

Old Testament

Joseph's coat & dream

Genesis 37:1-36

Younger Verse

Ask and it will be given to you. Matthew 7:7

Older Verse

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. Matthew 7:7

Teachers: This new unit is designed to help your children understand some of the stories in the Old Testament. Each lesson will have both Old Testament and New Testament passages.

PLEASE remember to always include the New Testament verses—this helps each child see how God's ultimate plan was fulfilled in Christ!

Welcome Time

Have you ever gotten something special from someone—something no one else received? Didn't it make you feel wonderful! Today's lesson is about a special gift and what happened when others found out. Listen and try to tell me what the gift was.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Jacob was the father of 12 sons. One was named Joseph. Jacob loved Joseph very much. One day Jacob said, "I will make a coat for Joseph. When he sees the coat, he will know how much I love him."

So Jacob said to the helpers who took care of his sheep: "Shear the sheep so that I can have wool to make a coat for Joseph."

Jacob dyed the wool using different colors. He cut the coat just the right size for Joseph. Then he sewed the coat together. When the coat was finished, Jacob called Joseph.

Joseph ran to see what his father wanted. Jacob showed Joseph the beautiful coat.

Joseph looked at the coat and smiled. He took the coat and put it on. It was so pretty. He told his father thank you for the coat. He loved the coat and ran to show his brothers.

Well, his brothers became very jealous. They thought Jacob loved Joseph best.

One day Joseph had a dream. In the dream, all of Joseph's brothers bowed down to him. When the brothers heard this, they were furious. [This made the brothers hate Joseph even more.]

Lesson Goals

Describe what happens to Joseph
List ways we can be nice even when others are mean
Explain what Jesus did for us

One day Joseph was sent to give his brothers a message while they were out in the fields. When the brothers saw him coming, they decided to kill Joseph. The oldest son Reuben convinced them to throw Joseph in a well (then he was going to get him out secretly later). Suddenly, a group of people came by. Joseph's brothers decided to sell Joseph into slavery. They took the money and waved goodbye to Joseph as he was going to Egypt to be a slave.

Next, the brothers ripped up the coat and put blood on it. They took it back to their father. They lied and told him that an animal had killed Joseph.

Jacob was so upset. He was very sad about what happened.

What can we learn from this story? How does it relate to Jesus?

Did you notice how the brothers acted? Name some things they did. When we have people that try to hurt us, what does the Bible say we should do? Why is it so hard?

God understands how hard it is to be nice even when others are mean to you. Jesus suffered lots—he was beaten, spit on, whipped, cursed at, laughed at, then he was nailed to a cross. He knows how hard it is to do good even when others do wrong. The best thing is that Jesus made a choice to do right. He did something even greater too.

Jesus died on a cross for all the bad things we did. He loved us so much that He did that for us—even when we were doing wrong. He loved us and chose to die so that we can have life with Him if we trust Him with our lives. That's the best news in the world!

Next week we'll learn what happened to Joseph. It's exciting!

Learning Activities

There are lots of activity pages and crafts for today. A fun idea is to take a big paper sack and cut it into a coat.

Memory Verse Activities

Play hide and seek and talk about what it means to "seek" God in the verse. Knock on a door and share how God will always answer.

Prayer Time

Joseph probably prayed to God in his scary situation. God answered, but it was a different answer for Joseph. God knows how best to help us. He wants us to pray and ask Him for help. Take time to pray, asking for help from God.

Snack Time/CleanUp

How are the kids enjoying snacks. Is there a way you can improve the snack time? Are there some children that would benefit from being helpers? Think about ways to help the kids learn responsibility.

Planning for April 4th (Daylight Savings Time)
Joseph's brothers go to Egypt
Genesis 42-45

Preschool Lesson
For
Joseph's coat and dream

Have a coat to put on or make sack "coats" for the kids to wear during the story.

Jacob was the father of 12 sons. (Count to 12 with the kids) One was named Joseph. Jacob loved Joseph very much. One day Jacob said, "I will make a coat for Joseph. When he sees the coat, he will know how much I love him."

So Jacob told his helpers that he needed special wool to make a coat for Joseph." (Make sure the kids know that wool comes from sheep)

Jacob dyed the wool using different colors. He cut the coat just the right size for Joseph. Then he sewed the coat together. (Pretend that you are sewing with a needle) When the coat was finished, Jacob called Joseph.

Joseph ran to see what his father wanted. Jacob showed Joseph the beautiful coat.

Joseph looked at the coat and smiled. He took the coat and put it on. It was so pretty. (Have kids put on coat.) He told his father "thank you" for the coat. He loved the coat and ran to show his brothers.

Well, his brothers became very jealous. (Make mean face) They thought Jacob loved Joseph best.

One day Joseph had a dream. In the dream, all of Joseph's brothers bowed down to him. (Bow down as you tell this part) When the brothers heard this, they were furious. [This made the brothers hate Joseph even more.]

One day Joseph was sent to give his brothers a message while they were out in the fields. When the brothers saw him coming, they decided to kill Joseph. The oldest son Reuben asked them to throw Joseph in a well (then he was going to get him out secretly later). Suddenly, a group of people came by. Joseph's brothers decided to sell Joseph into slavery. They took the money and waved goodbye to Joseph as he was going to Egypt to be a slave.

Next, the brothers ripped up the coat and put blood on it. They took it back to their father. They lied and told him that an animal had killed Joseph.

God took care of Joseph. God had a special plan for Joseph and we will learn about part of it next week.

God wants us to love our brothers and sisters. Let's pray and ask God to help us love others and be nice to everyone this week.

Hands-On Activities
For
Joseph's Coat and Dream

Serve Rainbow Wafers to remember the colorful coat. For more fun, spread frosting between two cookies and eat.

Make paper sack coats. Another idea is to paint a jacket or "paint" a T-shirt with markers.

Make a picture book of all the kids wearing a "coat of many colors." This will be a fun thing for the kids to remember and also a great way for you to pray for each child. Each week as you tell another story about Joseph, take another photograph to put in the book. For example: dropping his coat as he is running away, wearing jail clothes, wearing a robe and ring when he helped the pharaoh.

Preschooler can make a touch/feel book about Joseph over the next few weeks. Cut colorful fabric for the coat, or scratchy material etc.

There are fun paper activities to make in the packet. One idea is to make a paper picture of a coat using paint. Bring buttons to glue on the coat.

God wants us to love our brothers and sisters, even when they are mean or hurtful to you. Talk about ways that you can love them.

God does not play favorites. Joseph's brothers were jealous because they thought their father loved him best. God tells us that He loves all people. In fact, He loves all people so much that He wants us to be in Heaven with Him one day. Talk about how a person can get to Heaven.

Tint powdered sugar with several colors of food coloring. Mix well to make pretty colors. Now, spread butter on bread and toast. Sprinkle with several colors of powdered sugar to look like a colorful "coat."
