

## Lesson 19: Apostles Are Strong in Their Faith

[Acts 5:12-42](#)

Youtube Link: <https://youtu.be/9jSllu7EfcU>

Children's Bible Story Video: <https://youtu.be/XCf1vsUk3bQ>

Worship Theme: Be brave about following God.

**Memory Verse:** "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

Songs (Youtube links):

1. Everlasting God <https://youtu.be/suW4J1Wbxa4>
2. In the name of Jesus <https://youtu.be/0b41QksexPE>
3. Jesus, I trust You [https://youtu.be/Vq\\_yln2huAM](https://youtu.be/Vq_yln2huAM)

### Pray

**Song:** Select songs from the list above.

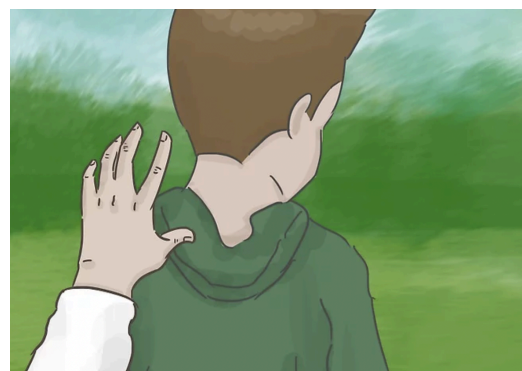
### Icebreaker: Rabbit or Turtle

1. Select one student to be "it" and have the rest of the children stand on the other side of the room.



2. The "it" person can stand facing the wall (looking away from the children) and say either "rabbit" or "turtle."

3. When the "it" person says "rabbit," the children can move closer.



4. When the "it" person says "turtle," everyone has to stop moving. If the "it" person finds anyone moving, they will be out of the game.

5. The first brave person to touch the "it" person when they're looking away is the winner.

6. Explain to the children that they have to be brave to be strong followers of God.

### Introduction:

What are you afraid of? (Let the children answer.) Today, we will learn about the apostles after Jesus died and resurrected. Many people wanted to punish them for sharing about Jesus to other people. What would you have done if you were one of the

apostles? Would you continue to share about Jesus bravely? Or would you stop sharing and hide away? Let's learn from the apostles on what we should do about being brave followers of God!

### **Bible Story:**

After the death and resurrection of Jesus, the church faced persecution. Both the Romans and the Jewish leaders persecuted Jesus' followers to put an end to the church. But the apostles preached the gospel bravely, despite the dangers of imprisonment, torture, and even death. They could be brave because God gave them strength and courage. Thousands of people came to believe in Jesus.

One day Peter and some of Jesus' other followers were at the Temple telling all the people the good news about Jesus. Some of the Temple leaders were angry with Peter and the other followers. They didn't understand that Jesus was God's Son, and they didn't want Peter and his friends to tell people about Jesus. So they threw Peter and his friends in jail. That night an angel came and opened the doors of the jail. The angel told Peter and the other followers to go back to the Temple and preach about Jesus. The Bible tells us that Peter and his friends did just what the angel told them to do. They went back to the Temple and told the people about Jesus. The people who'd put Peter and his friends in jail were surprised when they got to the Temple and saw Peter and his friends preaching again. The guards brought Peter and his friends to talk to the official leaders. Peter said, "We must obey God rather than human beings!" (Acts 5:29). Then Peter and his friends told the official leaders all about Jesus. Peter and his friends were brave! They followed Jesus no matter what!

Following God bravely isn't always easy. But we can follow Peter's example. Even when bad things happened, Peter still obeyed God and continued to tell people about Jesus. He knew that people needed to know about Jesus. The good news about Jesus is the best news ever. We, too, can bravely follow God and tell others about Jesus. But it can be hard to follow God bravely and to share about him. Our friends might not listen to us or they might make fun of us. But we make God happy and show that he's important to us when we follow him bravely no matter what the consequences. We can know that he will be with us and give us the strength and courage we need.

### **Questions to discuss:**

1. What happened after Jesus died and resurrected? (The church faced persecution)
2. Who persecuted the church? (The Romans and the Jewish leaders)
3. Why did the apostles choose to share about Jesus when they were persecuted? (They knew that people needed to know about Jesus)
4. What can you do to be brave followers of God? (Tell others about Jesus bravely)
5. Who will help us to follow God bravely? (Jesus)

### **Game: Be Brave**



1. Divide the children into 2 groups and choose a leader.
2. Teach the children 2 different gestures:
  - a. Lion: Make lion paws with hands and put them near the ears and roar with a loud voice.
  - b. Daniel: Make a praying hands.
3. Have the children stand in a line with their backs to each other. The children in each group decide which gesture to use.
4. When the teacher says read, get set, go, the two groups have to face each other, making gestures according to the decision of their group
5. The team who used Daniel's praying hand is the winner. If both teams make the same gesture, they need to play again until they win. (Teacher will not tell the student which gestures make them win).

**Memory Verse:** “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:9)

**Craft:** **Memory Verse Coloring Page (See below to print)**

**Song:** Select songs from the list above

**Pray**

**Teacher’s Devotion (Please read before you get ready to teach the students.)**

The Holy Spirit guides and inspires us as we grow in our relationship with Jesus. Take a deep breath. You are alive, able to breathe, move, and have meaning for life because you have spirit. This separates you from the dead. Not only this, God gave his own Spirit to live in you, making you alive to live for God. Don’t waste your life today. Be alive in Christ whose Holy Spirit lives in you.





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