



# Joseph and His Jealous Brothers

Lesson Aim: To challenge children to make peace with others.

## THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The God Who Speaks

## THE WORD

Bible Story: Genesis 37:2-11, 18-24, 26-36

What He has done: God spoke to Joseph in a dream and protected him from death.

Key Verse: Genesis 37:4

## THE WAY

Christ Connection: Matthew 5:21-24

## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!" Matthew 25:23

Unit 8: The God Who Speaks			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
38	Joseph and His Jealous Brothers, Genesis 37:2-11, 18-24, 26-36	God spoke to Joseph in a dream and protected him from death.	To challenge children to make peace with others.
39	Joseph Forgives His Brothers, Genesis 39:2, 21; 41:15-16, 39-40; 45:4-8; 50:15, 19-21	God meant for good what the brothers meant for evil.	To see how our sovereign God will use for good what others intend for evil.
40	The Burning Bush, Exodus 3:1-5, 9-10, 13-14, 19-20; 4:10-14	God called to Moses from a burning bush.	To know God calls us and equips us to be His messengers.
41	The Passover, Exodus 11:1; 12:21-31	God passed over the Israelite's homes.	To learn the significance of the Passover and the Passover Lamb.
42	God Parts the Red Sea, Exodus 13:21-22; 14:5-7, 10, 13-16, 19-26, 31; 15:1-2	God kept His promise to deliver His people from slavery.	To know God made a way for us to know His presence. (Salvation Message)

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Galatians 5:16-26. Please join us in praying, "Forgive us, Lord, for our jealous hearts. Fill us with Your Spirit that we may teach the children to rejoice in the success of others. Amen."



**THE WORSHIP  
THE WORD &  
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	<b>Meet &amp; Greet</b>	None
		<b>Game:</b> Bible Memory Verse Message Ball	2 hula hoops, 2 large foam balls, masking tape, marker, paper, scissors
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	<b>Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "Well Done" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "I Am the Way" "Search Me, O God" <b>Additional Hymn Suggestions:</b> "Holy, Holy, Holy" "Spirit of the Living God" "This Is My Father's World" <b>Additional Song Collection Suggestions:</b> Shout Praises! Kids Gospel Songs 4 Worship KIDS - Awesome God
		<b>Worship Scripture Reading:</b> John 10:27-28	Bible
		<b>Offering</b>	Baskets
		<b>Worship Illustration</b>	Lesson 38 High Seas Adventures script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	<b>Read the Word:</b> Genesis 37:2-11, 18-24, 26-36	Map—Canaan in Ancient Palestine, Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters, Reader's Theatre scripts (available at ResourceWell.org), optional: props
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Discussion</b>	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters
		<b>Christ Connection:</b> Matthew 5:21-24	
		<b>Golden Bowl</b>	
	Final 5	<b>Final Five Minutes</b>	Treasure Treat—Strip of colorful fabric (Joseph's robe), W <sup>3</sup> s, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song "Well Done," CD player
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	<b>Snack:</b> Sweet Dreams	Cereal, popcorn, or other snack people might eat before bedtime
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Pray Back Balloon Bop	Inflated non-helium balloon
	Up to 10	<b>Craft:</b> Pillow Message	Two pieces of 9-inch x 12-inch fabric or felt, pillow stuffing or shredded newspaper, craft glue, fine tip markers, markers, clothespins
	Up to 10	<b>Bible Memory Verse Activity:</b> Faithful with a Few Things	Bible or Bible Memory Verse Poster
	Up to 5	<b>Bible Memory Verse Activity:</b> Stepping Stones	Paper plates, markers
	Up to 5	<b>Bible Timeline Review</b>	Timeline

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

## THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.

**Meet & Greet Question: What is the best gift you have ever received?**

### **GAME: BIBLE MEMORY VERSE MESSAGE BALL**

**Purpose:** To review the Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** 2 hula hoops, 2 large foam balls, masking tape, marker, paper, scissors

**Prepare:** Write two copies of the Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse in large letters. Cut out each word to create two sets. Mix up the pieces of each set separately. Use masking tape to mark two start lines. Have assistants hold the hula hoops at an appropriate distance from the start line.

**Today, we will discover how God spoke to a teenager named Joseph in a very special way. God speaks to us, too. One way God speaks to us is through the Bible, His message to us. Our new Bible Memory Verse is from God's Word. Together, let's read God's message. Read.**

#### **Directions:**

1. Form two teams. Make sure each team has a good reader or a helper to assist.
2. Instruct each team to line up behind a start line. Give a ball to the first player on each team.
3. Place a set of Bible Memory Verse words next to each start line.
4. On your signal, the first player on each team tries to throw the ball through their team's hoop. If the ball goes through the hoop, the player retrieves the ball and gives it to the second player. Then, he or she picks up one piece of the Bible Memory Verse.
5. Players continue to take turns trying to earn Bible Memory Verse pieces by tossing the ball through the hoop.
6. When a team has collected all the Bible Memory Verse pieces, they must put the words in order and say the Bible Memory Verse together.
7. Continue until all teams have said the Bible Memory Verse.



## The God who speaks

# THE WORSHIP

**Teacher Tip:** To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting the offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play music as children move to the designated area.

**Welcome! Today, we worship the God who speaks to us. In today's story, we will read how God spoke to Joseph through his dreams and how He protected him from death.**



**As we give our offerings, let's think about the ways God speaks to us. He speaks to us through His written Word, His creation, and through those who love Him. His Holy Spirit helps us understand what God is saying to us.** Sing: "Spirit of the Living God" while the offering is collected.

Sing the Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Well Done."

You may also choose to sing songs that focus on God speaking to us.



**Let's ask God to help us hear and recognize His voice.** Read John 10:27-28.



Perform High Seas Adventures script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 8, Lesson 38.



## Joseph and his jealous brothers

# THE WORD

**Teacher Tip:** As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write his or her name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

**Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word; knowing God is my goal."**

**Last time, we learned about the life of Jacob. What happened when he met with Esau twenty years after tricking him? (Esau forgave him.) What did Jacob do one night to receive God's blessing? (Wrestled.) God had given Jacob the name, Israel. His family included his twelve sons who lived with him in the land of Canaan.** If a map of Ancient Palestine is available, point to Canaan. **Today, we will learn about Jacob's favorite son, Joseph, and his jealous brothers.** If a Bible Timeline is available, point to Joseph (Circa 1850 B.C.). For a Bible Timeline Review activity, see the GOT TIME? segment of this lesson.



**Let's play Find It First! Bring out your Bible; keep it right in front of you.** Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals the Bible Story Scripture reference: Genesis 37:2-11, 18-24, 26-36. **Let's see who can Find It First. Ready? Set? Go!** Children race to find it first. The winner helps others find it. **Let's highlight our Key Verse: Genesis 37:4.**

**Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts, and minds to His Word today. Who would like to pray that for us?** Child prays aloud. **Be seated.**

**READERS' THEATRE:** **Instead of reading our Bible passage, let's act it out.** Distribute the Readers' Theatre scripts (available at Resourcewell.org) to the children, assign roles, and hand out props. Read and act out Genesis 37:1-36.

**Optional:** The Readers' Theatre replaces the reading of the above Bible passages. The script directly quotes the passage. If you choose to omit the Readers' Theatre, read the Bible Story Scripture as follows: Genesis 37:2-11, 18-24, 26-36.



God speaks to us

## THE WAY

**What happened in Joseph's first dream?** (The other brothers' bundles of grain bowed to Joseph's bundle.) **What happened in the second dream?** (The sun, moon, and eleven stars bowed to Joseph.) **God used the dreams to speak to Joseph. What did Joseph's family think his dreams meant?** (They would one day bow down to and be ruled by Joseph.) **His dreams actually did tell the future. Next time, we will learn how they came true.**

**Can you think of some ways God speaks to us?** (Through the Bible, people, creation, prayer, etc.) **The Holy Spirit lives inside the heart of every believer. The Holy Spirit helps us understand what God is saying to us through the Bible, creation, and other people.**

**Sometimes, God may give a message that people do not like. How did Joseph's brothers feel about his dreams?** (They were angry.) **What else about Joseph made them angry?** (He was the only one to receive a beautiful robe from Jacob, their father.) **What did Joseph's jealous brothers do to him?** (Stripped him of his robe, threw him in a dry well, and sold him.) **How did God rescue Joseph?** (He sent the Ishmaelites to take Joseph to Egypt so he would not be left in the well to die.)

**What did Reuben, the oldest brother, want to do?** (Rescue Joseph.) **Even though he was angry with Joseph, he knew he had to take care of his little brother. Have you ever been jealous or angry with a brother, sister, or friend?** (Children respond.) **What did the angry brothers plot to do?** (Kill Joseph.) **Reuben and Judah both discouraged the plot to kill Joseph. Murder was against God's Law many centuries before God gave Moses the Ten Commandments. While the brothers did spare Joseph's life, they showed their hateful anger toward him by selling him into slavery in a different land.**



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Us

## CHRIST CONNECTION

**Over 1800 years after Joseph's brothers chose to hate him, Jesus said this type of anger represented the sin of murder. Check out what Jesus says about anger against your brother.**



**FIND IT FIRST** > Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: Matthew 5:21-24. **Let's see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it.** Read Matthew 5:21-24.

**What warning did Jesus give to those who are so angry with someone that they would call him or her insulting names?** (Children respond.) **Have you ever been so angry with someone that you hated and insulted him or her?** (Children respond.) **What does Jesus say to do about this?** (Do not worship God until you have reconciled (made peace).) **Is there someone with whom you should make peace before you worship God?** (Children respond.) **Jesus holds us responsible for our attitudes, as well as our words and actions. How will your life change after hearing what Jesus spoke about this?** (Children respond.)

# THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

## **GOLDEN BOWL**

**Teacher Tip:** Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

**Revelation 5:8 says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I will lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then, we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.**

**Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_. Read names in Golden Bowl.**

**Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

**TREASURE TREAT:** Today, your Treasure Treat is a strip of colorful cloth. Take it home and tell your family the story of Joseph and his colorful robe. Let this cloth remind you of the choice Jesus gave us to love and pray for our enemies.

**W<sup>3</sup>:** Take home today's W<sup>3</sup> Journal Entry as your personal devotional study. Keep your journal entries together in a notebook or in your Bible. Distribute W<sup>3</sup> Journal Entry #38. Complete this at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible!

**OFFERING OF ART:** Until it is time to be dismissed, let's make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of Joseph in his colorful robe. The Offering of Art can be finished at home or given as an offering for the teacher to display.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG:** Play the Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Well Done," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## **GOT TIME?**

### **SNACK: SWEET DREAMS**

**Purpose:** To enjoy a snack that reminds children that God spoke to Joseph through his dreams.

**Snack Suggestion:** Cereal, popcorn, or other snack people might eat before bedtime

**In Canaan, God spoke to Joseph in two dreams. Let's enjoy a snack that people might eat before they lay down to sleep and dream.**

**Directions:**

1. Hand out snacks and pour drink.
2. Ask a child to pray and thank God for the snack.
3. Ask the Snack Discussion Question: **"If you could choose one snack to have before bed, what would it be?"**

### **GAME: PRAY BACK BALLOON BOP**

**Purpose:** To demonstrate how to pray for those we envy.

**Supplies:** Inflated non-helium balloon

**What kinds of things bring up feelings of jealousy in you?** (Children respond.) **When you are jealous of someone, how do you treat them?** (Children respond.) **What do you say to others about them?** (Children respond.) **In this game, we discuss things that spark our jealousy and how we could respond by praying for that person instead of sinning against him or her.**

**Directions:**

1. Children line up in two parallel lines which are about 8 feet apart.
2. Child 1 in Line A describes something or someone that makes him or her jealous, such as "a girl who is popular," and then bops the balloon across to Child 1 in Line B.
3. Child 1 in Line B responds with a prayer suggestion, such as "pray for her to have a true best friend," and then bops the balloon across to Child 2 in Line A.
4. Repeat steps 2-3 moving down the line until all the children have played.
5. If time allows, play again and switch roles so Line B describes jealousy and Line A responds with prayer suggestions.



# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **CRAFT: PILLOW MESSAGE**

**Purpose:** For children to make pillows to help them remember God speaks to them.

**Supplies:** Two pieces of 9-inch x 12-inch fabric or felt, pillow stuffing or shredded newspaper, craft glue, fine tip markers, markers, clothespins

**Today, we discovered how God spoke to Joseph in two dreams. God speaks to us, too. What are some ways God speaks to us? (The Bible, people, God's world.) Let's make pillows to help us remember how God spoke to Joseph in a dream. Our pillows will have a message from God's Word, our new Bible Memory Verse, Matthew 25:23. As we lay down to sleep each night, we can think about how God has spoken to us that day.**

### **Directions:**

1. Use a fine tip marker to write the Bible Memory Verse on the top half of one piece of fabric.
2. Use markers to decorate the fabric.
3. Put a line of craft glue along three edges of the back of each piece of fabric. Press the two pieces of fabric together so the Bible Memory Verse is showing on top and the sides are glued. This should form a pocket.
4. Secure the sides with clothespins to keep them in place while the glue dries.
5. Stuff the pillow with pillow stuffing or shredded newspaper.
6. Put a line of craft glue along the open end of the pocket and press the edges together.
7. Secure the edge with clothespins to keep it in place while the glue dries.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*



## **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES**

“Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!” Matthew 25:23

### **DISCUSSION: FAITHFUL WITH A FEW THINGS**

**Purpose:** To help children understand the Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** Bible or Bible Memory Verse Poster

**In our Bible Memory Verse, Jesus is telling a parable. The master promises to put his servant in charge of many things because he has been faithful in doing a few small things well. What is a small thing you do very well? (Children respond.) What is one way you faithfully obey God? (Children respond.)**

**In this parable, the master stands for God and the servant stands for someone who loves and serves God. Jesus is telling us how God will reward our faithfulness by putting us in charge of many things. The greatest reward we will receive is sharing in God’s happiness! How would you feel if you heard God say to you, “Well done, good and faithful servant!”? (Children respond.)**

### **GAME: STEPPING STONES**

**Purpose:** Children will walk across “stepping stones” to learn the Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** Paper plates, markers

**Prepare:** Write the Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse on paper plates, one word per plate. Place the plates word side up and in order on the floor.

**Directions:**

1. Children step on the plates in order, saying each word as they step.
2. Play the game again, but this time turn over a few of the plates so children must remember the missing words when they step on those plates.
3. Repeat step 2 until all the plates are upside down and children are able to say the Bible Memory Verse from memory.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*



## BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

God of Wonders Part Two studies the miracles and stories of the Bible from Genesis through Joshua. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and what He has done.

**Isaac and Rebekah** **Who did Abraham send to find a wife for Isaac?** (His chief servant.) **What happened when the servant arrived at the well?** (He prayed for God's sign to be a woman who gave water to him and his camels.) **What was the name of the wife the servant found for Isaac?** (Rebekah.)

**Jacob and Esau (Circa 1900 B.C.)** **What did Jacob do to Esau?** (He tricked him out of his birthright. He took his blessing by tricking their father Isaac into giving it to him.) **What did Jacob dream about when he ran away from Esau?** (Angels on a ladder going to heaven.) **What did Jacob do the whole night before he reunited with Esau?** (He wrestled with a mysterious man until God gave him a blessing.)

**Joseph (Circa 1850 B.C.)** **What did Jacob give his son Joseph?** (A colorful robe.) **Why was Joseph's family upset by his dreams?** (The dreams predicted the family would bow down to Joseph.) **What did Joseph's jealous brothers do to him?** (They threw him in an empty well and sold him into slavery.)

### **How to create a Bible Timeline from Genesis through Joshua:**

1. Print each scroll on sturdy paper.
2. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the timeline.
3. Before each lesson, add the scroll for that lesson to the Bible Timeline using the list below. Add the two Unit 10 cards for God of Wonders Advent: Lessons 48-52.
4. To review the Bible Timeline, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated scroll.

Genesis through Joshua: Creation > Adam and Eve > Cain and Abel > Noah (Circa 2350 B.C.) > Tower of Babel > Abram (Circa 2100 B.C.) > Hagar and Ishmael (Circa 2065 B.C.) > Abraham and Isaac (Circa 2050 B.C.) > Isaac and Rebekah > Jacob and Esau (Circa 1900 B.C.) > Joseph (Circa 1850 B.C.) > Moses (Circa 1500 B.C.) > Joshua (Circa 1450 B.C.)

**Unit 10:** John the Baptist (Circa 7-2 B.C.) > Jesus on Earth (Circa 2 B.C.-33 A.D.)