



## **RBI AUSTIN DISCIPLESHIP GOSPEL & FAITH CURRICULUM**

SUMMER 2025 - Jr RBI (Ages 4-12) & RBI (Ages 13-18)

**Theme: “Be Strong and Courageous... The Jesus Way”**

### **Main Bible Verse Throughout the Summer - Joshua 1:9**

**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.”**

#### **Week 1**

##### **Psalm 27:1**

“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?”

#### **Week 2**

##### **Proverbs 3:5–6**

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.”

#### **Week 3**

##### **Ephesians 6:10**

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power.”

#### **Week 4**

##### **Deuteronomy 31:6**

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you.”

#### **Week 5**

##### **Isaiah 41:10**

“So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.”

#### **Week 6**

##### **1 Corinthians 16:13**

“Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.”

#### **Week 7**

##### **2 Timothy 1:7**

“For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.”

#### **Week 8**

##### **Psalm 31:24**

“Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord.”



## Week 1: “Be Strong and Courageous... The Jesus Way”

### **Home Plate - Team Huddle Chat / Prayer About Hopes and Fears**

What are you excited about and looking forward to this week?

What are you nervous and anxious about this week?

Because of Jesus’ death and resurrection, we are able to talk to God about what’s going on in our lives on and off the baseball/softball diamond. In God’s Word, Jesus teaches us that we can **pray in his name** anytime, anywhere, and about anything to our Heavenly Father.

*Dear Heavenly Father, we pray that you give us strength and courage to/for... (allow ballplayers/coaches to speak any prayer requests they would like to share with the team)... in the name of Jesus... Amen.*

### **1st Base - Jesus Gives Us Strength and Courage**

In what ways does Jesus give us strength and courage... moment by moment, day by day, week by week, month by month?

In what ways does Jesus give us strength and courage... at home / with our families and friends / in our neighborhoods / in the greater Austin area and beyond?

### **2nd Base - Bible Verse - Word for The Week**

**Psalm 27:1 - “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?”**

*What is something you/your team can do to “be strong and courageous... the Jesus way” this week?*

### **3rd Base - The Life (Works & Words) of Jesus Christ The Savior of the World**

Jesus demonstrated strength and courage in the most perfect way for us to learn from and live out.

Jesus as the God-Man shows us how to be strong and courageous by the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Jesus came into this world as The Light of The World.
- Jesus came to show us (to light) the way to eternal/everlasting life with him.
- Jesus came from heaven to earth to save/rescue us from sin, death, and the power of the devil.
- Jesus keeps us safe and secure with him (then, now, and always) and he tells us to not be afraid.
- Jesus plus nothing equals everything.

### **Circling the Bases - People in the Bible of Strength and Courage Whose Lives/Legacies Connect to Jesus**

**Noah (Genesis 6-8)** - What can we learn from Noah in the Bible about perseverance when team and individual results on the baseball/softball diamond are slow, and not what we would like for them to be?

**Abram (Genesis 12, 15)** - What can we learn from Abram in the Bible about stepping into the unknown - i.e. perhaps playing baseball/softball for the first time, playing on a new baseball/softball team for the summer, playing a different position, or playing now in the RBI division after having played Jr RBI?

**Joseph (Genesis 37, 41-45, 50)** - What can we learn from Joseph in the Bible about being strong and courageous amid various adversity (i.e. trials and temptations) in baseball/softball and life?

**Moses (Exodus 1-20)** - What can we learn from Moses in the Bible about overcoming our fears, doubts, and insecurities, and doing hard and difficult things, on and off the baseball/softball diamond?



## Week 2: "Be Strong and Courageous... The Jesus Way"

### **Home Plate - Team Huddle Chat / Prayer About Hopes and Fears**

What are you excited about and looking forward to this week?

What are you nervous and anxious about this week?

Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, we are able to talk to God about what's going on in our lives on and off the baseball/softball diamond. In God's Word, Jesus teaches us that we can **pray in his name** anytime, anywhere, and about anything to our Heavenly Father.

*Dear Heavenly Father, we pray that you give us strength and courage to/for... (allow ballplayers/coaches to speak any prayer requests they would like to share with the team)... in the name of Jesus... Amen.*

### **1st Base - Jesus Gives Us Strength and Courage**

In what ways does Jesus give us strength and courage... throughout the year... through the highs and lows, ups and downs, and mountaintops and valleys of life?

In what ways does Jesus give us strength and courage... at school / during extra- and co-curricular activities / at work / during the summertime / during baseball and softball season / the offseason?

### **2nd Base - Bible Verse: Word for The Week**

**Proverbs 3:5–6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight."**

What is something you/your team can do to "be strong and courageous... the Jesus way" this week?

### **3rd Base - The Life (Works & Words) of Jesus Christ The Savior of the World**

Jesus demonstrated strength and courage in the most perfect way for us to learn from and live out. Jesus as the God-Man shows us how to be strong and courageous by the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Jesus is promised in the Old Testament, and he is revealed and fulfilled in the New Testament.
- Jesus leads us, guides us, and directs us through his Word - The Bible (Holy Scripture).
- Jesus trusted in and followed/submitted to God's Will (and why/mission/purpose) for his life.
- Jesus is The Way, The Truth, and The Life.
- Jesus is very much present in our lives as our Good Shepherd loving us and caring for/about us.

### **Circling the Bases - People in the Bible of Strength and Courage Whose Lives/Legacies Connect to Jesus**

**Joshua (Joshua 1-4)** - What can we learn from Joshua in the Bible about stepping out of our "comfort zones," and knowing we are never alone in the battles we face on and off the baseball/softball diamond?

**Hannah (1 Samuel 1-2)** - What can we learn from Hannah in the Bible about turning to the Lord in prayer for strength and courage - that is bringing our requests/pain to the Lord instead of hiding it or giving up?

**Ruth (Book of Ruth)** - What can we learn from Ruth in the Bible about making good choices, showing up daily/in the mundane, and doing the next "right" thing, as baseball/softball players and as people?



## Week 3: "Be Strong and Courageous... The Jesus Way"

### **Home Plate - Team Huddle Chat / Prayer About Hopes and Fears**

What are you excited about and looking forward to this week?

What are you nervous and anxious about this week?

Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, we are able to talk to God about what's going on in our lives on and off the baseball/softball diamond. In God's Word, Jesus teaches us that we can **pray in his name** anytime, anywhere, and about anything to our Heavenly Father.

*Dear Heavenly Father, we pray that you give us strength and courage to/for... (allow ballplayers/coaches to speak any prayer requests they would like to share with the team)... in the name of Jesus... Amen.*

### **1st Base - Jesus Gives Us Strength and Courage**

In what ways does Jesus give us strength and courage... every day of the week... 24 hours 7 days a week... on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays?

In what ways does Jesus give us strength and courage... at our churches and in the community?

### **2nd Base - Bible Verse: Word for The Week**

**Ephesians 6:10 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power."**

*What is something you/your team can do to "be strong and courageous... the Jesus way" this week?*

### **3rd Base - The Life (Works & Words) of Jesus Christ The Savior of the World**

Jesus demonstrated strength and courage in the most perfect way for us to learn from and live out.

Jesus as the God-Man shows us how to be strong and courageous by the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Jesus taught parables - earthly stories with heavenly meanings.
- Jesus performed miracles (healing miracles, nature miracles, casting out demons, raising the dead) to prove that He is the Son of God.
- Jesus demonstrated his might and mercy, and his power and compassion.
- Jesus equips us with the full armor of God - the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, feet fitted with the readiness of the Gospel of peace, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of spirit.
- Jesus empowers us to fight the "good fight" of the faith, and to endure to the end.

### **Circling the Bases - People in the Bible of Strength and Courage Whose Lives/Legacies Connect to Jesus**

**Deborah (Judges 4-5)** - What can we learn from Deborah in the Bible about seeking God's wisdom toward building up, encouraging, and rallying others on the baseball/softball diamond to be strong and courageous?

**Samson (Judges 13-16)** - What can we learn from Samson in the Bible about how God's mercy is greater than our failures, that our strength and courage to overcome our weaknesses comes from God?



## Week 4: "Be Strong and Courageous... The Jesus Way"

### **Home Plate - Team Huddle Chat / Prayer About Hopes and Fears**

What are you excited about and looking forward to this week?

What are you nervous and anxious about this week?

Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, we are able to talk to God about what's going on in our lives on and off the baseball/softball diamond. In God's Word, Jesus teaches us that we can **pray in his name** anytime, anywhere, and about anything to our Heavenly Father.

*Dear Heavenly Father, we pray that you give us strength and courage to/for... (allow ballplayers/coaches to speak any prayer requests they would like to share with the team)... in the name of Jesus... Amen.*

### **1st Base - Jesus Gives Us Strength and Courage**

In what ways does Jesus give us strength and courage... before, during, and after baseball/softball practice/games (i.e. the drive/ride through traffic/congestion/construction to and from practice/games)?

In what ways does Jesus give us strength and courage... wherever we go, all the time?

### **2nd Base - Bible Verse: Word for The Week**

**Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you."**

*What is something you/your team can do to "be strong and courageous... the Jesus way" this week?*

### **3rd Base - The Life (Works & Words) of Jesus Christ The Savior of the World**

Jesus demonstrated strength and courage in the most perfect way for us to learn from and live out. Jesus as the God-Man shows us how to be strong and courageous by the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Jesus prepared himself (during his childhood, teenage, and young adulthood) for what/the work that His Father had planned/in store for him during the final 3 years (and the final week) of his life on this earth.
- Jesus took on (in the most perfect way) whatever challenges, obstacles, and "giants" he faced (and he "batted a 1.000").
- Jesus died on Good Friday, and rose from the grave 3 days later on Resurrection Easter Sunday.
- Jesus silences all our fears, wipes away our tears, calms our troubled hearts, and lives all blessings to impart.
- Jesus commands and calls us to "do not worry" and to "seek first his righteousness."

**Circling the Bases - People in the Bible of Strength and Courage Whose Lives/Legacies Connect to Jesus David (1 Samuel 16-17, 2 Samuel 2-7)** - What can we learn from (King) David about facing our fears and "giants" (including when we are underestimated) on and off the baseball/softball diamond?



## Week 5: “Be Strong and Courageous... The Jesus Way”

### **Home Plate** - Team Huddle Chat / Prayer About Hopes and Fears

What are you excited about and looking forward to this week?

What are you nervous and anxious about this week?

Because of Jesus’ death and resurrection, we are able to talk to God about what’s going on in our lives on and off the baseball/softball diamond. In God’s Word, Jesus teaches us that we can **pray in his name** anytime, anywhere, and about anything to our Heavenly Father.

*Dear Heavenly Father, we pray that you give us strength and courage to/for... (allow ballplayers/coaches to speak any prayer requests they would like to share with the team)... in the name of Jesus... Amen.*

### **1st Base** - Jesus Gives Us Strength and Courage

In what ways does Jesus give us strength and courage... on the baseball/softball diamond?

In what ways does Jesus give us strength and courage... on offense, standing at bat at the plate, on the basepaths, and running between the bases from home plate to 1st to 2nd to 3rd and back to home plate?

### **2nd Base** - Bible Verse: Word for The Week

**Isaiah 41:10 - “So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.”**

*What is something you/your team can do to “be strong and courageous... the Jesus way” this week?*

### **3rd Base** - The Life (Works & Words) of Jesus Christ The Savior of the World

Jesus demonstrated strength and courage in the most perfect way for us to learn from and live out.

Jesus as the God-Man shows us how to be strong and courageous by the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Jesus “stepped up to the plate” and “hit a game-winning walk-off grand slam” for us in the most difficult of circumstances ever - the ultimate demonstration of strength and courage in history.
- Jesus offers us help, healing, and hope through His death and resurrection to forgive us of all our sins.
- Jesus “came up clutch” for us, and he did on our behalf what we cannot on our own.
- Jesus saves us by grace through faith (not by anything we have done).
- Jesus’ grace bestowed to us (no merit of our own) is God’s Riches At Christ’s Expense.

### **Circling the Bases** - People in the Bible of Strength and Courage Whose Lives/Legacies Connect to Jesus

**The Widow of Zarephath (1 Kings 17)** - What can we learn from the Widow of Zarephath in the Bible about navigating tough times (including those baseball/softball-related) confident that is God for us (not against us), and that He knows what is best for us amid our unknowns/uncertainties about the future?

**Elijah (1 Kings 18-19)** - What can we learn from Elijah in the Bible about dealing with discouragement and not giving up i.e. staying hydrated, playing through fatigue (within safe limits), enduring warm/hot/humid/sunny weather on the baseball/softball diamond, and dealing with sickness/injuries that arise?



## Week 6: "Be Strong and Courageous... The Jesus Way"

### **Home Plate - Team Huddle Chat / Prayer About Hopes and Fears**

What are you excited about and looking forward to this week?

What are you nervous and anxious about this week?

Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, we are able to talk to God about what's going on in our lives on and off the baseball/softball diamond. In God's Word, Jesus teaches us that we can **pray in his name** anytime, anywhere, and about anything to our Heavenly Father.

*Dear Heavenly Father, we pray that you give us strength and courage to/for... (allow ballplayers/coaches to speak any prayer requests they would like to share with the team)... in the name of Jesus... Amen.*

### **1st Base - Jesus Gives Us Strength and Courage**

In what ways does Jesus give us strength and courage... on the baseball/softball diamond?

In what ways does Jesus give us strength and courage... on defense, in the field, at fielding positions?

### **2nd Base - Bible Verse: Word for The Week**

**1 Corinthians 16:13 - "Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong."**

*What is something you/your team can do to "be strong and courageous... the Jesus way" this week?*

### **3rd Base - The Life (Works & Words) of Jesus Christ The Savior of the World**

Jesus demonstrated strength and courage in the most perfect way for us to learn from and live out.

Jesus as the God-Man shows us how to be strong and courageous by the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Jesus stood firm (as our Suffering Servant) in going up against the biggest "giant" of all time, and he emerged victorious (as our Glorious King).
- Jesus is our example for living the fruit of the Spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.
- Jesus enables us to be on our guard, and to stand firm in the faith as we watch and wait for his return.
- Jesus forgives us of all of our sins, and he exemplifies for us forgiving others.

### **Circling the Bases - People in the Bible of Strength and Courage Whose Lives/Legacies Connect to Jesus**

**Nehemiah (Book of Nehemiah)** - What can we learn from Nehemiah in the Bible about vision and strategy, having and carrying out a "game plan," and relying on each other/one's roles as part of a team?

**Esther (Book of Esther)** - What can we learn from Esther about stepping up with the "game on the line" and not backing down from "the moments" that call for remarkable, resolute strength and courage from God?



## Week 7: "Be Strong and Courageous... The Jesus Way"

### **Home Plate - Team Huddle Chat / Prayer About Hopes and Fears**

What are you excited about and looking forward to this week?

What are you nervous and anxious about this week?

Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, we are able to talk to God about what's going on in our lives on and off the baseball/softball diamond. In God's Word, Jesus teaches us that we can **pray in his name** anytime, anywhere, and about anything to our Heavenly Father.

*Dear Heavenly Father, we pray that you give us strength and courage to/for... (allow ballplayers/coaches to speak any prayer requests they would like to share with the team)... in the name of Jesus... Amen.*

### **1st Base - Jesus Gives Us Strength and Courage**

In what ways does Jesus give us strength and courage... pre-game (i.e. warm-ups, waiting for a game to start)?

In what ways does Jesus give us strength and courage... in the dugout and around the ballfields?

### **2nd Base - Bible Verse: Word for The Week**

**2 Timothy 1:7 - "For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline."**

*What is something you/your team can do to "be strong and courageous... the Jesus way" this week?*

### **3rd Base - The Life (Works & Words) of Jesus Christ The Savior of the World**

Jesus demonstrated strength and courage in the most perfect way for us to learn from and live out.

Jesus as the God-Man shows us how to be strong and courageous by the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Jesus wasn't afraid to stand out from the crowd (and even to stand alone and not be popular).
- Jesus didn't back down from doing the "right" things.
- Jesus died on the cross and rose from the grave - to show us how much he loves us.
- Jesus coaches us to love the Lord our God with all our heart and mind and soul and strength.
- Jesus coaches us to love our neighbor as ourselves.

### **Circling the Bases - People in the Bible of Strength and Courage Whose Lives/Legacies Connect to Jesus**

**Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist (Luke 1)** - What can we learn from Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist, in the Bible about not giving up hope - even when the odds seem stacked against us?

**Mary, the mother of Jesus (Luke 1-2, John 19)** - What can we learn from Mary, the mother of Jesus, in the Bible about how God works through ordinary people to do extraordinary things, and that each of our stories is a part of God's story and his plan of salvation?

**Mary / Martha, the sisters of Lazarus (Luke 10:38-42, John 11)** - What can we learn from Mary / Martha, the sisters of Lazarus, in the Bible about both learning from and serving Jesus?

**Mary Magdalene (John 20)** - What can we learn from Mary Magdalene in the Bible about how Jesus transforms our lives, and how he equips us to lead in the transformation of our communities?





## Week 8: “Be Strong and Courageous... The Jesus Way”

### **Home Plate - Team Huddle Chat / Prayer About Hopes and Fears**

What are you excited about and looking forward to this week?

What are you nervous and anxious about this week?

Because of Jesus’ death and resurrection, we are able to talk to God about what’s going on in our lives on and off the baseball/softball diamond. In God’s Word, Jesus teaches us that we can **pray in his name** anytime, anywhere, and about anything to our Heavenly Father.

*Dear Heavenly Father, we pray that you give us strength and courage to/for... (allow ballplayers/coaches to speak any prayer requests they would like to share with the team)... in the name of Jesus... Amen.*

### **1st Base - Jesus Gives Us Strength and Courage**

In what ways does Jesus give us strength and courage... post-game and in the playoffs?

In what ways does Jesus give us strength and courage... after the baseball/softball game and after the season is over / as “summertime” break/activities conclude and the school year is about to begin again?

### **2nd Base - Bible Verse: Word for The Week**

**Psalm 31:24 - “Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord.”**

*What is something you/your team can do to “be strong and courageous... the Jesus way” this week?*

### **3rd Base - The Life (Works & Words) of Jesus Christ The Savior of the World**

Jesus demonstrated strength and courage in the most perfect way for us to learn from and live out.

Jesus as the God-Man shows us how to be strong and courageous by the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Jesus challenges us and cheers us on to walk with him all of our days to the glory of his name.
- Jesus won for us the greatest victory ever - He is our undefeated, undisputed Champion!
- Jesus is our Living Hope and he has gone into heaven to prepare a place for us.
- Jesus will be with us always even to the very end of the age - as we anticipate the great and glorious day of his return.

### **Circling the Bases - People in the Bible of Strength and Courage Whose Lives/Legacies Connect to Jesus**

**Stephen (Acts 6-7)** - What can we learn from Stephen in the Bible about relying on God’s power not our own, and about finding strength and courage in God’s presence and promises?

**Priscilla with her husband Aquila (Acts 18:18–28, Romans 16:3), and Lydia (Acts 16:13–15)** -

What can we learn from Priscilla with her husband Aquila, and Lydia, in the Bible about being strong and courageous... the Jesus way, in helping people to know Jesus more or for the first time?

**Paul, aka Saul of Tarsus (Acts, Pauline Epistles)** - What can learn from Paul, aka Saul of Tarsus, in the Bible (regardless of how the season/postseason went) about focusing on what is “ahead” / eternity?

**Lois, grandmother of Paul / Eunice, mother of Paul (2 Timothy 1:5)** - What can we learn from Lois, grandmother of Paul, and Eunice, mother of Paul, in the Bible, about passing on the message of Jesus to others through our actions and words, and doing our part to expand God’s Kingdom?



## **Conclusion / Overview - “Be Strong and Courageous... The Jesus Way”**

### **Joshua 1:9**

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.”

### **Philippians 4:13**

“I can do all this through Him who gives me strength.”

No matter the situation we face, God provides the strength we need.

### **John 16:33**

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

## **Discipleship / Gospel and Faith Resources Regarding Strength and Courage**

- Bible Gateway - <https://www.biblegateway.com/>
- Bible Project - <https://bibleproject.com/>
- The Jesus Storybook Bible by Sally Lloyd-Jones (published by Zonderkidz)
- The Story Bible (published by Concordia Publishing House)
- The Action Bible: God’s Redemptive Story by Sergio Cariello (Illustrator) (published by David C Cook)
- Fruit of the Spirit - <https://rbiaustin.org/summer-leagues/fruits-of-the-spirit/>
- The Armor of God - <https://rbiaustin.org/armor-of-god/>

### **John 3:16**

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

### **Ephesians 2:8-10**

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

### **Romans 10:13**

“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Jordan Boessling - Jr RBI Austin Summer 2025 Discipleship Gospel and Faith Commissioner  
[baseball.jordanb@gmail.com](mailto:baseball.jordanb@gmail.com) / (512) 542 1624

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