



BRAVE

COURAGE IN THE FACE OF FEAR

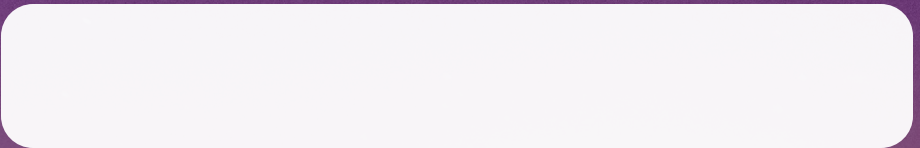
INTERACTIVE STUDENT BOOK

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THIS BOOK BELONGS TO:



Brave: Courage in the Face of Fear
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WELCOME TO BRAVE

WHAT'S YOUR BIGGEST FEAR?

There are a lot of scary things in this world, whether you like to admit that or not. Spiders, heights, public speaking, snakes, death, public humiliation, rejection, being alone, sharks, losing your phone—the list of fears could go on and on. So in a world where it's easy to worry and give in to fear, how can you live courageously for Christ?

When you choose bravery, you humbly admit your need for Christ, confess your sin, boldly obey Jesus even when it seems risky, and tell others how Jesus offers salvation to everyone. There will be times when you'll want to give in to fear. But Jesus calls us to be brave!

HERE ARE SOME THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW AS YOU GO THROUGH THIS STUDY:

ONE

GOD WANTS TO CONNECT WITH YOU. In fact, he's looking forward to it. But how ready are you to connect with him? As you go in and out of the sessions and devotional times, make sure you are willing to listen to him and learn from him. He promises that he will come near to you if you come near to him (James 4:8). Try it!

TWO

WHAT YOU PUT INTO THIS STUDY IS WHAT YOU'LL GET OUT OF IT. There are people all around you who have spent a lot of time praying for you and getting ready to invest in you. You'll probably meet some new people, hear some new speakers, and get a chance to spend some quality time with God and with friends. Take advantage of it! Ask hard questions. Commit to being authentic and honest. God wants to use this time and these people in your life.

SESSION 1 INTRO

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

If you have a pile of dishes with crusty, dried food stuck on them, how do you usually clean them? You wouldn't use a broom or a mop, you wouldn't put them out in the sunshine, and you wouldn't throw them in the washing machine. You'd wash them with soap and water—either by hand or with the help of the dishwasher.

We are like those dirty dishes with crusty, dried sin stuck to us. We are born with a sinful nature, and we all sin, making everyone a sinner. The only way to get free from the label of "sinner" is to admit we need a Savior. Jesus is the only one who can save us because he lived the perfect life in our place! When we repent of our sin and trust in his ability to save us, we are cleansed and can look forward to eternal life with him.



LARGE GROUP

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

These two pages are designed so you can take note of anything that stands out to you and that you think is worth remembering during the large group talk. This talk will set the stage for the rest of the session. Consider writing down main points, quotes, Bible verses, and any questions that pop into your head.



How does it make you feel that all of humanity is affected by sin because of Adam?

In what ways have you seen and felt the effects of sin in your life in the past or even in the present?

SMALL GROUP

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

A Second Look

There is a children's book called *The Priest with Dirty Clothes*¹, and it beautifully illustrates how Jesus gives his children his righteousness so they can stand before God. In the story, a man named Jonathan becomes a priest. He is invited by the king to deliver a sermon, but on the journey there, Jonathan becomes desperately muddy, ruining his blue robe. The king turns him away because of his dirty clothes. Cleaning his robe didn't get the stains out, and the bishop who made Jonathan a priest couldn't give him a new robe. The only hope Jonathan had was to go to the prince. When he explained his predicament to the prince, the prince assured him that next week, when Jonathan appeared before the king again, he would be there to take care of Jonathan's clothes. When Jonathan arrived the next week, he felt ashamed to be in the presence of the king in his old, dirty clothes. But then the prince came and gave a gift to Jonathan: the prince took off his own purple robe and gave it to Jonathan! As long as Jonathan wore the prince's robe, he could stand before the king. Just like Jonathan and the prince, if we believe that Jesus can make us clean and right in God's eyes and ask Jesus for his righteousness, Jesus will gladly give it to us.

Answer:

How does the reality of sin sit with you?

How do you measure how "good" you are?

What/who do you rely on to make yourself right with God?

Christ offers his own righteousness to you through his perfect life and death in your place. How does this reality change your perspective on your sin, your efforts to be good, and getting right with God?

A Little Deeper

Thankfully, God doesn't end the story with bad news. There is good news too! Let's dive into what that Good News is, what it does, and who it's for.

Ephesians 2:1, 4–5

"And you were dead in the trespasses and sins...But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved."

Think about what a person can do if they're dead physically. Now, what do you think a person can do if they're spiritually dead?

What are the three characteristics of God mentioned in this passage?

When God saves someone, what are they saved from, and what are they saved to?

Romans 10:9–10

"Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."

Why do you think there has to be belief in the heart as well as confession out loud to be saved?

What does "justified" mean? (Feel free to look this up and talk about it as a group.)

Why is it so important that Jesus was raised from the dead? Or, in other words, what would be different if he was still dead today?

Romans 1:16a

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes..."

Would you say you're ashamed of the Gospel? Why or why not?

How does knowing the Gospel is the power of God encourage you?

APPLY IT

If you have never repented of your sin and asked Jesus to save you, Jesus invites you to put your faith in him today! He will give you his own righteousness so that your relationship with God the Father is restored. Whether or not you are already a child of God, how can you practically apply the truths of the Gospel to your life this week?

Specific

What are you going to do?

When are you going to do it?

Is there someone who can keep you accountable?

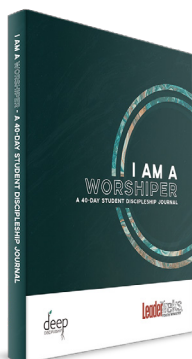
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KEEP GOING!

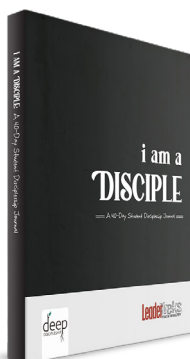
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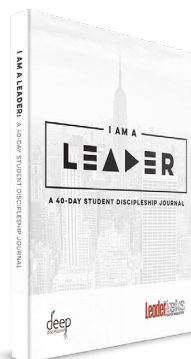
**I AM
NEW**



**I AM A
WORSHIPER**



**I AM A
DISCIPLE**



**I AM A
LEADER**

LEADERTREKS HAS SUMMER INTERNSHIPS!

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