



JOSEPH AND HIS BROTHERS

BIBLE PASSAGE (GENESIS 37)

Summary: Joseph was his father's favorite son out of 12 brothers. His brothers hated him. One day, they schemed to throw him into a pit and tell their father he was dead. They sold Joseph to a caravan of traders, and he was taken to Egypt. Joseph encountered more terrible situations, but God was using every moment for good. Eventually, God used Joseph's circumstances to place him in a position of power in Egypt, where he would save many lives.

Today's Brite Idea is: God can be trusted.



MONTHLY Memory Verse

*Jesus Christ is the
same yesterday and
today and forever.*

(HEBREWS 13:8)



BIG QUESTION

Does God ever change? No!



God can
be trusted.



God has a
plan for us.



God has a
plan for me.

LEADER TRAINING: KINDNESS THROUGH CLEANLINESS

Preschoolers notice everything, even the little things we might overlook! When we wipe down tables, wash hands and faces, and sanitize toys with a cleaning solution, we're doing more than keeping germs away. We're showing kids they are loved, valued and cared for!

- **Small Actions Speak Loudly.** Washing hands, sanitizing surfaces and putting toys away might seem routine, but to a kid, it says, "You matter."
- **Clean Spaces Invite Learning.** A tidy, organized space helps kids focus, explore and engage without distractions. Safety and order gives space for curiosity to flourish.
- **Kindness Is Practical.** Acts of care like disinfecting, wiping spills, cleaning faces or laundering blankets reflect God's heart for His own. Love is often shown through service, as well as words.
- **Consistency Matters.** When cleaning is part of the everyday routine, kids feel secure and know what to expect—just like the predictable love of God.

NAVIGATING A BROKEN WORLD: WHY DO BAD THINGS HAPPEN?

One survey indicates that 14 percent of American adults expressed that suffering in the world leads them to believe that there is no God.* This idea can be confusing for kids as they learn that God is good and loving. It is important that we also help them understand who God is. The fact that God is greater than any bad thing that may happen is a biblical worldview you can teach preschoolers. In today's lesson, kids will learn God is in control of everything and He uses bad situations for His glory. Some kids in your group might have experienced trauma that has left them questioning God's goodness. You can be a safe place for them to share their story. It's okay to say something like, "I don't know why that happened, but I do know that God is good and loves you." Reiterate that even in our deepest hurts, God is very real and He is near.

PRESCHOOL GLOSSARY:

Trust: confidence that someone or something will do what is expected

*For more resources on this topic, check out: britecurriculum.com/resources

1

BELONG

Small Group (15 MINUTES)

GOAL: For kids to experience God's love through a welcoming community

MY FAMILY

SUPPLIES: None

OR

COPY THE RHYTHM

SUPPLIES: None

2

BIBLE TEACHING

Large Group (20 MINUTES)

JOSEPH AND HIS BROTHERS

(GENESIS 37)

SUPPLIES: Bible, teaching slides, teaching pictures (printed/shown from teaching slides), video player, music player, 12 small toy people, bucket, table

3

BELIEVE

Small Group (10 MINUTES)

GOAL: For kids to discover who God is by engaging with the Bible

MEMORY VERSE PASS

SUPPLIES: Beanbag, music player, Memory Verse Song

OR

TRUSTED LETTER MATCHING

SUPPLIES: Butcher paper, 15 index cards, tape, scissors (prep), marker, painter's tape

4

BECOME

Small Group (15 MINUTES)

GOAL: For kids to learn to follow Jesus by applying faith to their lives

JOSEPH'S FAMILY

SUPPLIES: Take-Home page, coloring supplies, printable page, dot marker (1 per kid), heart stickers (3 per kid)

OR

GATHER THE FOOD

SUPPLIES: Take-Home page, coloring supplies, 30 sheets of colored paper, timer, 2 bins



MY FAMILY

SUPPLIES:

None

PREP:

None

LEADER TIP: Younger kids may not know what a sibling or cousin is. Be ready to help them share by naming people they spend time with at home, daycare or church.

ACTIVITY INTRO:

Welcome, everyone! My name is _____. Can each of you tell us your name? *Welcome each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Gather kids to sit in a circle.*
2. **Say:** Today we will learn about a man named Joseph who had a big family. He had a lot of brothers!
3. **Ask:** Can you think of someone who is part of your family?
4. **Say:** Maybe you have a brother or sister. If not, you can tell us about a cousin or friend you like to play with!
5. *Go around the circle and lead each kid to share the name of their sibling, cousin or friend and something they like about them.*
6. *If time allows, ask them if the family member is older or younger than they are.*



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

You each shared about someone in your family. Let's learn more about Joseph and his brothers. It might seem like things are going badly for Joseph, but we will learn that no matter what, God always has a plan.



COPY THE RHYTHM

SUPPLIES:

None

PREP:

None

LEADER TIP: Keep rhythms short and simple.

ACTIVITY INTRO:

Welcome, everyone! My name is _____. Can each of you tell us your name? *Welcome each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Gather kids together.*
2. **Say:** Let's copy some claps! I will clap a rhythm, and you will try to copy me.
3. *Clap two or three beats like: clap-clap or clap-pause-clap.*
4. *Then repeat the rhythm as kids copy it.*
5. *Let the kids take turns making rhythms. Encourage kids to clap or stomp to make their rhythms.*
6. **Ask:** Was it easy or hard to copy the rhythm?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

You did your best to follow the rhythm! Today we will learn a Bible story about Joseph, who learned he could trust and follow God.

INTRO:

Play the Countdown Video and guide kids to sit together for large group teaching time.

WELCOME:

Say: Welcome! I am so glad you are here today, and I'm excited to learn about a true story from the Bible with you.

RECAP FROM *Last Week*

Say: We learned how Jacob had a dream about angels going up and down a ladder. God made the same promise to Jacob that He had made to Isaac and Abraham, Jacob's father and grandfather.

Show teaching image: Jacob's Dream.

Say: Today we will learn a true story from the Bible about Jacob's son, Joseph, and Joseph's many brothers.

Say: Let's take a look at this month's Big Question. Can you help me do a drumroll? Ready? One, two, three... drumroll!

? BIG QUESTION

Show Big Question Teaching Image.

Say: Does God ever change? We will learn more in today's Bible story!

Play the "Find It in the Bible" song.



PLAY FIND IT IN THE
Bible Song

Hold up a Bible.

Say: Who can tell me the name of this book?
Allow kids to respond.

Say: Yes! This book is called the Bible. The Bible is the most important book of all. The Bible is full of true stories about how God takes care of His people and loves them. Today we will hear a story from the Old Testament in the book of Genesis. The Old Testament is filled with lots of stories about God's creation, His people and the things that happened before Jesus came to Earth.

SUPPLIES:

Bible, teaching slides, teaching pictures (printed/shown from teaching slides), video player, music player, 12 small toy people, table

PREP:

None

LEADER TIP:

Use a variety of voice volumes when teaching the lesson to create suspense and engagement. When something sad happens, lower your voice to a whisper. When something amazing happens, slightly raise your voice with excitement.

JOSEPH AND HIS BROTHERS (GENESIS 37)

Say: God promised Abraham that he would have a big family and that the world would be blessed through him. God kept His promise, and Abraham had a son named Isaac. And Isaac had a son named Jacob. Then Jacob had 12 sons! Can you help me count to 12?

As you count, place a toy on the table for each number.

Say: One of Jacob's sons was named Joseph. Jacob loved Joseph the very most. He even made Joseph a beautiful, colorful robe.
Slide one toy to the front of the group.

Show teaching illustration: Joseph's Coat of Many Colors

Say: Joseph's brothers were very jealous. They had an idea. They said, "Let's throw Joseph into a pit!" The brothers grabbed Joseph, took his robe and threw him into a deep hole in the ground. *Put the Joseph figure in the bucket.*

Say: Then a group from a faraway land passed by. The brothers had a new idea. They sold Joseph for money, and the group took Joseph far away to Egypt. *Take Joseph out of the bucket and move him to the far end of the table away from the brothers.*

Say: More bad things happened. Joseph ended up in jail, even though he did nothing wrong. Turn the bucket over and place it on top of Joseph.

Say: But God had a plan. He was in control of Joseph's life even when bad things happened. God brought Joseph to Egypt on purpose. Many years later, God freed Joseph from jail. *Take the bucket off Joseph and set it upside down on the table.*

Say: God made Joseph a very important person in all of Egypt. *Place the Joseph toy on top of the upside-down bucket.*

Say: A time came when there wasn't enough food. God used Joseph to rescue all of the people by giving them food—even his brothers! Slide the brothers to stand beside the bucket.

Show teaching illustration: Joyful Reunion

Say: God could be **trusted** because He had a plan all along!

PRESCHOOL GLOSSARY:

Trust: confidence that someone or something will do what is expected



POINT TO JESUS

Say: Joseph's brothers were very mean to him. Many years later, Jesus came to Earth. People were also mean to Him. In fact, Jesus died on a cross. But He did that to save us from our sins. It was a terrible thing, but God had a plan. Three days later, Jesus rose again. We can believe in Jesus and live forever! God always has a plan!

Say: Let's close in prayer as we wrap up our Bible story time together. Reach your hands up really high.

Reach hands up high.

Say: Now clap them together like this.

Clap hands together.

Say: Let's pray.

Pray: Dear God, thank You for today's Bible story! Help us to trust in You and know that You have a good plan for us. Amen.



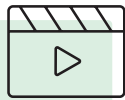
BIG QUESTION

Say: Now it's time to answer our Big Question. Can you all help me do a drumroll?
One, two, three ... drumroll!

Show the Big Question Teaching Image.

Say: Does God ever change? No!

Say: That's right! The Bible teaches us that God is the same yesterday, today and forever.



VERSE VIDEO

*Play Memory Verse
Motion Video after the
verse is read.*

MEMORY VERSE MOTIONS:

Help kids recite and retain the memory verse by teaching it with motions. Before you teach the verse, be sure to explain what it means.

- Jesus Christ (point to the palms of your hands)
- is the same (clap your hands)
- yesterday (point backward)
- and today (point down)
- and forever. (point out)
- Hebrews 13:8 (open hands like a book)



MONTHLY Memory Verse

*Jesus Christ is the
same yesterday and
today and forever.
(HEBREWS 13:8)*



REVIEW:

Say: It's been so great being with you today, friends! Before we end our teaching time, let's review what we have learned. Let's all point up really high and say, "God can be trusted."

Have the kids point up and say, "God can be trusted."

Say: Now let's reach our hands out to the side and say, "God has a plan for us."

Have kids reach out and say, "God has a plan for us."

Say: Now let's point to ourselves and say, "God has a plan for me."

Have kids point to themselves and say, "God has a plan for me."



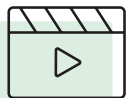
God can be trusted.



God has a plan for us.



God has a plan for me.



* Consider showing the Bible Review Video as kids eat snack, are waiting for pick-up, or another time that fits your church's schedule.



MEMORY VERSE PASS

SUPPLIES:

Beanbag, music player, Memory Verse Song

PREP:

None

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: Be mindful of the music volume to support kids with sensory sensitivities.

ACTIVITY INTRO:

The Bible teaches us true stories about God. Today we learned that God can be trusted. God never changes, and that's what our verse teaches us.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Gather kids to sit or stand in a circle.*
2. **Say:** We will pass this beanbag around our circle when the song plays. When the song stops, we will all say our memory verse together. Whoever is holding the beanbag can help lead us in the verse.
3. Our memory verse is, *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.* (Hebrews 13:8)
4. *Begin the song and pass the beanbag around the circle.*
5. **Say:** When the music stops, the person holding the beanbag will say the next part of our memory verse!
6. *Repeat a few times as time allows.*
7. **Ask:** Can God be trusted?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

I love learning our memory verse with you. It is important to remember that Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever.



TRUSTED LETTER MATCH

SUPPLIES:

Butcher paper, 15 index cards, tape, scissors (prep), marker, painter's tape

PREP:

Cut a large sheet of butcher paper. Write "God can be trusted" in large letters across the butcher paper. Tape it to a low wall or place it flat on the floor. Prepare index cards by writing one letter per card of the words "God can be trusted." Shuffle and place them in a pile.

LEADER TIP: If you have more than 15 kids (the amount of letters in the phrase "God can be trusted"), pair kids up together to match the letters.

ACTIVITY INTRO:

The Bible teaches us true stories about God. Today we learned God can be trusted because He had a plan all along.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** Let's play a word-match game to help us remember how we can trust God. To trust means to believe in something we cannot see. Can you point to your eyes? We can trust in God even though we cannot see Him.
2. *Point to each word on the butcher paper as you say it: "God ... can ... be ... trusted."*
3. **Say:** Let's match these letter cards to the big words on the paper!
4. *Let each kid choose a letter card and find its match on the butcher paper. Help as needed. Repeat until all words are matched.*
5. *Once kids are done, repeat the Brite idea together: "God can be trusted!"*
6. *Lead kids to repeat it in different voices, such as a soft voice, regular voice, loud voice, robot voice, funny voice, slow voice, fast voice, etc.*
7. **Ask:** Can we trust God has a plan for us?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

God can be trusted! Let's keep saying that this week, so we can always remember this about God. Even when things seem hard or like they are going the wrong way, we can trust God and know that He has a plan for us. God is good and faithful.



JOSEPH'S FAMILY

SUPPLIES:

Take-Home page, coloring supplies, printable page, dot marker (1 per kid), heart stickers (3 per kid)

PREP:

Print the Take-Home page (1 per kid). Print the printable page (1 per kid).

LEADER TIP: Keep the conversation simple while the kids color. Ask open-ended questions about the story to help them reflect on what happened and how it applies to their life and faith.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** Today we learned that God can be trusted. Let's color this paper to remember Joseph and how he learned to trust God and know that God always has a plan.
2. *Give each kid a printable page and a dot marker. Point out Joseph in the picture and lead kids to add color by using the dot marker to his coat.*
3. **Say:** Let's color one of the people with a bright coat. Do you remember who got the colorful coat? Yes, Joseph did!
4. *Pass out heart stickers and lead kids to decorate their paper with them.*
5. *As kids color, ask them what they can trust God with. Give suggestions as needed (fear, family, friends, something at home, etc.).*
6. **Say:** Joseph's brothers were unkind. They made a bad choice, but God still had a plan. Even when hard things happen, we can trust God!
7. *Write each kid's name on their paper and set aside for parent pickup.*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why were Joseph's brothers jealous?
- Did God still have a plan for Joseph?
- How did God use Joseph in Egypt?
- Can we trust God even when things are hard?



PRAY TOGETHER:

Dear God, thank You that You can always be trusted. You had a plan for Joseph, and You have a plan for us, too. In Jesus' name, amen.

ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Give each kid a Take-Home page. With remaining time, kids can play in centers or color the Take-Home page.



GATHER THE FOOD

SUPPLIES:

Take-Home page, coloring supplies, 30 sheets of colored paper, timer, 2 bins

PREP:

Print the Take-Home page (1 per kid). Rip each colored paper in half and crumble both halves into separate balls. Make 60 balls total. Place all the rolled-up papers into one of the bins.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Scatter all of the paper balls or "food" around your space.
2. **Say:** Today we learned God can be trusted. Joseph went through bad things, but God had a good plan. God brought Joseph to Egypt on purpose. Joseph became a very important person in Egypt and helped to make sure people had food.
3. **Say:** Let's play a game where we gather the food.
4. Divide kids into two teams. Give each team a bin.
5. **Say:** I will set our timer for 30 seconds. Gather as much food as you can and put it into your team's bin. Let's see how much food your group can gather in that time. Whichever team has the most food gathered wins! Each time you grab some of the food, put it into your team's bin.
6. Start the 30-second timer and say "Go!"
7. Lead kids to work together to gather as much food as they can. When time is up, count how many paper balls each team gathered and announce the winner.
8. **Say:** We can trust God because He always has a plan. Let's play again and each time you put something into the bin, say, "God has a plan for me."
9. Repeat the game.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why were Joseph's brothers jealous?
- Did God still have a plan for Joseph?
- How did God use Joseph in Egypt?
- Can we trust God even when things are hard?

PRAY TOGETHER:

Dear God, thank You for taking care of us even when things are hard. Help us remember You have a plan and we can trust You. In Jesus' name, amen.

ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Give each kid a Take-Home page. With remaining time, kids can play in centers or color the Take-Home page.

CENTERS:

Set up 3-4 centers around the room for kids to explore and learn as they play. While kids explore the centers, leaders can work with individuals or small groups to make the craft. Set up each center in a separate part of the room, making sure all kids are visible at all times. Show the whole group what is in each center and give simple instructions of what kids should do in each center.

- **Dress-Up:** Set out dress-up items that kids can play with. Have them talk about the colors in the items they put on.
- **Sensory Bin:** Fill a bin with dried pasta, and have a few colanders out for kids to pick up pasta and pour it into the bin. Share how they can sort the “grain” or pasta provided.
- **Color Sort:** Provide large pom-poms and tongs. Have kids sort the pom-poms by color.

BONUS SCRIPT:

Preschoolers learn best through repetition. Use the script below to review the story at any opportunity. You could review the story while kids play in centers, while they work on their craft, during snack time, or while waiting for parents.

Say: Joseph had 11 brothers. His father gave him a special, colorful coat. His brothers were jealous and made a bad choice. They got rid of Joseph. Joseph ended up far from home in a place called Egypt. Even when things were hard, God had a plan. God helped Joseph and used him to give food to everyone—even his brothers! God can be trusted even when things are hard.



BIG QUESTION

Does God ever change? No!