

Faith Adventures Youth Resource

For guidance on the purpose of the resource and how to use it as a launch pad for your engagement with children and families, please use this link:
<https://urc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Faith-Adventures-How-To-FAYR.pdf>

Joshua 2: 1 - 7 – Rahab's brave decision

Theme: God is with us when we have to make courageous decisions

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Introduction: What would be helpful to know before we begin?

Joshua 2

Together

Let's start our time with God and each other well

If used in a mixed-age group, then young people can support younger ones in using the gathering prayer in Faith Adventures: Children Together. If used in a youth group, you could use this opening prayer or encourage young people to open the session with a prayer of their own.

In-person and Alternative game

See this week's Faith Adventures : Children Together for suitable games for this theme.

Spend some time looking at those people in history who made courageous decisions, here are a couple of suggestions: <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Rosa-Parks> Rosa Parks and <https://malala.org/malalas-story> Malala Yousafzai.

What is that makes these people act courageously? I wonder what would be considered a courageous act?

If jumping into a river to save a child is considered courageous, is jumping into a river to save a dog courageous? What about a hamster? Is it ever more courageous not to jump into the river or to stay on dry land and call the emergency services?

If standing up to a bully who is hurting your best friend is considered courageous, is standing up to a bully who is hurting someone you don't know courageous too? What about if the person being bullied was your worst enemy? Is it ever more courageous not to step in and stand up to the bully but to go and get a teacher instead?

Discuss any other similar situations people may find themselves in.

Modern parables

You may also enjoy the picture book recommended for Faith Adventures: Children Together and explore the relevance of the story to the theme of the session in more depth – young people and adults are often well tuned in to the deeper meanings in materials aimed at younger people and the authors are often very aware of the adults reading the books to or with younger ones.

Watch: Phoebe and Joey – There are no selfless acts:
<https://youtu.be/jgr-CpLNCYo?si=ixAiQr26ll8uVAXW>

Questions for discussion

- Do you agree that there are no selfless acts?
- What makes an action truly selfless?

Talking together: Going deeper

- Why do you think Rahab made the decision to help the men? (You might want to read the rest of the chapter for context)
- Do people sometimes have to be brave because they have limited choice? How does power or status affect their choices? (You might want to read the rest of the chapter for context)

Challenge

Discipleship doesn't stop when you walk out of the church door – it is a part of everyday life. Take a challenge with you and try to make it part of your week.

You may think of your own suggestion of what you as an individual or a group might do in the coming week in response to what you have explored today? If not here are some suggestions:

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- Use one of the “conversation starter” questions or the question below to talk with someone of a different generation or from a different setting and share your questions, thoughts, insights together. **What is the most courageous thing you have ever done?**
 - Research something suggested by JPIT [Resources \(jpit.uk\)](http://jpit.uk) or Commitment For Life cforl.co.uk
 - Research different acts of bravery shown by others. What does it show you about how people act in different situations? Is there something you need to be brave about this week? Perhaps these stories of bravery may help you?

[https://en.wikipedia.org/link/AMCID25BDC000\(a\)3RCgo4\(t\)\(di\)13_44uggesaorBDsTj/TT11Tf0.Td6l](https://en.wikipedia.org/link/AMCID25BDC000(a)3RCgo4(t)(di)13_44uggesaorBDsTj/TT11Tf0.Td6l)