

Be Brave: Family Service

be brave, speak out and share the Bible

This service outline can be adapted for use in a family service or in a Sunday School service. It is put together drawing on the content of the 'Be Brave Sunday School Pack' and is a great way to share with the church congregation what the children and young people of the Sunday School have been learning about. An order is suggested. You will find ideas of what to include in the following pages.

Order of Service

The Gathering of God's People

Welcome

Hymn

Opening Prayer and Confession

Proclaiming and Receiving the Word

Intro to Sunday School Project

Bible Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-15

Memory Verse

Hymn

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Hymn

Talk for all ages

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Hymn

Going Out as God's People

Blessing and Dismissal



Welcome

This welcome can be read by a child or young person:

Welcome to this morning's service. Today we will be hearing all about what our children and young people have been learning in Sunday School. This year our mission project has been looking at the work of the Bible Society NI and the Bible work that is happening in Egypt. As we hear about this work we will be thinking about being brave. God helps us to be brave, speak out and share the Bible.

In Psalm 27 it says:

'The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?'

This morning we come to worship the Lord our God without fear. This morning we praise him because he is our light and our salvation.

Hymns

Suggestions for hymns and choruses appropriate for all age groups. Speak to your organist or praise group leader to determine what is known and suitable for your service.

- Thanks & Praise 10 Be Bold, Be Strong
- Thanks & Praise 37 From the Breaking of the Dawn (Every Promise)
- Thanks & Praise 45 Great is the darkness that covers the earth
- Thanks & Praise 117 Our God is a great big God
- Thanks & Praise 134 Speak O Lord as we come to you
- Church Hymnal 100 Jesus loves me
- Church Hymnal 195 Lord the light of your love is shining (Shine Jesus Shine)
- Church Hymnal 491 We have a Gospel to proclaim
- Hillsong Kids Let your light shine (Creep, creep, creep)
- Chris Tomlin Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
- Keith & Kristyn Getty Hear the call of the Kingdom

Opening Prayer and Confession

This can be read by a young person or a group of people:

Heavenly Father,

You are a great big God. You made all things and you call us your children. Your Word tells us about all the amazing things you have done, and we have experienced your power and love in our own lives.

Thank you for being a God who loves us. Thank you that you have given us good things. We thank you for our family and friends, for our schools and jobs, and for our homes and holidays. Thank you for our hospitals and all the wonderful doctors and nurses who look after us. Thank you for our church and for all the people who look out for us and care for us. Thank you for all who minister to us, and all the leaders in our church who help us to know you better.

Lord, we thank you that you love us and that you sent Jesus to die for us so that we could be forgiven and spend forever and ever with you. But we are not always so thankful, and so we come to say sorry to you.

We use the following bidding and response after each sentence:

Father God: **we are sorry, please forgive us.**

We have sometimes forgotten how wonderful you are.

Father God: **we are sorry, please forgive us.**

We have often tried to live in our own strength rather than trusting in you.

Father God: **we are sorry, please forgive us.**

We have even spoken words that are untrue or unkind to the people you have given us to love.

Father God: **we are sorry, please forgive us.**

We have thoughts of which we are ashamed, and we have done things which make you unhappy.

Father God: **we are sorry, please forgive us.**

Lord, we thank you for your forgiveness and your love. You never leave us. You are always beside us and we don't need to be afraid. Thank you that you help us to be brave, speak out and share the Bible.

Amen.

Intro to Sunday School Project

This introduction to 'Be Brave' can be read out by a child or young person before someone else reads the Old Testament Bible Reading.

This year in Sunday School we have been learning about how God makes us brave so that we can share the Bible with other people. We read all about the brave little servant girl and how she was brave and spoke out about God to Naaman. This helped us to think about how we can tell other people about God – it doesn't matter how old we are or where we are, God helps us to be brave. We learnt a verse from the book of Joshua that helps us to remember not to be afraid. We're now going to hear the story of the brave little servant girl, and then we're going to tell you our memory verse.

Memory Verse

Here you could get the children in the Sunday School to simply speak out the verse they learned, Joshua 1:9. Alternatively, you could teach it to the congregation using the method in the '[Be Brave Lesson Plans](#)'.

Intro to Bible Society NI and Kingo

This introduction to 'Be Brave' can be read out by a young person or a group of people. You could play the '[Powerpoint: Kingo](#)' on loop while this is read out.

The story of the brave little servant girl taught us that we can be brave, speak out and share the Bible. That is what the Bible Society in Egypt is doing through Kingo Festivals.

Kingo is a big friendly Bible-loving lion! Kids in Egypt watch Kingo on television as he teaches them all about God. He teaches them what the Bible is and how it can help us to live the way God wants us to. He explains what the Bible says about truth, thanksgiving, respect, patience, courage, honesty and obedience.

So many kids love Kingo that the Bible Society decided to run Kingo Festivals. These are really fun, exciting events when hundreds of kids come together to learn about God. They get to meet Kingo, play games, watch dramas, sing, hear stories, watch puppet shows and take part in quizzes.

Every child that goes along to a Kingo Festival gets given a Bible or a Bible Activity Book. This might be the first Bible they've ever had!

The Bible Society in Northern Ireland is supporting this work in Egypt. They believe that everyone should be reached with God's Word. That is why they help people translate, publish, distribute and engage with the Bible all over the world. This year they have asked us to help give Bibles to kids in Egypt. It only costs 20p to give a Bible Activity Book to a child. Thank you for helping us to raise money for this project.

Puppet Drama

In the competition that accompanies the Be Brave project pack, Sunday Schools were asked to make puppets and write scripts for them. You could present this to the congregation to show them that the Bible can be communicated in a fun and creative way. The kids in Egypt love it when they get to see Kingo's puppet friends!

Talk for all ages

The minister or guest speaker can bring God's words to the congregation. A good idea is to share this service outline with the speaker so they can pick up on the running theme of being brave.

Members of staff from Bible Society NI are available to come out and speak to churches and groups. Contact Bible House to invite a speaker on 028 9032 6577 or info@bsni.co.uk

Prayers for Others

For the 'Prayers for Others' you can show the congregation the Prayer Banner that was made in Sunday School. Explain what it is and then use this responsive prayer:

Each time the bidding and response is: 'By your Spirit, Lord: help us to be brave, speak out and share the Bible'

Father God,

Thank you for the Bible. Thank you that you give us this amazing gift full of your words. We want to share this gift with other people.

By your Spirit, Lord: **help us to be brave, speak out and share the Bible.**

Thank you for the Bible Society in Northern Ireland. Thank you for all the work they do to support projects around the world. Please be with all the people who are translating and distributing the Bible. Give wisdom and courage to people who are helping others to read the Bible and meet with you.

By your Spirit, Lord: **help us to be brave, speak out and share the Bible.**

Father, we pray for Egypt. It can be really difficult to live in this country if you are a Christian, and it can be scary to tell other people about you. Please be with the Church in Egypt as they continue to worship you and bring light into the darkness.

By your Spirit, Lord: **help us to be brave, speak out and share the Bible.**

Comfort those who are hurting. Be with people who have lost loved ones. Heal those who are sick and injured. Please give strength to people who are living in fear.

By your Spirit, Lord: **help us to be brave, speak out and share the Bible.**

Thank you that the Bible Society is sharing the Bible with people in Egypt. We pray that all the staff and volunteers would be kept safe and would keep telling people about Jesus. Thank you for the Kingo Festivals and all the joy they are bringing to children. Help all the kids who receive Bibles get to know you.

By your Spirit, Lord: **help us to be brave, speak out and share the Bible.**

Lord, help us to always remember that you are with us and we can be brave. Give us the courage to share the Bible with people around us and the resources to support ministries all over the world.

By your Spirit, Lord: **help us to be brave, speak out and share the Bible.**

All these things we ask in your name,
Amen.

We join together in the Lord's Prayer.

Blessing and Dismissal

The minister may send the congregation out:

Jesus said to his disciples, "...the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." (John 14:26-27)

Today let us leave knowing that promise as we share in the words of The Grace...

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all, evermore. Amen

Or this blessing and dismissal:

Let us pray

May God give you courage in times of danger, joy in his service, and hope in his word.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ, Amen.