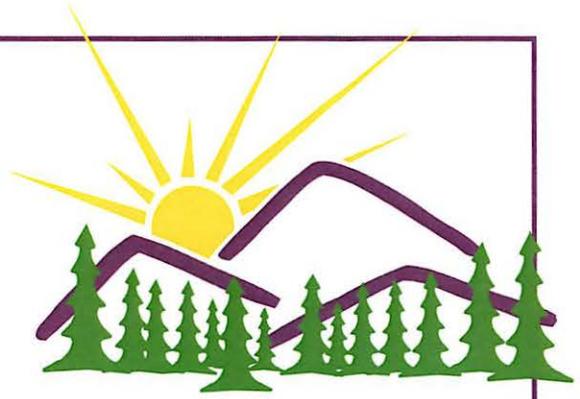


God Takes Care of Joseph

Theme: Faith — Trusting God even when it's hard



Sunday Morning Lesson

Pre-Class Activity: Provide paper, pencils, crayons, and markers for students to make a Thank-You note for their parents who take care of them, as God took care of Joseph. Younger children may draw pictures and older children may write a note and decorate it.

Bible Facts: Brush Up On Bible Facts

Memory Verse: Have Memory Verse strips face down and out of sequence on the floor in front of the pocket chart. The students unscramble the strips and place them correctly in the pocket chart.

Prayer

Lesson of the Day

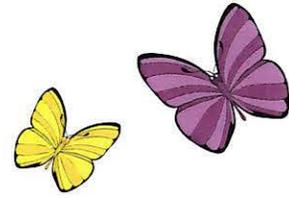
Ideas for Telling the Story

1. In the classroom Bibles, find and mark Genesis 39:23a.
2. Have students take their Bibles and move to the Floor Map Bible Story Center.
3. Have a student use the pointer to show on a time line where today's events took place.
4. Have a student use the pointer to show on a map where today's events happened.
5. From the *All Things Made New Gift Box* use the Lesson Graphics and other props. You may provide a basket of bread or rolls for the baker, a serving tray for the butler, a crown for Pharaoh, and a ring for Joseph. Tell the story of Joseph in prison and his rise to power in Egypt. At the appropriate time in the lesson story, read Genesis 39:23a (when Joseph was in prison).
6. Move back to the table so you can lay out the Lesson Graphics and other objects at the appropriate times. Retell the story with mistakes, and let the students "catch" and correct them.

Things to Get or Do for Sunday Morning

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Wednesday Night Lesson



Pre-Class Activity: For younger children: Make a crown for each student. An easy way to do this is to make it out of gold and silver scalloped border. Put a few pictures about Joseph inside the crown. Have students identify the events shown in the pictures. Size the crown to each student's head and staple it. The crowns may be used in reinforcing the story about Joseph's rise to power in Egypt.

For older children: Make a "Facts About Joseph Cootie Catcher." Have a sheet of instructions for each student for making a Cootie Catcher that features facts about Noah. See www.thetoymaker.com/Toypages/16Cootiecatcher/16COOTIECATCHER.HTML The teacher may write some facts about Joseph on the marker board that students may choose from to include on their Cootie Catcher.

Bible Facts: Brush Up On Bible Facts

Memory Verse: Have the Memory Verse strips scrambled in the pocket chart. Have the students straighten them out and arrange them correctly. Talk about the Memory Verse and why it is good to learn it.

Prayer

Starter

Everything in life is not easy. Some things are hard to do. Sometimes life just doesn't work out the way we want it to. We could make a list of things that go wrong in life. Other people do things we can't control and hurt us or cause problems. We get sick or the weather turns bad. Somebody we love dies.

What are we to do? We believe in God and ask Him to take care of us. We believe He does, but sometimes this is hard to see. Think about what happened to Joseph and learn how God takes care of His people in ways we do not always see.

Briefly Review the Lesson Story from Sunday Morning

Ideas for Illustrating and Reinforcing the Story

1. *Objective: Illustrate the ups and downs of Joseph's life and how he learned that God was with him in all things*

- Prepare a poster with a road winding around it. Along the road show pictures of Joseph's life:
 - Receives his coat from Jacob
 - Thrown into a pit by his brothers
 - Sold as a slave in Egypt
 - Head servant in Potiphar's house

- Put in jail
- Brought before Pharaoh to interpret dreams
- In charge of the food supply
- Providing for his family

Using a small plastic man with a colored coat, allow students to travel the road and tell Joseph's story. Have a few special markers to put at events in which God was with Joseph in a special way.

2. *Objective: Make individual application of what students learned from Joseph's life about trusting God*

- ☀ Make a worksheet with a winding road down the middle. Have each student write his or her name in the blank to complete the title: _____'S LIFE. Talk with students and help them identify some times in their lives in which they had to learn to trust God, even when it was hard. Explain that when they decide to obey parents, teachers, and elders, they are deciding also to trust and obey God, because this is what God wants them to do. Have a variety of stickers that you can use to stick beside the winding road to indicate two or three events in each student's life in which they trusted and obeyed God, even when it was hard.

3. *Objective: Illustrating how to do what's right even when it's hard*

- ☀ Wash last week's coat of many colors that was stained with "blood." Prepare cards on which you have printed scenes and situations kids might be in. Give each student a turn to put on Joseph's coat. The student with the coat draws a card. Let him or her talk about how to deal with the situation. Allow other students to share ideas and give suggestions. Situations for the cards may include the following:
 - Someone told you your friend called you a bad name.
 - A student beside you asked for the answer during a test.
 - Your best friend asked you to lie about why he was tardy.
 - You are allowed to play one hour of video games each night. Your parents will be gone and the baby sitter doesn't know the rules.
 - Kids at school are telling dirty jokes.
 - Your friend who doesn't go to church anywhere asked you to spend the night on Saturday night.
 - Mom told you to have the kitchen cleaned in 45 minutes, but you know that no one is coming over.
 - Your friend beside you in worship keeps writing funny notes during the sermon.
 - A new dress code was announced at school, and now you can't wear your favorite outfit.

4. Use the crowns made in the Pre-Class Activity. Discuss with the younger students that Joseph became a ruler in Egypt, but he used his position to serve God. Whatever we do in life, remember to serve God first.

**Things to Get or Do
for Wednesday Night**

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