



Joseph's Brothers Sell Him

Genesis 37

God Statement: God is in Control

KEY VERSE: "Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the Lord."
(Psalm 27:14, NIRV)

CHECK-IN

Classroom Teacher

(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)

As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.

EXPLORE ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(15 minutes)

The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.

DISCUSS: God is in Control

In today's lesson, we are going to continue learning about how God is in Control.

SAY:

We're going to be learning about a new God Statement today in large group. Do any of you remember what our last God Statement was? God is Our Promise Keeper, that's right!

When we talk about “God Statements,” those are true facts or character traits of who God is. Our new God Statement is: God is in Control. Let’s say that together... God is in Control! How does that statement make you feel? *Pause for responses.*

We’re going to learn more about this phrase in Large Group, but first let’s do an activity to get us thinking about the lesson.

MAKE:

To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they can do this activity!

Joseph’s Coat Bookmark

Supplies: 1 bookmark per child, crayons/markers OR watercolors/paintbrushes, optional - scissors

Say: *Today we’re going to learn about a man named Joseph. What is his name? Joseph, that’s right. Joseph was given a very special coat from his father. Have you ever been given a special gift from your parents, grandparents, or guardians? How did it make you feel? We’re going to work in pairs to color these coats as colorful as we can!*

Directions: Pass out one bookmark to each child and have them color the bookmark using either markers, crayons, or watercolor paints. Optional for older kids - If kids would like to cut the bookmark out in more detail, they can use scissors to do so.

LARGE GROUP

(25 minutes)

Each week, Large Group will consist of an introduction, worship, the Bible lesson, worship response, and the blessing.

WORSHIP & CHLOE’S RULES**Worship Leader & Host****WORSHIP**

While the video is playing the opening worship songs, encourage the kids to sing and dance along. Don’t forget to set the example by participating alongside them!

Feel free to modify your worship time for what works best for your age group. You can find different ways to encourage the kids to participate by giving them instruments or showing them simple hand motions. You can also limit how many songs you choose to play, if it seems like the kids are not able to stay focused the entire time.

CHLOE’S RULES

Once everyone has found their seat, play Chloe's Rules in the PowerPoint provided. If needed, reinforce the rules after the video plays.

**** After Worship & Chloe's Rules, transition the PowerPoint to the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder slides. ****

MAIL TIME & WARDROBE OF WONDER

Host

MAIL TIME!

Find the Mail Time envelope in your curriculum supplies.

Pick one child to hide the envelope and another child to find it. Give the first child about 30 seconds to hide the envelope while the other child closes his/her eyes. After the envelope is hidden, the second child can search for the envelope while the class says "hot" or "cold" to give them clues if they're getting closer or further away.

Have the two kids stand in front of the class and hold the verse page (inside the envelope) so everyone can see it.

Use the Key Verse Motions Video on Plex (or sent in weekly email) to learn the motions prior to Large Group.

**"Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the Lord."
(Psalm 27:14, NIRV)**

WARDROBE OF WONDER

The Wardrobe of Wonder is an opportunity to get the younger kids engaged in the lesson by playing a guessing game to determine what the "What's It" is inside the wardrobe each week.

Choose one child to "spy" on the What's It by peeking inside the wardrobe. Remind the other children to look away and to not peek. Have the peeker whisper the identity of the What's It in the host's ear to ensure he/she saw it correctly.

What's It: Coat of Many Colors

Now, invite the class to raise their hand and guess the identity of the What's It by asking yes-or-no questions about it. Allow the child who peeked to help answer the questions. Once the children have guessed correctly, retrieve the What's It from the wardrobe and allow the class to look at it/pass it around. Thank the volunteer and allow them to sit back down.

ASK:

This What's It today looks very familiar... Did we just do an activity that kind of looks like this coat? How many colors do you think are on this? *Pause for kids to try and count.* It is a **coat of many colors!** Would you wear this coat? I wonder what this has to do with our story today... Do you know what time it is? It's time for us to dive into God's Word together!

**** After the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder, Younger Kids classes transition to the Bible Story video where the kids will hear about the lesson for the day. ****

BIBLE STORY

Lesson Video

Remind the group before starting the video to follow the expectations for Large Group.

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: Joseph's Brothers Sell Him

Encourage kids to listen and engage with the lesson as they watch the teaching video.

**** After the video finishes, turn on soft worship music (with or without lyrics) to transition into Worship Response. This should be background music to help set the tone for a quiet reflection time with God. ****

WORSHIP RESPONSE

Host

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through the time.

Supplies: puzzle pieces

That is quite the story we're talking about today. Do you have siblings? Sometimes you might get angry with each other, but I hope you wouldn't try to sell them!

Let's think about a puzzle for a few minutes. Raise your hand if you've done a puzzle before.

Take a few pieces of puzzle and try to put the wrong pieces together.

When you're putting a puzzle together, sometimes the pieces don't fit right. Maybe you're missing a piece. The puzzle isn't complete or finished until you get all the pieces in the right place. If I handed you this one piece of the puzzle, can you tell what the finished product should look like? ***Pause for responses.***

That's kind of how life is, isn't it?

- God takes all the pieces of our life to put in the right places. Sometimes we have hard things in our lives that we don't like.
- Maybe we wish some things didn't happen. Maybe your puppy got sick. Or maybe you had to move to a new house. Or maybe your mom or dad is deployed.
- Can you think of something hard that happened in your life? ***Pause for responses.***

We are learning that God works everything out to fit in the puzzle. Even when things seem wrong, God will make it fit into our life to work it out.

- Remember Abraham? God told him to move to a new land.
- Remember Jacob? He cheated his brother by dressing up like him.
- We have seen God working out things with Abraham and Jacob and now we see it with Joseph.

God has a plan from the beginning of time. Even when we mess up God will work it out.

- God saves. That was His plan from the beginning of time.
- To make a way for Jesus to save us by dying on the cross for our sins.
- Those brothers of Joseph wanted to get rid of Joseph, but God used that to get Joseph into the right place at the right time for His life to continue.
- Sometimes things happen in our lives that we don't like or understand but we trust that God will work it all out for good.

There is a verse in the Bible that says:

Romans 8:28 - "We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him." (Read it a couple of times.)

- Do you love God? He WILL work out everything for your good and His good.
- We're going to do something to help us remember that truth that God is in Control and He has a plan.

Have teachers and LITs help pass out 1 puzzle piece to each child

- Let's look at this puzzle piece in our hands for a minute. A puzzle piece is just that, a piece – a part of something much bigger...
- Can you tell what your puzzle piece is supposed to be? Some might be able to, but most of us can't see what the full puzzle should look like by just looking at this one piece, right?

As you look at this puzzle piece quietly, I want you to think about your own life for a minute... What is something hard that you have gone through?

Even with those hard things, just like a piece of a puzzle, it will all fit together someday. You are an important part of God's story. He has things for you to do and those hard things that happen to you can get you into the right spot for Him to work.

You can keep this puzzle piece to help you remember that God is in control, and He has a plan. A good plan. Even when it's hard.

Close time in prayer.

******After Worship Response, transition the power point to the closing Worship videos and invite the Worship Leader to come back up.******

COMPASSION & OFFERING

Host

Before closing large group, take a moment to highlight and discuss each campus' Compassion sponsor child. Explain a little about the Compassion child's life and the impact their offering has for this child (info should be provided on cards in classroom). Then remind kids that if anyone brought offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

Ask a child to come up and pray for the offering and their Compassion child.

******After Compassion & Offering, transition the power point to the "Announcement" slide. The host will discuss any current announcements.******

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Host

Take this opportunity to cover any announcements for the kids, such as upcoming events or reminders, like bringing food donations for Feeding Families. Use the slides provided in the Power Point to display important announcements.

******After Announcements, transition the power point to the "Blessing" slide. The host will lead the class in receiving the blessing for the day.******

BLESSING

Host

Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.

Friends, may you always remember that God knows what He is doing. He loves you and will make everything work out for the good of those who love Him.

SMALL GROUP

Classroom Teachers
(10 minutes)

The Small Group discussion is a chance for the kids to discuss what they've just learned and to challenge them to think deeper.

Younger Kids:

This time is optional for younger kids, depending on if you feel like the kids are still listening and participating well.

1. **Re-tell the story of Joseph (Gen 37)**
2. **What did Joseph's dad give him, and why?** (A colorful coat, because he was his father's favorite)
3. **What was Joseph's second dream about?** (About the sun, moon and stars bowing down)
4. **Where did Joseph's dreams come from?** (God)
5. **Do you think that Joseph can forgive his brothers one day? Are you able to forgive those who hurt you?**
6. **What does the puzzle piece we got in Worship Response help us remember?** (God is in control!) **Where can you put that puzzle piece you got today to help you remember this every day?**

Closing Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for how You protected Joseph's life despite his brothers' plans. Joseph endured not only this challenging situation, but even more difficult trials throughout this life. You protected him so he will one day be a servant leader who saves the lives of many. Thank You for how Joseph gives us a picture of Jesus and how He came to save us. Amen.

RESPOND ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher
(10 minutes)

DISCUSS:

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity.

God Is In Control – Follow the Leader

Supplies: none

Say: *Today we learned about how God watched over Joseph even when his brothers sold him. Joseph didn't know what was going to happen to him, but God had a plan for Joseph and we know that God is in control. God knows everything and God loves us! We're going to play a game to help us remember that God is in control. We're going to play Follow the Leader to help us practice following God's directions.*

Directions: Have kids line up behind one teacher. As the teacher leads the class around the room, they can do various motions and have kids copy those motions (i.e. marching, clapping, hopping, crawling, etc.). After a while, choose another person to be the "leader." Remind the kids at the end how God tells us to follow His lead because He loves us and He is in control.

CHECK-OUT

Classroom Teacher
(end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in the Respond Activities or the classroom games and toys.