

Date – October 3, 2021

Scripture/Bible Story/Theme

Joseph – Genesis 42
Joseph the Governor
God has a plan and is always with us

Children’s Illustrated Bible – p.p. 60-61 – This is the second week with this section of the Joseph story.

As a quick review the Joseph Story in a nutshell:

Genesis 37 begins Joseph’s story and ends in chapter 50.

He was Jacob’s (Israel’s) favorite son from a family of 12 sons and 1 daughter. Jacob gave Joseph a special robe as a sign of favoritism. Joseph’s brothers were envious of him and plotted a story to tell Jacob that Joseph had died. They returned the coat, bloodied to ‘prove it’. His brothers sold Joseph meanwhile, into slavery to Potiphar.

Despite all of these tragic events, God blessed Joseph. Joseph eventually found favor by Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. Pharaoh made Joseph a ruler.

After a terrible famine in Egypt, Joseph brothers came to Joseph for help. He forgave them and through God’s plan, Joseph’s family reconciled.

Workshop Name

Dirt Pudding

Opening Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for teaching us about Joseph – even though lots of bad things happened to Joseph, he kept his faith in you, God. Help us to learn how we can have that faith too. Amen

Memory Verse

We know that God is always at work for the good of everyone who loves him. Romans 8:28a

Objectives

1. The story of Joseph is found in the first book of the Old Testament, Genesis.
2. Retell the story in their own words – identifying story characters and their feelings.
3. Analyze how jealousy erupted in Joseph’s family and led to the brother’s selling Joseph into slavery.
4. Discover that when they face difficulties that God is with them in all situations.
5. Learn these key words: jealousy, envy, relationship, favoritism
6. Learn that showing favoritism can cause hurt relationships.

7. God loves everyone and is with us no matter what we do.

8. God's plans helped Joseph and his brothers to be family again later.

9. Recognize that in our lives God's activity may be hidden. We may not always see it, but he does have a plan for each of us.

Supplies

1 package of instant chocolate pudding per 4 students – Kroger instant that I purchased

3 cups milk per package – per package direction

1 Oreo per child

Gummy worms

1 zip lock per child

Various mixing bowls and measuring cups

Cups to hold the individual servings of Dirt Pudding

Plastic spoons

Activity

Before beginning the activity use the following for a discussion.

How did Joseph's brothers feel? – They were frustrated, jealous and angry.

We all feel that way sometime. What are some things you can do to remain calm instead of getting hot or exploding? Talk to an adult or friend, count to 10, go off by yourself, talk to God.

Because God is with us, we can always turn to him. We can pray. We can read the Bible. We can recite verses that we have memorized. All of these things can help us when we are frustrated, jealous or angry.

Have each child put one Oreo into a zip lock bag. Continue with the following discussion:

1. Do you like Oreos?
2. Would you like to eat your Oreo now?
3. What is your favorite way to eat an Oreo?
4. Do you like to pull it apart and lick your fingers?
5. What if something happened to your Oreo now?
6. What is someone sat on it or dropped it?

*****Now walk around the room and crush each student's Oreo in their bag.

Continue with the following discussion:

1. How did you feel about me crushing your Oreo?
2. Did you feel disappointed, mad or angry?

Joseph didn't ask God, "Why me?" Joseph reacted by saying, "What can I do God?" Joseph did not give up despite all the horrible things that had happened to him.

Now mix the pudding mix with the milk. Add the gummy worms. Spoon into the individual coffee cups. Ask the students to open their zip lock bags with the Oreo crumbs and sprinkle the crumbs on top of the pudding. Make sure to point out that despite the horrible crushing of the Oreo that something good came out at the end.

Reflection/Evaluation – Use the following for discussion after the activity depending on the time you have available.

What can you tell about Jacob and his sons?

Which son does Jacob love the most?

What does jealousy mean?

Tell me about a time when you felt jealous.

What did you do about your feelings of jealousy?

Why do you suppose Jacob, the father, played favorites and gave only Joseph a special coat?

How did Joseph share his dreams? What was his attitude?

How did the brothers react?

How would you have felt?

What do the brothers do when Joseph shows up?

What causes them to change their mind?

What do they do to Joseph's coat?

How do you think Joseph is feeling right now?

How do you think Jacob is feeling?

Things don't look very good for Joseph right now. His brothers have sold him as a slave and his father thinks that he's dead. All his life Joseph has been told that he is special and that God has a plan for him.

Do you suppose that Joseph is wondering what God's plan is at this point?

Have you ever felt like you were in a desperate situation?

Who can tell us about a time when you wondered what's God's plan was for you?

You may never have felt like you didn't know what was going to happen to you, but no matter what, know that God is with you. God was with Joseph.

Do you suppose Joseph is feeling pretty desperate?

All his life Joseph has been told that he is special, that God has a plan for him.

The Lord was with Joseph. He gave him great success.

The students are to copy the memory verse into their journals. They are to write an answer to the following questions. If they are unable to write an answer, they may illustrate one.

What can help you when you feel upset, angry or disappointed? How can God help?

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Prayer

