

# The Right Risk

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as  
**STEP 1**



### Lesson 11

#### Focus:

God gives us courage to take risks for others.

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#### Bible Basis:

Esther 2:5-10; 3:1, 5-6, 13; 4:13-16

### Lesson 11

#### Memory Verse:

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.”  
—Joshua 1:9b

**Students will watch health care workers honored for helping people during COVID-19 and discuss taking risks to help others.**

#### Materials:

- Internet access

Welcome your students to class. As students are entering and getting settled, ask your students to share the bravest thing they’ve ever seen done in a movie (be sure to monitor the conversation to verify all sharing is appropriate).

If you’d like, continue the conversation by asking students the bravest thing they’ve ever seen in real life or the bravest thing they have done personally. When everyone is settled, share this video of brave health care workers being thanked for their service during COVID-19 [1:10].

CNN Heroes: Nightly salute to health care workers

<https://www.cnn.com/videos/tv/2020/11/13/coronavirus-doctors-nurse-medical-workers-frontline-salutes-cnnheroes.cnn/video/playlists/2020-cnn-heroes/>

**In the last year, health care workers and emergency response workers have risked so much to care for sick patients! They’ve risked being exposed to the deadly virus that continues to affect millions of people in the U.S. alone. These workers have worked extra hours and added shifts doing this hard, risky work. Rather than being ruled by fear, they have chosen to care for the sick. That’s brave!**

- **Do you think medical staff are doing the right thing by taking the risk and caring for sick patients? Why or why not?** (Answers will vary. Yes, they’re saving lives, it was the right thing to do. No, they could have died, that was way too risky.)
- **What if patients die from the virus in spite of the workers’ determination? Or, what about health care workers who get the virus, spread it to their loved ones, or pass away from it? Would that change your answer? Why or why not?** (Answers will vary.)

➤ **What makes a risk worth taking?** (Answers will vary. If it doesn't come up, highlight the fact that risks that help others are usually worth it.)

**Not all risks are the same. Sometimes we do risky things just for our own enjoyment or to show off. That type of risk, though, isn't the same as taking a risk to help someone else.**

**Today's Bible story features someone taking a huge risk in order to help others. Let's see what happens.**

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

# The Right Risk

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for use as  
**STEP 4** ▶

**Lesson 11****Focus:**

God gives us courage to take risks for others.

**Lesson 11****Bible Basis:**

Esther 2:5-10; 3:1, 5-6, 13; 4:13-16

**Lesson 11****Memory Verse:**

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.”  
—Joshua 1:9b

**Materials:**

- None

Ask a volunteer to read this week’s memory verse.

**Our lesson today proves that God sometimes calls us to take risks in order to help others. Esther risked her life for her people. Mordecai did, too. God won’t ask most of us to be in a literal life-or-death situation to save a nation like Esther was, but all of us can count on God asking us to risk SOMETHING for others.**

- **What kind of risks might God call an average middle school student to take for others?** (Answers might include: Standing up for someone being picked on, sit by someone new at lunch, not cheat on homework when all their friends are, etc.)

Ask your students to divide into pairs or small groups and share one risk they are going to take this week in order to help others. You can brainstorm as a group if the students have a hard time thinking of a risk. Feel free to offer suggestions and share a risk you will take this week, too. Ask the partners to hold each other accountable to their commitment. When you next meet together, encourage them to ask their partner if they completed the risk.

Remind your students that God will give them courage as they take risks for others. End in a group prayer, asking God for courage to take the risks that He calls each of you to take.

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