



STAR WARRIORS

*"In their hearts humans plan their course,
but the Lord establishes their steps."*

PROVERBS 16:9

WEEK 2

STAR WARRIOR

Deborah

BIBLE STORY

Deborah, the Judge
Judges 4:1-16

TODAY'S TAKEAWAY

When I ignore God, He will use someone else.

SERIES VERSE

"In their hearts humans plan their course,
but the Lord establishes their steps."
Proverbs 16:9 NIV

WEEKLY VERSE

"And yet, O Lord, you are our Father. We are the clay,
and you are the potter. We all are formed by your hand."
Isaiah 64:8 NLT



WEEK 2

SKIT INFORMATION

OVERVIEW

The skits will require two people. One person will play him or herself (the straight character), and the other person will play the funny character. It works best if you can find a person willing to commit to playing the character for the entire series.

CHARACTER BIO

The character's name is Duke Trywalker. Duke's greatest desire is to become a Star Warrior, and he will stop at nothing to reach his goal. Consider putting your character in a tan/brown robe or shirt or a costume. Duke should be carrying his trusty light sword with him at all times.

WEEK 2

SKIT

- Leader:** Walks on stage looking around nervously.
- Duke Trywalker:** Duke comes running in carrying a light sword and begins waving it around near the leader.
- Leader:** I had a feeling you might be back to visit us this week.
- Duke Trywalker:** Of course! I told you I was coming back to visit.
- Leader:** Yes, yes you did, didn't you?! So, how is your Star Warrior training going?
- Duke Trywalker:** Not so great, actually.
- Leader:** Really? I never would have guessed. *(said with sarcasm)*
- Duke Trywalker:** I know, right?! When I got started with my Star Warrior training I thought for sure I would be at the top of my class, but now I'm not so sure.
- Leader:** Why is that?
- Duke Trywalker:** Well, this past week during one of my training courses my master offered me a mission, like a real mission!
- Leader:** That sounds like a good thing to me!
- Duke Trywalker:** It would have been, but I didn't accept it.
- Leader:** Why didn't you accept the mission?
- Duke Trywalker:** I'm not sure. I guess I was a bit scared and it sounded like it was going to be a lot of work too. I guess being a Star Warrior sounded better in theory, but now I'm not so sure I have what it takes.

WEEK 2

Leader: I totally understand being scared, but of course it is going to be work. Every awesome job also has a lot of hard work that goes along with it.

Duke Trywalker: I know that now! In fact, I even changed my mind about the mission yesterday.

Leader: Oh that's great! So when do you leave for your mission?

Duke Trywalker: I don't!

Leader: What? Why?

Duke Trywalker: My master gave the mission to this other girl in my class named Leah. It's kind of unfair in my opinion. I mean, it was supposed to be my mission, after all!

Leader: Well, even though you turned the mission down, it still had to be done. Someone had to do it!

Duke Trywalker: I guess you're right, but it stinks that I'm missing out on a great mission!

Leader: It does, but next time maybe you will remember to take the opportunity the first time.

Duke Trywalker: I definitely will! I'm going to be at the top of my class if it's the last thing I do!

Leader: That's the spirit, I guess!

Duke Trywalker: I'm going to go practice my skills, far, far away from you like you asked me to!

Leader: Have fun and be safe!

WEEK 2

GAME: BLOCK IT!

SUPPLIES

- Foam light swords (from Week 1 game)
- Ping pong balls
- Tape (for the floor)
- A bucket
- Optional: masks

SETUP

- Place a thick strip of tape in a straight line on the floor where you want your “throwers” to stand, and another line of tape where you want your “blockers” to stand.
- Put the ping pong balls in the bucket.

HOW TO PLAY

1. Choose two kids to be the “throwers” and two kids to be the “blockers”.
2. Give the “blockers” a foam light sword and a mask (optional), and have them stand on one line of tape. Give the “throwers” the bucket of ping pong balls and have them stand on the other line of tape.
3. The “throwers” will attempt to hit the “blockers” with the ping pong balls (no head shots) and the “blockers” will attempt to block their shots with their light swords.
4. Each round should last 60 seconds.
5. Optional: play more rounds choosing new kids to play.
6. Optional: use adults as the “blockers” to avoid younger kids getting hurt.

WEEK 2

MESSAGE

SUPPLIES

- A Bible in your preferred version (this curriculum uses the NLT version primarily)
- Foam light swords (from last week)
- A chair
- A gavel or small hammer
- Assorted trash
- Trash bag
- Small toy or candy

SETUP

- Pour trash on the floor somewhere in the room or in another room for the object lesson.
- Set the chair up on the stage.

INTRODUCTION

I'm excited to introduce another Star Warrior from the Bible to you guys today. I'll give you a few hints and see if you can guess who we are learning about. Our Star Warrior is a woman, who was both a judge and a prophet of God from the Old Testament. Any guesses? *Allow kids to respond.* Our Star Warrior of the week is Deborah. Deborah was the only female judge that we know of and she was also a prophet of God. A judge in the Bible times was somewhat similar to judges today. A judge was a ruler or military leader who also presided over legal hearings. That sounds like a lot to do!

WEEK 2

BIBLE STORY

Let's turn to Judges 4 to see what Deborah did to make her the Star Warrior for this week. **Allow time for kids to find the passage.**

In the beginning of Judges 4 we learn that the Israelites had not been obeying God and as a result God allowed them to be turned over to a very evil king named Jabin. King Jabin's army was led by a commander named Sisera who owned over 900 iron chariots. The Israelites were under his rule and oppression for twenty years before they started crying out to God to help them and take them back. That's where Deborah comes into the story. I need a volunteer to help me out and play Deborah. **Choose a girl to be Deborah and have her sit in the chair on the stage and hold the gavel/hammer.** Deborah was a judge and prophet and all the Israelites would come to her for judgement. That sounds like a pretty important position to me! One day, God gave her a message to deliver to a man named Barak. I need another volunteer. **Choose a volunteer to come up and play Barak. Have him stand on the floor in front of Deborah.** Let's read God's message that Deborah delivered to Barak in verses 6-7 together. "This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, commands you: Call out 10,000 warriors from the tribes of Naphtali and Zebulun at Mount Tabor. And I will call out Sisera, commander of Jabin's army, along with his chariots and warriors, to the Kishon River. There I will give you victory over him."

Do you think Barak took the Lord's command and did what he told him to do? *Allow kids to respond.* Well, he kind of did, but not completely. This is how he responded to Deborah, "I will go, but only if you go with me." Hold on! I don't remember God saying that Barak AND Deborah were supposed to go and fight Sisera. God was calling Barak to lead the charge. Because he was unwilling to fully obey God's command, there would be consequences. Let's find out what they were in verse 9. Deborah said, "I will go with you. But you will receive no honor in this venture, for the Lord's victory over Sisera will be at the hands of a woman." Barak would basically end up doing the same amount of work, and risk his life, but he would get none of the credit because he was unwilling to follow God's command. That stinks! Let's find out

WEEK 2

what happens next. Deborah and Barak gathered together the 10,000 warriors and headed towards the Kishon River just as God had commanded Barak to do. They were getting ready to fight! **Give Deborah and Barak foam light swords.** When Sisera heard about Barak and his army he gathered his own army together and brought all 900 iron chariots with him. He was ready for an epic battle.

I need some volunteers to play Sisera and his army. **Choose 4 kids to play Sisera and his army. Give them all foam light swords.** Sisera and his army marched toward the Kishon River to meet the Israelites for battle. **Have Deborah and Barak and Sisera and his army march toward each other with their swords in hand.** Just before the battle began Deborah encouraged Barak, saying, "Get ready! This is the day the Lord will give you victory over Sisera, for the Lord is marching ahead of you." Barak led his 10,000 warriors into battle, and when he attacked the Lord was with him. The Bible says that the Lord threw Sisera's army and chariots into a panic. When Sisera could see that they were going to lose, he jumped out of his chariot and ran away like a little baby. **Choose a kid to be Sisera and have him run away screaming like a baby.** Let's see what happened to Sisera's army in verse 16, "Then Barak chased the chariots and the enemy army all the way to Harosheth-Haggoyim, killing all of Sisera's warriors. Not a single one was left alive." **Have Barak and the army act that out. Have Barak pretend to kill all the men with his fake light sword.** That's not the end of the story, because we still don't know what happened to Sisera. The battle isn't over. You will have to come back next week for part 2 to find out what happened.

WEEK 2

LIFE APPLICATION/OBJECT LESSON

Even though Barak still had to fight, because he was unwilling to fully obey God he was going to miss out on receiving the credit for the victory. Next week we will find out who ends up taking the victory and finishing the battle for Barak. There is a lesson we can take from this story for our lives. God has a plan for each of us and he may ask us to do things for Him. Sometimes they may seem hard or just plain scary. It might seem easier to just ignore Him and do what we want to do with our lives. However, if we choose to ignore God's plan for us, we will miss out on the benefits and the blessings He has for us as well. I need a leader to come up and help me with something. **Choose a leader, but have him/her decline helping you.** Ok, that's fine. I will find a kid who can help me. **Choose an older kid to come up.** I need you to go clean up all the trash that is on the floor over there. Can you do that? **Allow kid to respond and go start cleaning up the trash.** Thanks so much for helping me. Because you did what I asked you to do, I'm going to give you this candy/prize. I was going to give it to *leader's name*, but they weren't willing to help me.

You know what? God will do the same thing when we ignore Him or choose not to do what he asks us to do. He will find someone else who is willing to follow His instructions, and they will receive the benefits and blessings that go along with it. It doesn't matter how young or old you are, God wants to use you to do awesome things for Him and His kingdom. However, we all have a choice. We can choose to listen and do what He says, or ignore him and allow someone else to be used by Him. Let's pray and ask God to help us to make the right choice and allow Him to use us for His plan.

Optional: Offer a prayer of salvation for any kids who have not accepted Jesus into their lives.

WEEK 2

GAME: FLOATING IN SPACE

SUPPLIES

- Foam light swords
- Balloons

SETUP

- Before the kids enter the room, blow up all the balloons and put them in a bag.

HOW TO PLAY

1. Everyone can play. If you don't have enough light swords, allow the kids to play a few at a time.
2. The kids must work together to keep the balloons in the air using only their light swords.
3. Start the game with only one balloon and add more as you play.
4. The game is over when a balloon drops.

WEEK 2

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. If God commanded you to do something, would you do it? Why or why not?
2. Why do you think Barak didn't want to lead the Israelites into battle alone?
3. Do you think it is easier to ignore God or to accept His commands?
4. Do you think it was fair that God was going to give the credit to someone else because Barak wasn't willing to fully obey Him? Why or why not?
5. Optional: Look up these verses and discuss them as a group.
John 14:23, Luke 8:18, Luke 11:2

WEEK 2

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the name of our current series?

Answer: *Star Warriors*

2. What was the name of the Star Warrior in today's Bible Story?

Answer: Deborah

3. What was the name of the evil commander in today's Bible Story?

Answer: Sisera

4. What is Today's Takeaway?

Answer: When I ignore God, He will use someone else.

5. How many iron chariots did Sisera have in his army?

Answer: 900