



Lesson 4 / September 27, 2020

# Emerging Trust

By Jenn Joshua

for use as

STEP 1



Lesson 4

**Focus:**

Trust God even when things go wrong.

Lesson 4

**Bible Basis:**

1 Samuel 18:5—19:18

Lesson 4

**Memory Verse:**The LORD will vindicate me.  
—Psalm 138:8

**Students will talk about trusting God in difficult situations.**

**Materials:** None

We all face challenging situations throughout our lives. Maybe some of you are facing challenges right now.

With COVID-19 still spreading, many people are afraid of getting sick. Others have friends or family members who have gotten sick. Still other families are out of work because of the virus. Most schools are affected, whether they're meeting online or meeting in person with masks and social distancing. These are just a few examples of challenges that may be affecting you or your family right now.

➤ **In what area of life are you most likely to run into challenges? Does anyone feel comfortable sharing examples?** (Answers may vary; encourage discussion by sharing your own experience.)

➤ **What ways do you use to cope with difficult situations?** (Possible answers: asking for help from teachers or parents; trying to stay focused on positive things; some students may say they try to ignore them and hope they will go away.)

Sometimes in nature, we find examples of how challenges can be overcome. For example, when a dragonfly first emerges from its skin, its legs are too soft and unformed to support it. It just hangs there upside down—helpless and vulnerable to any predator that might come along. Things look pretty bleak!

Just when things seem the worst, something amazing happens: the dragonfly's legs stiffen and it pulls itself up and pulls its tail loose. Its wings are free to open, and in just a few hours, it's ready to fly! God made sure that the dragonfly had everything it needs in order to take flight. He will make sure you have everything you need to get through your struggles too.

No matter how difficult or impossible a situation seems, we can trust God for the outcome! That's what today's lesson is about!

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

upper elementary



Lesson 4 / September 27, 2020

# Emerging Trust

for use as  
**STEP 4** 

**Lesson 4**

**Focus:**

Trust God even when things go wrong.

**Lesson 4**

**Bible Basis:**

1 Samuel 18:5—19:18

**Lesson 4**

**Memory Verse:**

The LORD will vindicate me.  
—Psalm 138:8

## Materials:

- Index cards or pieces of paper
- Pens/pencils

If you are meeting online, invite students to bring pens/pencils and index cards or pieces of paper with them to your meeting.

As students clean up from Step 3, move back toward the lesson focus. **David had a lot to deal with. It might have seemed impossible for him to trust God—maybe it felt like God just didn't care about his situation. But in the end, David's trust in God was precisely what got him through.**

➤ **Is it easier to trust God when things aren't complicated? Why or why not?** (Possible answers: There is less pressure when things are simple; trust is only trust when it is challenged.)

➤ **Why does God put us into challenging situations?** (Possible answer: He wants us to learn to trust Him.)

**Trusting is easy when things are simple, but God asks us to trust Him when things get really, really difficult.** Hand out index cards and pencils or pens to each student. If you are meeting online, invite students to have their pens/pencils and index cards or papers ready.

**Write down a situation you're facing where things seem to be going wrong and it seems risky to trust God. If there's nothing in your life right now, try to think of something that happened to you in the past.** Instruct students to brainstorm steps they can take to trust God in those situations—or, if it is a past situation, have them write about ways that God kept His promises and helped them even if it was difficult to see at the time.

After students have had time to think and write, call their attention back together as a group. **This week, keep your notes full of ideas handy; work on using them in trusting God in every situation you encounter.** Encourage your students to be prepared to share about their experience next time you meet. Then, close in prayer.

(We are not affiliated with and do not endorse any website or any other media listed on these pages. At the time of writing, we carefully review the referenced material and non-referenced web page content. However, due to the nature of the Internet, non-cited content on the website [including pop-ups, links, and ads] changes frequently and is beyond our control. Please review carefully before showing links in the classroom.)