



3RD - 5TH

3.3
Joseph Taken to Egypt



CONNECT TIME

Greet kids by name and play table games as kids arrive. Be sure to welcome any new families. Ask kids: **Have you ever been blamed for something that you didn't do? What was the situation? How did it make you feel?**



IN MY DREAM

Start by 9:20/10:45

Instruct the kids to sit in a large circle. Explain that they are going to describe a "dream story" by each adding parts of the dream. Tell kids that they must repeat the parts of the "dream story" previously said before they add their part. Choose a kid to start the "dream story" and lead him to say, "In my dream, [his part]." For example, he may say, "In my dream, I saw a purple elephant." Then the next kid might say, "In my dream, I saw a purple elephant who had blue wings." Go around the circle until all of the kids have recalled each part of the dream and added their part.

Sometimes we can dream some pretty unusual stuff! Today, we will hear about a dream that Joseph had and how this dream made his brothers jealous. We'll also learn how Joseph was able to interpret dreams through God's help. These dreams are one way we'll see how God was always with Joseph and blessed him.

START BY
9:30/10:55

REVIEW **3** BE, LISTEN, FOLLOW



LARGE GROUP

SMALL GROUP

Before the lesson, ask kids to find an 'elbow' partner to sit with and do activities.
If there's an extra person, make a group of three.



BIBLE REVIEW

Distribute Bibles and show the kids how to use the Table of Contents to quickly find a specific book in the Bible. Then guide kids to open their Bibles to Genesis 37. Read Genesis 37:28 together as a group, all reading aloud at the same time.

Kids can discuss this question with their "elbow partner": When the brothers betrayed Joseph and sold him into slavery what were they given? (Answer: 20 pieces of silver)

Ask kids to look up Matthew 26:14-16 with their partners to answer this question: "When Judas betrayed Jesus what did they give him?" (Answer: 30 pieces of silver)

How were Joseph and Jesus both betrayed? Joseph was betrayed by his brothers and Jesus was betrayed by His friend, Judas. Both betrayals were wrong, but God still used them for His good plan.

How did God use those betrayals for good? God used Joseph's situation to save many people from a famine. God used Jesus' betrayal and death on the cross to save us from our sins. Jesus is like a greater Joseph—He obeyed God's plan and gave His life so we can be forgiven.



DISCUSSION

Students can continue to “turn and talk” with their partner on these questions before discussing as a whole group (there can be one group of three if needed).

God was always with Joseph and blessed him. How has God shown that He is always with you? Answers will vary. Think how God provides for you, helps you, and comforts you. He has proven His love for us through Jesus and gives us the promises of His presence forever when we trust in Jesus. (Read John 14:16-17)

Why don’t we need to seek revenge when someone wrongs us? Many terrible things happened to Joseph, but he never sought revenge. Joseph even said he was not in the place of God to judge sin. (Genesis 50:19) Remember God is in control, and He alone is Judge. (Read 1 Peter 3:9.)

How did Joseph show forgiveness? Why should we forgive others? Joseph treated his brothers with kindness. He forgave them, made sure they had food, and gave them a safe place to live in Egypt. In the same way, God made a way for us to be forgiven. Even when we might want to stay angry or hold a grudge, God has shown us grace—and He helps us show that same grace to others. (Read Ephesians 4:32.)



OUR BEST GOOD

Form kids into two or three and provide them with a piece of paper and a pen. Challenge groups to think of items many people would consider valuable or important. Then have kids write down as many items as they can. For example, kids may write cell phones, money, house, car, fame, job, freedom, education, etc. Invite each group to take turns sharing their lists with everyone. Discuss how people might react if these items were taken away.

The world tells us to treasure lots of things—like toys, clothes, or gadgets. Those things aren’t necessarily bad, but they aren’t what’s truly best. Joseph lost his freedom and everything he owned, but he still trusted God. Joseph knew his greatest treasure wasn’t stuff on earth—it was having God with him.

The same is true for us. When we believe in Jesus, we receive the best gift ever: God Himself. Even if we lose everything else, God is always with us. And when we have Him, we have everything we truly need.



Key Passage: You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. Genesis 50:20



Take prayer requests and allow kids to pray.



Match parent pick-up numbers, with child name tag numbers.

Build relationships with parents, encourage them to take a picture of the parent recap page to go over on the ride home.