

TRAILBLAZERS



Large Group

Trailblazers

Series at a Glance for Elevate

About this Series:

Where would you love to explore? The densest jungle? The deepest sea? This summer, we're taking an expedition to learn more about ourselves, and the amazing way God designed every one of us. Get ready to blaze a trail into the unknown, and discover some incredible things about God, our world, and ourselves.

Key Verses:

Philippians 4:7-8- "Then God's peace will watch over your hearts and your minds. He will do this because you belong to Christ Jesus. God's peace can never be completely understood. Finally, my brothers and sisters, always think about what is true. Think about what is noble, right, and pure. Think about what is lovely and worthy of respect. If anything is excellent or worthy of praise, think about those kinds of things."

Weekly Overview:

Lesson:	Title:	Big Idea:
	<u>Part 1: Who Am I?</u>	
Lesson 1: June 12/13	Trailhead Creation-Gen. 1, Eph. 2:10	I am uniquely created by God.
Lesson 2: June 19/20	In the Crew Zacchaeus-Luke 19, Rom. 15:7	I am accepted by God just the way I am.
Lesson 3: June 26/27	A new Horizon Moses-Exodus 3, Phil. 4:13	I am capable because God is with me.
Lesson 4: July 3/4	Back on Track Lost Sheep, Ps. 139:17-18	I am valuable to God.
Lesson 5: July 10/11	Outlook Point Paul- Acts 16, 1 Thess. 5:16-18	I can choose to have a good attitude.
	<u>Part 2: How Am I Influencing?</u>	
Lesson 6: July 17/18	Long Way Home Lost Son-Luke 15, John 3:16	I am loved by God no matter what.
Lesson 7: July 24/25	A Fork in the Trail Ruth	My choices impact others.

Lesson 8: July 31/August 1	Way-Words Eph. 4:29	I can choose words that make a difference.
Lesson 9: August 7/8	The Next Step Daniel 5-6	I can take a stand for what I believe.
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Lesson 10: August 14/15	<u>Part 3: Who am I Becoming?</u> Backtracked Joseph- Genesis 37, 45, 50:20.	I can see mistakes as chances to learn.
Lesson 11: August 21/22	Which Way? Samuel- 1 Samuel 2-3	I can do what's right when no one is watching.
Lesson 12: August 28/29	Into the Unknown Joshua- 1:9, 2 Timothy 1:7	God gives me the courage to do hard things.
Lesson 13: September 4/5	Onward! David- 1 Samuel 16-19	God has a purpose for me, wherever I go.

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Series at a Glance for Elevate (continued)

Lesson 1: Trailhead

Have you ever created something really special? A piece of art, a comic book, a Lego project, or an invention? When you create something, it matters to you. You take time to make it just the way you want it to be. This week, we'll explore what it means to be created by God and how that impacts our lives.

Lesson 2: In the Crew

We all want to be a part of a group. Sometimes we even try to change things about ourselves so that we can fit in with the people around us. This week we will hear about how Jesus accepted someone that most people rejected.

Lesson 3: A New Horizon

Life can be challenging. It can feel like we are on an adventure with mountains to climb, rivers to cross, and obstacles that get in our way. Sometimes we wonder if we really have what it takes to do the things God wants us to do. This week, we will discover how God showed a man named Moses that he was capable.

Lesson 4: Back on Track

Have you ever lost something that was valuable? When that happens, we do anything we can to find it! It is incredible to know that God thinks we are valuable – so valuable that he would do whatever it takes to be close to us.

Lesson 5: Outlook Point

A good attitude is amazing. It can turn something challenging into something fun. A bad attitude, though, can turn even the most fun things into frustrating, difficult, and boring ones. This week, we'll see how our attitudes can change the world around us.

Lesson 6: Long Way Home

Sometimes our mistakes and the wrong things we do make us feel like no one could ever love us. We might feel like we have to do all the right things so that we can earn God's love. This week, we'll hear the story of The Lost Son and learn more about the incredible love God has for each one of us!

Lesson 7: A Fork in the Trail

Sometimes, it's easy to believe our choices don't matter, that they don't affect anyone. This week, we'll hear how Ruth learned that her choices really do make a difference; and we'll see how our decisions can impact others today.

Lesson 8: Way-Words

Our words can be used to help or to hurt. In Ephesians, Paul challenges us to use words that build others up. We'll find out what that looks like this week!

Lesson 9: The Next Step

Daniel was in a new land with few friends. When others expected him to do things God says are wrong, Daniel had to choose whether to follow God or follow the people around him. This week, we'll discover the impact we can have when we stand up for what we believe.

Lesson 10: Backtracked

Imagine you've made a mistake. Something goes wrong, you mess up, but what happens next? Do you get angry? Give up? Blame someone else? Or could we see our mistakes in a different way? This week, we'll find out how our mistakes might even be a good thing.

Lesson 11: Which Way?

"Integrity" means doing what's right, even when no one is watching. This week, we'll hear how a man named Samuel chose integrity, even when others around him didn't.

Lesson 12: Into the Unknown

In the Bible, we see God tell people to be courageous, but it's not always for the reasons we'd expect. In Joshua's story, Joshua had to fight battles and lead a nation, but God said there was one thing he would do that would take even more courage than those things. We'll find out what it is this week!

Lesson 13: Onward!

King David's story doesn't start in a palace, it starts in a field. David was a shepherd, a musician, and a poet, and all of those were part of God's plan. As this new school year starts, we'll discover how everything we do is part of the way God designed us.

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Lesson Outline for Elevate

Lesson 12: Into the Unknown

Lesson Segment	Total Running Time
Opening Song and Welcome (1:00)	
Team Time (11:00)	
Worship (4:00)	
Media Part 1 (4:00)	0:00 – 20:00
Group Time (10:00)	
Media Part 2 (6:00)	
Worship (4:00)	20:00 – 40:00
Team Time 2 (8:00)	
Media Part 3 (8:00)	
Application and Wrap-Up (4:00)	40:00 - 60:00



Video Cue



Slide Cue



Audio Cue



Tech Notes

Opening Song and Welcome

1:00



(Roll when directed) Elevate Opener

Do This: During the song, encourage kids to find a place to sit, and let them know it's time to get started.

Welcome everyone! I'm so glad you're all here! Come on up and find a place to sit.



(Auto advance) Elevate Slide and Underscore

My name is _____, and I'm so excited to be here with all of you! We've got some awesome games, stories, and music coming up, I'm excited to get started!

Elevate is an awesome place where we get to have fun and learn about God. It's also a place where we show respect. We respect the leaders in here by listening and following their instructions. We respect others by being kind and keeping our hands to ourselves. And we respect the room by being safe, and not damaging anything. Showing respect like that helps us all have an awesome time.

Team Time

11:00



Series Title Slide: Trailblazers and clear audio

The series we're in is called "Trailblazers." We're on an expedition to learn more about ourselves and the amazing way God designed every one of us.

Let's get started with a game called "Nothing to Fear?"



Game Title Slide: "Nothing to Fear?"

In this game, I'm going to tell you about a "phobia", or a fear people have. Your job is to guess whether that is a real or a fake fear. You'll show me your answer by standing or sitting. If you think it's real, stand up. If you think it's fake, sit down. Let's give it a try!



Potnomicaphobia- The fear of potatoes, and anything made from potatoes (fries, mashed potatoes, Mr. Potatohead).
(And fun game music!)

Do This: Read the fear and description from the screen. Give kids about ten seconds to answer.

Is that really a fear people have? Stand if you think it's real, sit if you think it's fake.

Ready? Let's find out!



Potnomicaphobia- Real!

That one is real. Sometimes, people are just really afraid of potatoes. Let's check out another one.



Postiophobia- The fear of sticky notes, mostly yellow ones.

Do This: Read the fear and description from the screen. Give kids about ten seconds to answer.

Is that really a fear people have? Stand if you think it's real, sit if you think it's fake.

Ready? Let's find out!



Postiophobia- Fake.

That one was just made up. If you were sitting down, you're correct! Let's see another one.



Aurophobia- The fear of gold. Yes, gold like the metal that costs a lot of money.

Do This: Read the fear and description from the screen. Give kids about ten seconds to answer.

Is that really a fear people have? Stand if you think it's real, sit if you think it's fake.

Ready? Let's find out!



Aurophobia- Real!

That one was real! That's probably a tough one. Let's see what's next.



Lazophobia- The fear of sitting on a couch, especially an old antique one.

Do This: Read the fear and description from the screen. Give kids about ten seconds to answer.

Is that really a fear people have? Stand if you think it's real, sit if you think it's fake.

Ready? Let's find out!



Lazophobia- Fake

That one's not correct, we made it up. Let's see the next one.



Ananophobia- The fear of pineapples. Not all fruit, just pineapples.

Do This: Read the fear and description from the screen. Give kids about ten seconds to answer.

Is that really a fear people have? Stand if you think it's real, sit if you think it's fake.

Ready? Let's find out!



Ananophobia- Real

That fear is real! Hopefully they live somewhere cold. What's next?



Arachibutyrophobia- The fear of peanut butter sticking to the roof of your mouth.

Do This: Read the fear and description from the screen. Give kids about ten seconds to answer.

Is that really a fear people have? Stand if you think it's real, sit if you think it's fake.

Ready? Let's find out!



Arachibutyrophobia- Real

That one's real? It's very specific. Let's check out another one.



Nasiophobia- The fear of gym class.

Do This: Read the fear and description from the screen. Give kids about ten seconds to answer.

Is that really a fear people have? Stand if you think it's real, sit if you think it's fake.

Ready? Let's find out!



Nasiophobia- Fake.

That one was fake. People might be afraid of gym class sometimes, but that's not the name for it. Let's see our last one!



Blennophobia- The fear of slime.

Do This: Read the fear and description from the screen. Give kids about ten seconds to answer.

Is that really a fear people have? Stand if you think it's real, sit if you think it's fake.

Ready? Let's find out!



Blennophobia- Real!

That fear is real. Slime can be scary!



Game Title Slide: "Nothing to Fear?" and clear audio

That's our last one, but you can stay standing, because next, we're going to spend some time worshipping God.



Worship Slide

Worship

4:00

Worship is what we call singing about God and showing that we love him. This song is about how God's love changes our lives in so many ways.



Worship Song 1: Heartbeat



(Auto Advance) Worship Slide

I love singing with all of you.

Media: Part 1

4:00

Next, we get to check in with the trailblazing team and find out what challenge they're facing on their show: "Trailblazers."



Media Part 1 (4:00)



(Auto advance) Series Title Slide: Trailblazers

What a great thought. How can we be courageous? Do we really need courage? That's what we'll be talking about in group time.

Know This: You will have to decide ahead of time whether to do group time in small groups or as a large group. If there are enough group leaders, it is recommended to spend this time in small groups, divided up by grade. If that's the case, tell the group leaders one minute before their time is up, and skip the "Group Time" portion of the script. If you have to run this as a large group, move on through the group time portion of the script.

Group Time

10:00

Check out this verse from the book of Joshua in the Bible.



Joshua 1:9- Be strong and brave. Do not be afraid. Do not lose hope. I am the Lord your God. I will be with you everywhere you go.

Do This: Read the verse from the screen.

That verse tells us the best reason to have courage no matter what. God is with us everywhere we go.

Take a moment and talk about this question, though.



What do you think about when you think about courage?

What do you think about when you think about courage? What's something that takes a lot of courage? What kind of people do things that are really courageous? Go ahead and talk about that with someone near you.

Do This: Allow kids to talk for about 30 seconds. You may ask if one or two of them want to tell you their answers.

Usually, we think of courage as doing something big and heroic. We think of firefighters who rush to save people, or police officers who protect us. Even in that verse we read earlier, Joshua needed courage to fight in some big battles. Those things all take courage, but the Bible points out that just following God takes courage, too. In fact, a king named David writes about this in Psalm 23. He writes that God is like a shepherd, someone who takes care of sheep.



Psalm 23:4- Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid. You are with me. Your shepherd's rod and staff comfort me.

Do This: Read the verse from the screen.

Back when David wrote this, it was normal to see shepherds leading sheep around, leading them to grass or water, helping them stay healthy. Sometimes, they had to lead their sheep through places that were dark and scary. What would happen if a sheep got scared, stopped following the shepherd, and ran off in those places?

It would get lost! The best thing to do is follow the shepherd. The same thing is true for us. Sometimes, life gets tough. The wisest choice we can make is to follow God. Sometimes, other people do wrong things. The best thing we can do is keep doing what God says is right. That's going to take courage sometimes.

The Bible actually mentions this around that first verse we read, in Joshua's story.



Map of Israel

God had given Joshua a huge mission. He was going to lead God's people into the land God wanted them to live in. That's a map of the land on the screen. The problem was, there were people living in the land already and they didn't like Joshua or God's people. Joshua had to lead an army and needed courage, but there was actually one thing that God said Joshua needed a lot of courage for, and it wasn't fighting battles. It's in this verse.



Joshua 1:7- Be strong and very brave. Make sure you obey the whole law my servant Moses gave you. Do not turn away from it to the right or the left.

Do This: Read the verse from the screen.

Notice, this verse says Joshua needs to be very brave. Why does he need to be brave? Not to fight, but to follow God's law! It takes courage for us to follow God today, too. Following God means choosing to do what he says is right, even if that means living differently from others. Let's think about that for a minute.



When does it take courage to follow God?

When might it take courage to follow God? Can you think of a time when doing what God says is right might take courage?

Do This: You can allow a couple kids to answer.

Imagine if your friend wants to do something God says is wrong, like steal or cheat. Saying no to that takes some courage, but that's part of following God. Choosing to be kind to someone who we don't really like can also take some courage, but God challenges us to love others, even if we don't get along with them. It might take courage to invite someone to church, or welcome someone who is new, but all these things are ways we can choose to follow God courageously.



Series Title Slide: Trailblazers

We can have courage no matter what, because God is with us, no matter what. When life gets tough, He hasn't left or gone anywhere, He is still with us, leading us through the dark valley, the tough times.

We're going to hear what the trailblazing team has learned about courage, but first, let's take on a challenge from our challenge wheel!



Challenge Wheel Video



(Auto-Advance) Challenge Wheel Slide: Find and touch four blue things!

Find and touch four blue things! The only rule is they can't be on another person, they must be part of the room. When you're done, come back and sit down. You'll have thirty seconds. Ready, set, go!



30 Second Countdown and fun music!



(Auto-Advance) Series Title Slide: Trailblazers

Nice job! You can return to the middle and find a spot to sit.

Media: Part 2

6:00

Let's check in again with the trailblazing team, to hear a story about someone who had incredible courage in a way you might not expect.



Media Part 2 (6:00)



(Auto advance) Series Title Slide: Trailblazers

Courage looks a little different for all of us, but no matter what you're going through, God is right there, leading you.

Worship

4:00

Let's stand up, and get ready to sing about God, who gives us such amazing courage. This song is about the people God is making us into, and it's called "Who I Wanna Be."



Worship Song 2- Who I Wanna Be



(Auto advance) Series Title Slide: Trailblazers

Singing with you is awesome. Next, we've got an activity to get us all moving!

Team Time 2

8:00

This activity is called Mushroom Ball.



Game Title Slide: "Mushroom Ball."

In this game, there will be a bunch of dodge balls around the room. You can throw them at other people. If you get hit by a dodge ball, you have to sit down, right where you

are. You can't move from that spot. If you pick up a ball and hit someone who is standing, though, you can stand back up.

See how long you can stay standing! Everyone starts standing up, ready, set, go!



Energetic game music!

Know This: Have the soccer stress balls set out ahead of time for this game.

Do This: Allow kids to play for a while. If most of them are down and there is still time left, feel free to have everyone stand back up once or twice. Cue the tech volunteer when time is up.



Series Title Slide: Trailblazers (and clear audio)

That was a challenging game! Now that we've got some energy out, Josh and Beka have a fun game for us, too.

Media Part 3

8:00

Let's see what wild game the trailblazers have planned.



Media Part 3 (8:00)



(Auto-Advance) Series Title Slide: Trailblazers

That was fun to watch!

Application and Wrap-Up

4:00

We've learned a lot today. Let's look back at the super important thing we should all remember.



Big Idea Slide: "God gives us the courage to do hard things."

God gives us the courage to do hard things. Whether we need courage for something difficult we're going through, choosing to do the right thing when others are doing something wrong, or even to share God's love with someone or invite them to church, those things can all take courage.

The trailblazing team showed us that we can need courage for so many different things, both big and small, things that happen once, and things that happen every day.



Trailblazer Guide Image: Week 12

Do This: Hold up the guidebook for this week.

This week's guidebook will help you figure out what God might want you to do that takes courage. Could God be giving you a chance to forgive someone, make a wise choice, or share his love with someone who isn't expecting it? These activities will help you think about that. There's also a cool science experiment for you to try!



Series Title Slide: Trailblazers

Let's finish up today by talking to God. We'll close our eyes and put our hands in our laps, so we can focus on what we're saying to God.

Do This: Pray the following prayer with the kids.

God, you are wonderful. Thank you for loving us, no matter what. Help us to have courage to follow you, wherever we are. Amen.

I'm glad you were all here today! Have an amazing week, everyone.



Elevate Slide



Start free time music videos