



(12) Joseph in Slavery, Interprets Dreams

Genesis 39-40

Kindergarten & 1st Grade

WARM-UP: (10 minutes)

As kids are arriving, some just before class starts and some right after, draw a picture of a dream you've had recently. (If you have white boards or chalk boards, this makes it unique.)

PRAYER: (5 minutes)

Help kids learn the value in talking to God. Ask for prayer requests. Write on the white board "Thank You" and "Please Help" – then, let the kids share their "thank you" and "please help" requests. Write them on the white board.

ASK KIDS:

- How God talks to us? (Through the bible and answering our prayers)
- How do we talk to God? (Prayer)

Remind them that *we can't have a relationship with anyone, our friends or even parents, if we don't talk to them. It's important that we talk to God. He made us and no one can do the things he can, not even our moms and dads.*

Lead kids in prayer.

BIBLE LESSON & ACTIVITY: (25 minutes)

Remember, Jacob has had 11 sons so far and he took them with the rest of the family back home where he was reunited with his brother Esau. And remember, he was very afraid because the last time he saw Esau, his brother was going to kill him. Why? (Stealing his birthright). Rachel had another son now Jacob has 12 sons. Last week we learned that Joseph's older brothers sold him and told their dad an animal killed him. So let's see what happened to Joseph.

Now, we are still in the book of Genesis. What does Genesis mean? (Beginning)

PASS OUT HANDS ON PLAY ITEM (Play-Doh, Silly Putty, Kinetic Sand, White Boards, etc.)

1. Joseph had been taken down to Egypt where an Egyptian named Potiphar had bought him from the Ishmaelite traders. Potiphar was one of Pharaoh's officials. He was the captain of the palace guard. **Make an "E" for Egypt. Where did is Joseph now? Living in Egypt as a slave.**
2. The LORD was with Joseph and gave him great success. He lived in Potiphar's house. Joseph's master saw that the LORD made Joseph successful in everything he did; so Potiphar was pleased with Joseph and made him his attendant. He put Joseph in charge of his house and *everything* he owned. **Make a house. What responsibility did Potiphar give Joseph? He put him in charge of his house, of everything he owned.** The Lord blessed Potiphar's family and servants because of Joseph. He blessed everything Potiphar had. With Joseph in charge, Potiphar didn't have to worry about anything except the food he ate. **Who did**

the Lord bless? Joseph and Potiphar's family and servants because of Joseph.

3. After a while, his master's wife noticed how strong and handsome Joseph was. She told Joseph to kiss her. **Make lips. Was this a good idea? No.** Joseph was good and told her no way! He told her that Potiphar trusted him and he would not betray his trust and he could not sin against God.
4. Day after day she tried to get Joseph to kiss her but he wouldn't do it. He didn't even want to be around her. Then one day, Joseph went into the house to take care of things and no one else was there except Potiphar's wife. She grabbed him by the coat and told him to come with her. But Joseph left his coat in her hand and ran out of the house. **Make a coat. What did Joseph do when Potiphar's wife grabbed him? He ran out of the house without his coat.**
5. Potiphar's wife was made at Joseph so she lied. She called the servants and said, "Look! This Hebrew slave tried to hurt me. He ran out so fast when I screamed for help that he left his coat!" **Was this true? No.** When Potiphar came home, she told him the same story. **Do you think Potiphar was happy about this? Not at all!** He became very angry. **Make a mad face.**
6. So Joseph was thrown into prison. But guess what. God was *still* with Joseph, taking care of him. Even though something bad happened to him that was not fair, God was with him. **Make Joseph in prison.**
7. The man running the prison was happy with Joseph. He put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners. The man didn't have to worry about anything Joseph took care of. The Lord gave Joseph success in everything he did. **Make a happy face because the man running the prison was happy with Joseph and trusted him. Who did he put Joseph in charge of? All the other prisoners.**
8. Some time later, the Egyptian king's baker and wine taster did something their master didn't like so they were thrown in prison with Joseph. While in prison, they both had dreams on the same night. What did they mean they wondered? **Make a cloud for dreams. Who had the dreams? The baker and wine taster.** That day, they were very sad. Joseph asked them what was wrong. They told him they each had a dream that no one could explain. Joseph told them, "Only God knows what dreams mean. Tell me your dreams." **Who knows the meaning of dreams? God.**
9. The wine taster told Joseph his dream. He said, "In my dream I saw a vine in front of me. There were three branches on the vine. As soon as it budded, it flowered. And bunches of ripe grapes grew on it. Pharaoh's cup was in my hand. I took the grapes. I squeezed them into Pharaoh's cup. Then I put the cup in his hand." **Make a vine with three branches. Then put flowers on it. It made grapes. In the dream, what did the wine taster do with the grapes? He squeezed them into Pharaoh's cup.**
10. Now Joseph tells him what his dream means. "The three branches are three days. **How many days? 3.** In three days Pharaoh will let you out of prison. He'll give your job back to you. And you will put Pharaoh's cup in his hand." **What will happen in 3 days? He'll get out of prison and get his old job back!** Joseph told him that when things are going well, please remember him and tell the Pharaoh about him so he could get out of prison too.
11. **Make a cake because now we are talking about the baker.** He told Joseph his dream too. The wine taster had a good dream so maybe his was good too! Let's see. "There were three baskets of bread on my head. **Make a head and put three baskets on it.** All kinds of baked goods for Pharaoh were in the top

basket. But the birds were eating them out of the basket on my head.” **What was eating the food out of the baskets? Birds.**

12. Now Joseph tells him what his dream means, but it’s not so good. “The three baskets are three days. **How many days? 3. Just like the wine taster.** In three days Pharaoh will cut your head off. The birds will eat your flesh.” **Oh no! He was going to die. That’s a nightmare!**

13. Make a three. Three days later, everything happened just as Joseph had told them when he explained their dreams. But the chief wine taster didn’t remember Joseph. In fact, he forgot all about him. Don’t worry! God is still with Joseph.

Next week, we will see what happens when Pharaoh has dreams that no one understands. Hmm. Who might explain those to Pharaoh? We will see.

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE & SONGS: (5 minutes)

Sing the Old Testament books song and then the New Testament books songs. Then, list several books until class is over. If the book is in the Old Testament, have kids pat their heads. If it’s in the New Testament, have kids march in place.



(12) Joseph in Slavery, Interprets Dreams

Genesis 39-40

2nd – 3rd Grade

WARM-UP: (10 minutes)

As kids are arriving, some just before class starts and some right after, draw a picture of a dream you've had recently. (If you have white boards or chalk boards, this makes it unique.)

PRAYER: (5 minutes)

Help kids learn the value in talking to God. Ask for prayer requests. Write on the white board "Thank You" and "Please Help" – then, let the kids share their "thank you" and "please help" requests. Write them on the white board.

ASK KIDS:

- How God talks to us? (Through the bible and answering our prayers)
- How do we talk to God? (Prayer)

Remind them that *we can't have a relationship with anyone, our friends or even parents, if we don't talk to them. It's important that we talk to God. He made us and no one can do the things he can, not even our moms and dads.*

Lead kids in prayer.

BIBLE LESSON & ACTIVITY: (25 minutes)

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PASS OUT HANDS ON PLAY ITEM (Play-Doh, Silly Putty, Kinetic Sand, White Boards, etc.)

1. Joseph had been taken down to Egypt where an Egyptian named Potiphar had bought him from the Ishmaelite traders. Potiphar was one of Pharaoh's officials. He was the captain of the palace guard. **Make an "E" for Egypt. Where did is Joseph now? Living in Egypt as a slave.**
2. The LORD was with Joseph and gave him great success. He lived in Potiphar's house. Joseph's master saw that the LORD made Joseph successful in everything he did; so Potiphar was pleased with Joseph and made him his attendant. He put Joseph in charge of his house and *everything* he owned. **Make a house. What responsibility did Potiphar give Joseph? He put him in charge of his house, of everything he owned.** The Lord blessed Potiphar's family and servants because of Joseph. He blessed everything Potiphar had. With Joseph in charge, Potiphar didn't have to worry about anything except the food he ate. **Who did**

the Lord bless? Joseph and Potiphar's family and servants because of Joseph.

3. After a while, his master's wife noticed how strong and handsome Joseph was. She told Joseph to kiss her. **Make lips. Was this a good idea? No.** Joseph was good and told her no way! He told her that Potiphar trusted him and he would not betray his trust and he could not sin against God.
4. Day after day she tried to get Joseph to kiss her but he wouldn't do it. He didn't even want to be around her. Then one day, Joseph went into the house to take care of things and no one else was there except Potiphar's wife. She grabbed him by the coat and told him to come with her. But Joseph left his coat in her hand and ran out of the house. **Make a coat. What did Joseph do when Potiphar's wife grabbed him? He ran out of the house without his coat.**
5. Potiphar's wife was made at Joseph so she lied. She called the servants and said, "Look! This Hebrew slave tried to hurt me. He ran out so fast when I screamed for help that he left his coat!" **Was this true? No.** When Potiphar came home, she told him the same story. **Do you think Potiphar was happy about this? Not at all!** He became very angry. **Make a mad face.**
6. So Joseph was thrown into prison. But guess what. God was *still* with Joseph, taking care of him. Even though something bad happened to him that was not fair, God was with him. **Make Joseph in prison.**
7. The man running the prison was happy with Joseph. He put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners. The man didn't have to worry about anything Joseph took care of. The Lord gave Joseph success in everything he did. **Make a happy face because the man running the prison was happy with Joseph and trusted him. Who did he put Joseph in charge of? All the other prisoners.**
8. Some time later, the Egyptian king's baker and wine taster did something their master didn't like so they were thrown in prison with Joseph. While in prison, they both had dreams on the same night. What did they mean they wondered? **Make a cloud for dreams. Who had the dreams? The baker and wine taster.** That day, they were very sad. Joseph asked them what was wrong. They told him they each had a dream that no one could explain. Joseph told them, "Only God knows what dreams mean. Tell me your dreams." **Who knows the meaning of dreams? God.**
9. The wine taster told Joseph his dream. He said, "In my dream I saw a vine in front of me. There were three branches on the vine. As soon as it budded, it flowered. And bunches of ripe grapes grew on it. Pharaoh's cup was in my hand. I took the grapes. I squeezed them into Pharaoh's cup. Then I put the cup in his hand." **Make a vine with three branches. Then put flowers on it. It made grapes. In the dream, what did the wine taster do with the grapes? He squeezed them into Pharaoh's cup.**
10. Now Joseph tells him what his dream means. "The three branches are three days. **How many days? 3.** In three days Pharaoh will let you out of prison. He'll give your job back to you. And you will put Pharaoh's cup in his hand." **What will happen in 3 days? He'll get out of prison and get his old job back!** Joseph told him that when things are going well, please remember him and tell the Pharaoh about him so he could get out of prison too.
11. **Make a cake because now we are talking about the baker.** He told Joseph his dream too. The wine taster had a good dream so maybe his was good too! Let's see. "There were three baskets of bread on my head. **Make a head and put three baskets on it.** All kinds of baked goods for Pharaoh were in the top

basket. But the birds were eating them out of the basket on my head.” **What was eating the food out of the baskets? Birds.**

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13. Make a three. Three days later, everything happened just as Joseph had told them when he explained their dreams. But the chief wine taster didn’t remember Joseph. In fact, he forgot all about him. Don’t worry! God is still with Joseph.

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BOOKS OF THE BIBLE & SONGS: (5 minutes)

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(12) Joseph in Slavery, Interprets Dreams

Genesis 39-40
4th & 5th Grade

WARM-UP: 8 minutes)

As kids are arriving, some just before class starts and some right after, practice finding the books of the bible. Let kids draw a card, individually, then look it up in the bible. Once they find it, roll the dice to see how many points they get. (This way, it's not just about who can find the most, but rolling the dice too.) Each keeps his/her own score.

PRAYER: (5 minutes)

Help kids learn the value in talking to God. Ask for prayer requests. Write on the white board "Praise" – "Petition" – "Thanksgiving" – "Confession."

- Have kids give suggestions for **Praise** (ex: God is holy, amazing, awesome, our rock).
- Have kids give **Petitions** (needs/please help)
- Have kids give **Thanksgiving** (what are they thankful for)
- Remind them that in a public prayer, we typically pray that God forgives us, but we don't get specific in our **confessions**.
- Lead kids in prayer.

BIBLE LESSON: (32 minutes)

Quick review: We have been learning God's word in order, just like a movie! (Review quickly so you have time for the lesson.)

1. First we learned about how God created the whole world in 6 days and what did he do on the 7th day? (Rested)
2. Then, we learned about Adam and Eve being tempted in Garden of Eden by what? (A serpent/snake) Right, he was the craftiest of all creatures! So they were kicked out of the garden that was guarded by cherubim with flaming swords.
3. Next, Cain was jealous of his brother Abel and murdered him so Cain was sent away to wander.
4. Over time there were many people but they did not love God so God sent a flood saving one righteous man and his family. Who was it? (Noah) It rained for 40 days and 40 nights! After it dried up, what did God send as a sign that he'd never destroy the entire world by flood again? (Rainbow)
5. Later, a man named Job lived and God allowed Satan to test him. Who won? Good or Evil? (Good) Job remained faithful to God even when others told him not to or believed he must have done something wrong.
6. The people on earth just can't seem to remember to keep God first! They decided to build a tower to the heavens to make them famous. It wasn't about God. Who was it for? (Them) So what did God do? (Mixed up their languages so they couldn't finish) And this is when he scattered the people across the earth.
7. God sends a man named Abram to Egypt with his wife Sarai and his nephew Lot. Because of some problems with too many animals, they divided the land. Abram stayed in Canaan and Lot chose to go live near Sodom.

8. God promised Abram he'd bless him with many descendants and changed their names to Abraham and Sarah. Sarah was impatient waiting for a baby and gave Abraham her servant Hagar who had a son named Ishmael. This made Sarah jealous. Later she had a son named Isaac
9. God tested Abraham. He sent him to sacrifice his son, Isaac. Abraham was faithful so God provided a ram in place of his son.
10. Isaac married Rebekah, gave birth to twin boys, Esau and Jacob. Jacob stole his brother's birthright so Jacob hid at his Uncle Laban's house where he worked 7 years to marry Rachel but was tricked into marrying her older sister Leah. He worked another 7 years for Rachel.
11. They left to go back to Jacob's home. Jacob wrestled with God (or an angel) who changed his name to Israel. He was afraid but God was with him. Esau welcomed him back.
12. If you were here Wednesday, you learned that Rachel had another baby, Benjamin. She died while giving birth. Now Jacob has 12 sons. The older brothers sold Joseph into slavery last week and made their dad think an animal killed him.

PASS OUT HANDS ON PLAY ITEM (Silly Putty, Play Floam, White Boards, etc)

1. Joseph had been taken down to Egypt where an Egyptian named Potiphar had bought him from the Ishmaelite traders. Potiphar was one of Pharaoh's officials. He was the captain of the palace guard. **Make an "E" for Egypt. Where did Joseph now? Living in Egypt as a slave.**
2. **READ Genesis 39:2:** *² The LORD was with Joseph. He gave him great success. Joseph lived in Potiphar's house.* Even though a very bad and unfair thing happened to Joseph, God was with him. We need to remember that bad things happen in this world, but our God is always with us and we need to trust him. So, Joseph's master saw that the LORD made Joseph successful in everything he did; so Potiphar was pleased with Joseph and made him his attendant. He put Joseph in charge of his house and *everything* he owned. **Make a house. What responsibility did Potiphar give Joseph? He put him in charge of his house, of everything he owned.**
3. The Lord blessed Potiphar's family and servants because of Joseph. He blessed everything Potiphar had. With Joseph in charge, Potiphar didn't have to worry about anything except the food he ate. **Make a "B" for blessing. Who did the Lord bless? Joseph and Potiphar's family and servants because of Joseph.**
4. After a while, his master's wife noticed how strong and handsome Joseph was. She told Joseph to kiss her. **Make lips. Was this a good idea? No.** Joseph was good and told her no way! He told her that Potiphar trusted him and he would not betray his trust and he could not sin against God.
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6. When Potiphar came home, she told him the same story. **Do you think Potiphar was happy about this? Not at all!** He became very angry. **Make a mad face.**
7. So Joseph was thrown into prison. Wow! Bad things just keep happening to Joseph. He could have questioned God and stopped believing in him, but he didn't! **Read Genesis 39:20-21:** *²⁰ So he put Joseph in prison. It was the place where the king's prisoners were kept. While Joseph was there in the prison, ²¹ the LORD was with him. He was kind to him. So the man running the prison was pleased with Joseph.* **Did you see that?** God was *still* with Joseph, taking care of him. God always has a plan even when we don't understand it. Even though something bad happened to him that was not fair, God was with him. **Make prison bars.**
8. The man running the prison was happy with Joseph. He put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners. The man didn't have to worry about anything Joseph took care of. The Lord gave Joseph success in everything he did. **Make a happy face because the man running the prison was happy with Joseph and trusted him. Who did he put Joseph in charge of? All the other prisoners.**
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remember Joseph. In fact, he forgot all about him. Don't worry! God is still with Joseph.

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REVIEW