foot.)*
- *The Holy Spirit ([This sign](#) for "Holy Spirit.")*
- *Makes us brave (Put hands on hips.)*

Great job guys!

Ok, let's head to Main street together to learn more about how we can be brave because of the Holy Spirit!

(Line Up for Main Street at 10:05)

MAIN STREET

(Main Street starts at 10:10)

What's Up Kids!! It's so good to see you all this morning!

This month is flying by!! School is almost out AND we are in week 3 of our series – One Small Step

Today, we're going to learn of a time when the Holy Spirit helped followers of Jesus make brave choices.

- **Who can tell me what it means to be brave?**
- That's right. Being brave means doing something even when you're feeling scared. Maybe it's sleeping in your own bed at night, going to a new school, or inviting a friend to church.

But, before we open our Bibles...let's stand and sing some songs to God!

- **God Is So Good**

God is so good, God is so good, God is so good, He's so good to me!

Jesus is real, Jesus is real, Jesus is real, He's so real to me.

He saved my soul, He saved my soul, He saved my soul and He made me whole.

I praise His name, I praise His name, I praise His name, He's so good to me.

- **Be Careful**

Be careful little eyes what you see,
Be careful little eyes what you see.
For the Father up above is looking down in tender love,
So be careful little eyes what you see.

Be careful little ears what you hear,
Be careful little ears what you hear.
For the Father up above is looking down in tender love,
So be careful little ears what you hear.

Be careful little mouth what you say,
Be careful little mouth what you say.
For the Father up above is looking down in tender love,
So be careful little mouth what you say.

Be careful little hands what you do,
Be careful little hands what you do.

For the Father up above is looking down in tender love,
So be careful little hands what you do.

Be careful little feet where you go,
Be careful little feet where you go.
For the Father up above is looking down in tender love,
So be careful little feet where you go.

You guys did so good!!!

If you remember a couple of weeks ago, we learned that the disciples probably felt scared by the big mission Jesus gave them.

They had to go tell everyone about Jesus.

- What if they didn't know what to say?
- What if people laughed at them?

But then, Jesus really did send the Holy Spirit.

The Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit appeared like fire and wind. The Holy Spirit from God helped them be **brave**.

And that's what we're going to learn today – about a follower of Jesus who was brave...now, let's sit down and learn more about our Bible story.

SCRIPTURE | Acts 7:55–60 (Stephen Before the Sanhedrin)

[Read or Summarize Acts 7:55-60]

⁵⁵ But Stephen was full of the Holy Spirit. He looked up into heaven and saw the glory of God. And he saw Jesus standing at God's right side. ⁵⁶ Stephen said, "Look! I see heaven open. And I see the Son of Man standing at God's right side."

⁵⁷ Everyone there started shouting loudly, covering their ears with their hands. Together they all ran at Stephen. ⁵⁸ They took him out of the city and began throwing stones at him. The men who told lies against Stephen gave their coats to a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ As they were throwing the stones at him, Stephen was praying. He said, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" ⁶⁰ He fell on his knees and shouted, "Lord, don't blame them for this sin!" These were his last words before he died.

We didn't read ALL about Stephen, but here's what we need to know.

- Stephen was helping spread the good news about Jesus – just like Jesus' disciples.

But one day, he was unfairly arrested and taken to stand before a group of religious leaders called the Sanhedrin. These leaders did not like Stephen's message about Jesus.

Even though everyone was against Stephen, *he wasn't afraid*. He was **brave** because he was filled with the Holy Spirit.

- Because of the Holy Spirit's power, Stephen spoke boldly about Jesus.

Many other disciples faced angry leaders and dangers like Stephen did. But they were all **brave** because the Holy Spirit was with them.

Did you know that even today, so many years later, the Holy Spirit is with us, too? We can be **brave** because the Holy Spirit helps us.

Let's tune into Cali's World to see what she has to teach us about how the Holy Spirit makes us brave for Christ!

VIDEO | *One Small Step*, Episode 3

- INSTRUCTIONS: Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#).

Well our time is over for this week! You guys have been great today!!

Let's go ahead and prepare to head back to our classes...but before we do, let's spend some time in prayer.

PRAYER

- Call on someone to pray
- Or, have them repeat your prayer below
 - Dear God, thank you for giving us the Holy Spirit. We can follow you always because the Holy Spirit makes us brave. Amen.

I hope to see you next week!

(Line up to Leave UpTown 10:25-30)

TIME TO TALK

- **DISCUSSION** Who did Jesus promise to send to help the disciples? *The Holy Spirit*.

- What was the name of the follower of Jesus who was brave in today's story? *Stephen.*
- What were the followers of Jesus able to do because of the Holy Spirit? *Be brave and tell others about Jesus.*
- Let's go over all the steps we have learned so far:
 - We can take the first step . . . *believe in Jesus.*
 - Then we can take another step . . . *pray for others.*
 - Now we can take a big step because the Holy Spirit makes us . . . *brave.*

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print and distribute the [coloring page](#) along with crayons or markers. As the kids color, you can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse.*

MEMORY VERSE | Psalm 19:1 (NIV)

- "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Say the memory verse aloud for the kids as you do the hand motions. Have the children repeat after you (in chunks).*
 - *The heavens* (Sweep your arms over your head to the right.)
 - *Declare* (Cup hands to mouth.)
 - *The glory of God* (Hands spread out and gesture up into the sky.)
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CLOSING PRAYER

ACTIVITY | Fiery Suncatchers

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid [the image of a flame](#) to place under a [clear 6" plastic plate](#) (make sure it's soft plastic). Supervise kids using permanent markers to trace the flame image onto their plates. Afterward, provide assorted tissue paper squares for them to glue onto their plate, suggesting they use red, yellow, and orange for the flame part and different colors for everywhere else. Punch a hole at the top of the plate and loop some yarn through it to create a suncatcher. (See a worked example [here](#).)
- The Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit appeared to the disciple like wind and fire.
- You can hang your suncatcher up on your window. Whenever the sun shines through it, it can remind you that you can **take a big step – the Holy Spirit makes us brave.**

MEMORY VERSE | Psalm 19:1 (NIV)

- "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Say the memory verse aloud for the kids. Recite the first half and have them recite the second half. Then ask the kids to recite the first half as you recite the second half.
 - *The heavens* (Sweep your arms over your head to the right.)
 - *Declare* (Cup hands to mouth.)
 - *The glory of God* (Hands spread out and gesture up into the sky.)
 - *The skies* (Sweep your arms over your head to the left.)
 - *Proclaim* (Cup hands to mouth.)
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PLAY TIME

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print and distribute the [coloring page](#) along with crayons or markers. As the kids color, you can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse.*

ACTIVITY | Moon Rock Smash

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Create "moon rocks" (like [these](#)) by dipping cotton balls into a mixture of equal parts flour and water with just a drop of gray paint. Lay the balls out on a cookie sheet and bake them for 45 minutes at 300°F (about 149°C). Set the rocks out on trays. Put out wooden or plastic hammers for the kids to smash the rocks.*
 - **TODDLER HACK:** *Use play dough balls for the toddlers to smash with a toy hammer as the small pieces from the "moon rocks" may pose a choking hazard.*

ACTIVITY | Play Dough Space Mats

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print out and laminate space mats (like [this](#) or [this](#)). Set them out with different play dough for the children to build and play with. If you saved your "space dough" from the previous week, they could use it too.*
 - **TODDLER HACK:** *It doesn't take a lot to entertain a toddler. They have not experienced a lot yet, so they are fascinated with a lot of things that might feel tired to you. You can set out simple activities to do with them that will delight them, like painting a piece of cardboard with only water.*

WELCOME TIME

ACTIVITY | Glowing Stars Search

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Hide glow-in-the-dark stickers or stars drawn on paper with glow-in-the-dark paint around the room. Turn off the lights and ask each child to find three or four stars before the time is up. Play several rounds. You can split the children into two groups and have one group hide the stars while the other group finds them, then flip roles.*
- How did you like finding the stars in the dark?
- Was it a little scary playing in the dark?
- Did you need a little help from your friends or teachers to find the stars?
- Sometimes we all feel a little scared and need a helper. In today's Bible story, we will learn about a very special helper, sent from God, to make us brave.

ACTIVITY | Black Hole Jump

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Set out small hula hoops or [sitting dots](#) all around the room. Designate a few of them as "black holes" by putting a black circle in the middle. Encourage the kids to jump from one side of the room to the other without getting sucked into a black hole (by landing inside a "black hole" hoop or dot) or floating off into space (by landing outside of a hoop or dot).*
- A black hole is an area in space that pulls in everything that gets close. I don't know about you, but that sounds kind of scary.
- But we can take steps, even *big* steps, even when we're afraid . . . as long as our steps lead to God.