

# 1.2 Take courage

Based on Episode 1: Long Journey

## Learning objectives:

- To know that tasks sometimes take courage
- To know that Christians ask God to help them when they need courage

## Themes:

*Taking risks; Making tough decisions; With God's help ordinary people can do extraordinary things*

## Curriculum links:

**Literacy:** *Speaking and listening: whole group; use Bible as a reference tool; write from personal experience*

**History:** *Roman life in the first century - Roman baths*

**Creative:** *pottery*

**Vocabulary:** *Rome, hayloft, port, harbor*

## Life applications:

*How can God help me?*

*How can the teachings of Jesus help me when I have to make difficult decisions?*

*How do the words and actions of Jesus influence my beliefs, attitudes and behavior?*

## Episode summary:

*Leah and Rebecca run away from Macky's, Samuel's and Diana's home. The Roman soldiers capture them and put them in jail. Samuel has to make a difficult decision. Macky tells the story of Jesus and the miraculous catch of fish to encourage Samuel to do the right thing, even though it means to take a risk just like Peter did when he gave up everything to follow Jesus.*

## Bible reference:

*The miraculous catch of fish*

*Luke 5:5-11*

## Resources:

*Friends and Heroes DVD Episode 1: Long Journey*

*This lesson is based on the second half of the episode from 13:05 minutes when Diana 'invites' the girls to join them for dinner to the end.*

*Copies of Worksheet 1.2a (one per student)*

*Copies of Worksheet 1.2b (one per student)*

*Bibles*

## Lesson introduction:

Start the session by sharing a personal experience with the class of a time when you have had to act courageously to do something (ideally something that you felt you ought to do, with a positive result!). Try to explain what it was you had to do, why you felt you needed to do it, why it took courage, what it felt like to do that thing and the end result – ideally a positive one!

Ask students to record in words or pictures on Worksheet 1.2a, an occasion when they have had to have the courage to do something e.g., reading something in an assembly, standing up for yourself, asking for help, etc.

When students have had 10:00 minutes or so, invite a couple of them to read or share their experiences with the class.

- What did they have to do?
- Why did they have to do it?
- Why did they need courage?
- What was the result?

## Story focus and Activities:

Tell students that in today's episode, Macky has to act courageously to do something important. Explain that the Bible story tells us about how Jesus invited his first followers to join him – they had to have courage.

Show Friends and Heroes DVD Episode 1: Long Journey from 13:05 minutes until the end.

Ask students the following questions:

- Why did Macky and Samuel have to have courage?
- What was the result of them acting courageously?
- Why did the first followers of Jesus need courage to follow him?

Ask students if any of them would be able to leave their homes and families in the same way that Jesus' first followers did – remind them that it would have taken a lot of courage to follow Jesus – he wasn't famous and they would have had to leave their homes, their jobs and their families to follow him – it would have taken a lot of courage.

Ask if anyone knows the names of any of Jesus' first followers. (the episode introduces Peter, James and John) Explain that they became known as a group by the name of 'Jesus' disciples'.

Share Worksheet 1.2b with students, explaining how to use the Bible to find the names of all Jesus' 12 disciples. (e.g., a reference of Mark 1:3-4 – means find the book of Mark in the index, look for Chapter 1, then find verses 3-4 – this will encourage students to use the index to find the correct book). This is an example on how a reference works.

Give students ten minutes or so to look up the Bible reference from the worksheet and find the names of the real 12 disciples – circling the ones they find in the grid. Ask them to create a list of the disciples at the bottom of the worksheet.

Discuss and agree on a correct list.

(Simon (whom he named Peter), his brother Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew (sometimes called Nathanael), Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Simon who was called the Zealot, Judas, son of James (sometimes called Thaddaeus), and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.)

- What do students notice about the list? (No women!)

Emphasize that this was not because the women in Jesus' time lacked courage, rather that it would have been culturally inappropriate for them to have 'followed' Jesus.

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### Reflection:

Remind students that Macky had to tell Samuel the story of the first followers of Jesus to remind him that he could ask God to help him to have the courage to rescue Rebecca and Leah. The story of those first followers inspired them both to do something that they knew they ought to do.

If appropriate you might like to say a prayer with the students, asking God to help them when they need to have courage. Alternatively, provide an opportunity to reflect upon times when they might need to have courage and talk about how we can help each other to have the courage we need to do things.

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### Assessment:

Can students explain how the Bible story helped Samuel and Macky?

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### Enrichment:

You will find helpful additional material to enrich your students' learning experience at our award-winning children's website: [www.friendsandheroes.tv](http://www.friendsandheroes.tv). The pages are designed to be child-friendly and are full of exciting puzzles, quizzes and games plus information about Bible characters, Bible places and the Friends and Heroes characters and storylines.

Name:

Date:

## Worksheet 1.2a

In this week's episode Macky has to be courageous – draw or write below about a time when you have had to have courage to do something.



Name:

Date:

## Worksheet 1.2b

Disciples of Jesus

Who really was a disciple?

Look at the names of the people below. Read Luke 6:12-16. Circle the real names of Jesus' disciples and record them on the list below.

Simon (who was renamed Peter)	Matthew	Simon	Timothy
Oliver	Judas, son of James (sometimes called Thaddaeus)	David	Bartholomew (sometimes called Nathanael)
James	Shawn	James, son of Alphaeus	Mary
Helen	John	Miriam	Judas Iscariot
Philip	Michael	Thomas	Andrew

### The 12 Disciples of Jesus

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