

# MOM SET FREE

BY JEANNIE CUNNION

## Encouraging Scripture

*“This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”* (Joshua 1:9, NLT)

## Strong and Courageous Teaching

For many years a man named Moses led God’s people, the Israelites. There came a time in Moses’ life when God called a man named Joshua to take Moses’ place.

God asked Joshua to lead the Israelites to a land they didn’t know anything about, other than it was the land God had promised them. I think Joshua might have felt a little scared, like we would feel on our first day at a new school or trying something we’ve never done before.

Because God knew this might be hard, God made Joshua three promises. First, God promised to give Joshua the wisdom and understanding he needed. Second, God promised to be with Joshua so he knew would never be alone, even if he felt alone. And third, God promised He would *always* be guiding Joshua and leading him as he led the people.

God knew this might feel scary for Joshua, so He gave him commands to help him to be brave. God commanded Joshua to be “*strong and courageous*” (Joshua 1:9). And the best way for Joshua to be strong and courageous was to remember God’s three promises.

God makes those same great promises to us so that, when things feel scary, we can know we aren’t alone. God helps us when we have to make hard decisions. Like when we choose to tell the truth even if it means we might get in trouble. Or when we choose to forgive someone who has been unkind to us.

God knows us by name and will never leave us ... ever. Even when we make a mistake, He helps us do better next time. God will never leave us alone because His Spirit lives in us and helps us follow Him and make the right choices just like He did for Joshua.

**Question To Ask:** Have you ever been scared like Joshua? How could what we learned help you be strong and courageous the next time you feel scared?

**Memorization Tips:** Find the verse in your Bible. Learn it phrase by phrase. Practice daily, both writing it and saying it. Talk about it and find creative ways to reinforce it.

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