

Joseph in Prison in Egypt

1/17/21

Scripture Reference

Genesis 39-40

The Point!

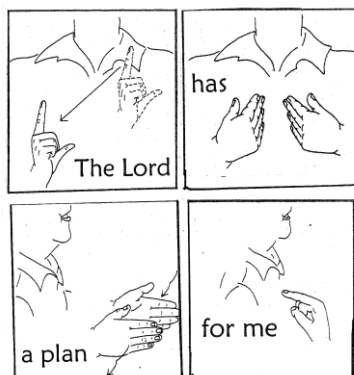
God wants us to be kind to others.

Lesson Goals

- ♥ **Tell** that Joseph did what was right.
- ♥ **See** that God had a plan for Joseph in prison.
- ♥ **Say** God has a plan for us.

Worship Time:

Memory Verse: The Lord has a plan for me. Jeremiah 29:11a (adapted). Use the sign language to teach the memory verse.



The Lord has a plan for me.
Jeremiah 29:11a
(adapted)

Opening Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for all the good things You give us.

Thank you for our snack!

Teach us how to be kind to each other.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Lesson Introduction Activity:

Cleaning House

Do: Gather toy or real "cleaning supplies" (a broom, mop, duster, etc.). Give family the cleaning items and have them do some "cleaning" in the house.

Talk About:

- Do you like to help with cleaning?
- What's your favorite thing to do?
- Cleaning is very hard work.

Bible Story: Read the story from Read With Me Bible.

Joseph's Brothers Go to Egypt

Read With Me Bible

Pages 87-92

People were very hungry all over the world. Jacob found out that there was grain in Egypt. He said to his sons, "There's grain in Egypt. Go there. Buy some. Then we'll live and not die." So ten of Joseph's brothers went to Egypt. Joseph was the governor of the land. He sold grain to the people. When Joseph's brothers arrived, they bowed down to him. As soon as Joseph saw his brothers, he recognized them. But he pretended to be a stranger. He spoke to them in a mean way. He said to them, "You are spies!" "No!" they answered. "We've come to buy food. We're honest men. We aren't spies!" Joseph couldn't control himself anymore. He cried out, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" But his brothers weren't able to answer him. They were too afraid of him. Joseph said to his brothers, "Come close to me. I am your brother Joseph. I'm the one you sold into Egypt. Don't be angry with yourselves because you sold me here. God sent me ahead of you to save many lives." So Joseph settled his father and his brothers in Egypt. He gave them property in the best part of the land.

Discussing the story:

Ask: Why did Joseph's brothers come to Egypt? How do you think Joseph felt about seeing his brothers again? Why were Joseph's brothers afraid of him?

Say: Joseph's family needed food. Joseph shared the food he had gathered with them. Joseph forgave his brothers for being mean to him. God wants us to be kind to each other. God wants us to forgive those who are mean to us.

Pray : Thank God for forgiving us. Ask Him to help us forgive others. Thank God for taking care of us like He took care of Joseph.

Bible Activity:

Help Your Friend Relay

Adapted from: Group's Hands On Bible Curriculum/Fall 1996

Group Pub. Pg 68

To promote helping each other, pair up with someone. Have the pairs join hands & stand together. Call out the following directions.

Hop with your partner to the line & back

Tiptoe with your partner to the line & back.

Stomp with your partner to the line & back.

Walk backward with your partner to the line & back.

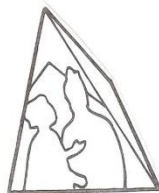
Skip with your partner to the line & back.

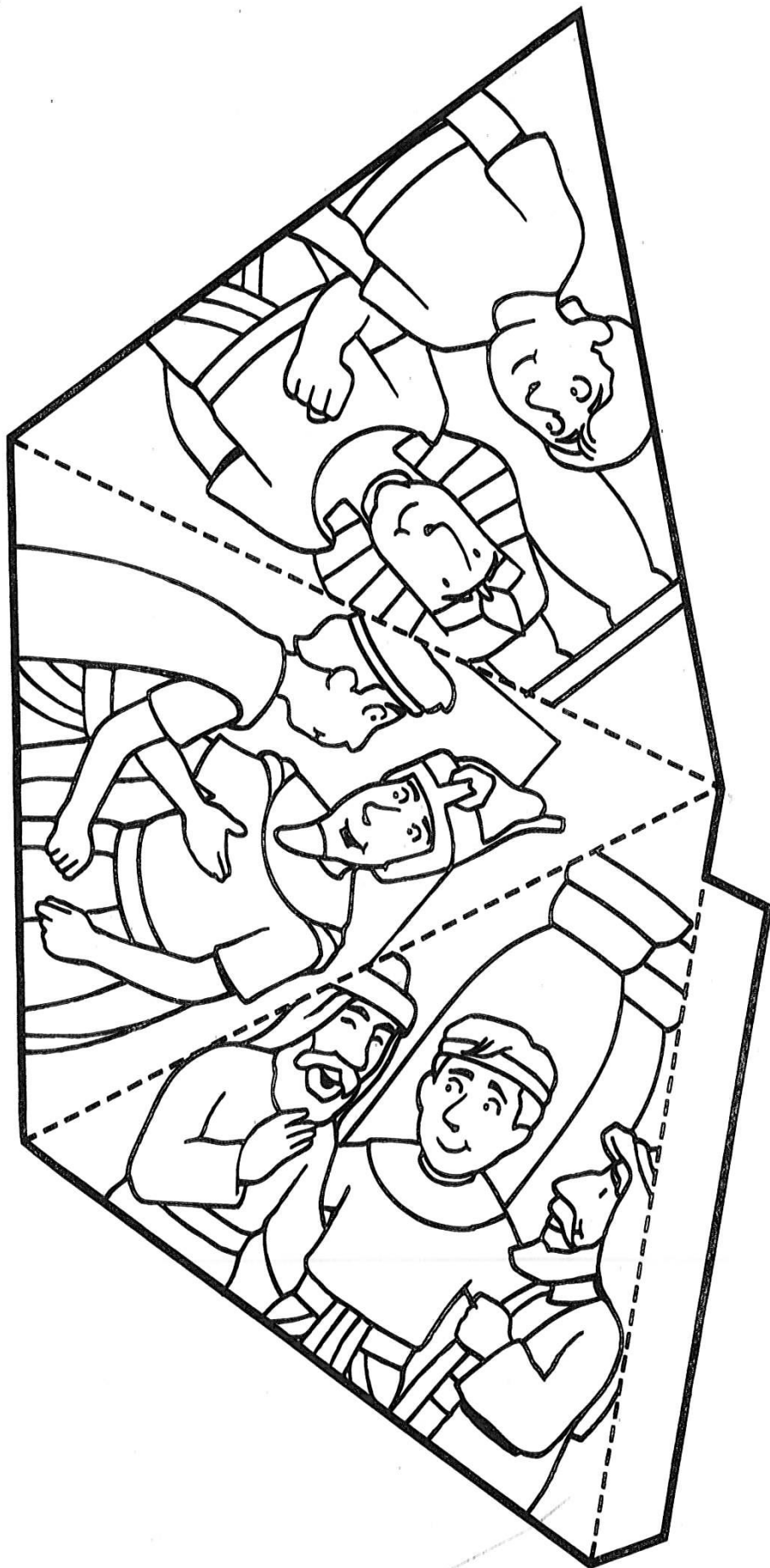
Take giant steps with your partner to the line & back.

Craft Activity:

Pyramid of Service

Have the children color the three scenes on the pyramid. When they have finished, help them fold the pyramid on the dotted line. Tape or glue the tab on scene 3 to the back of the scene so that the pyramid will stand on its own. Show the children how to use the pyramid to retell the story of Joseph serving God. (1) Joseph served Potiphar in Egypt by taking care of everything Potiphar owned, (2) God was with Joseph when Joseph was chosen to help the king understand a dream, (3) Joseph's brothers came to Egypt and Joseph gave them the food they needed.





Joseph explains Pharaoh's dream.
Genesis 41



Joseph explains Pharaoh's dream.

Genesis 41

Joseph was in jail in Egypt. One night, the king of Egypt, called Pharaoh, had a very strange dream he couldn't understand. One of the king's helpers knew Joseph. They had both been in jail when the helper had a dream. Joseph had told him what it meant. The helper told the king that Joseph might be able to understand his dream.

"Then bring Joseph to me," ordered the king. When Joseph got there, the king said, "I had a dream. I've heard that you can tell what a dream means."

"I can't," Joseph said. "But God can. He will help me understand your dream." So the king told Joseph that he dreamed about seven fat cows that were eaten up by seven skinny cows. But the skinny cows stayed skinny.

Joseph said, "God is telling you something VERY important. The seven fat cows mean that for

seven years, Egypt will grow lots of grain. The skinny cows mean that for seven years after that, no grain will grow at all! During the first seven years, you need to save the extra grain in big barns. When no grain grows, the people can make bread from the grain that was saved."

The king put Joseph in charge of saving grain. Joseph told the people to build big barns. People gathered grain and packed it into the barns. Plenty of grain grew for seven years. But when the seven years were over, the rain stopped falling. The grain stopped growing. What God had told Joseph came true!

When the people ran out of grain, they started getting hungry. So Joseph opened the barns. The people could buy grain to make bread. For the next seven years, God helped Joseph make sure all the people had enough food to eat.

Faith @ Home



Joseph in Egypt

Scripture Reference

Genesis 39-40



Things to talk about:

- What right and good things have people done today to help us?
- When might it be hard to keep doing what is right?

PRAYER WITH YOUR CHILD:

Dear God,

Thank You for helping us do right, even those things that are not easy (repeat ways your child mentioned.) We are glad You are with us.
Jesus' name, amen.

PRAYER FOR YOUR CHILD:

Father, as (child's name) sees those around him/her in need. (physical, emotional, or spiritual need), may his/her heart be touched. Give him/her a desire to help them.

Proverbs 14:21

(Adapted from: *While They Were Sleeping*)

I Can Help

One of the ways children like to help is to show adults what they can do by helping an adult with a task. Often adults find it easier to do the task themselves than have a little one "help". But it's important for the developing faith of children to give them plenty of opportunities to use their growing skills in ways that help other people. This will prepare them to someday do what God wants them to do, and to know that God can use them to help other people. Toddlers can learn that there are lots of ways to help, and that being kind and helpful can make them feel happy.

You can get your children to help you clean a table and have a great time. Squirt some kid-friendly foam soap on the table or countertop and encourage children to spread it around the table. They'll have fun and when they're done, you can wipe the table with a wet sponge for easy clean up.

Pretending to be Joseph

Needed: A colorful robe (a towel or tablecloth can be used); pretend "King's" ring & necklace.

After reading the story of Joseph in Prison from the Bible, discuss what it would be like to be in a prison. Talk about how God was with Joseph, so he wasn't afraid. Discuss how Joseph went from prison to being the king's special helper.

Take turns trying on the robe & jewelry.