



Kindergarten-2nd

July 4-5, 2015

DATE

Joseph

LESSON TITLE

Genesis 37-48; Jeremiah 29:11

WHERE TO FIND IT

God wants our obedience.

MAIN POINT

schedule

Connect Time (15 minutes): Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

Large Group (30 minutes): Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

Small Group (15 minutes): Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you *all* have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

tips

We're starting an outdoor theme today! **Make sure the loop on the 1st slide of the Keynote is playing throughout the hour** (except during Large Group), even during Connect Time and Small Group when they arrive (you can still have iTunes playing in the background).

check-in/out

As kids leave, make sure you put the outdoor loop back on the Keynote screen (slide 1). It'll hopefully spark conversation between parents and kids!

large group heads up

Today is about how God wants us to obey him, even when it's hard. Sometimes his plan for us includes suffering! We won't talk about suffering overtly with kids but as you think about the story of Joseph, consider the challenge Joseph might have faced to continue following God during trials.



connect time

GOAL: *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

RED AND GREEN WOULD YOU RATHER

**This should be played as one large group. You can split into small groups at the end, right before Large Group.*

- Two adult leaders should stand on opposite sides of the room. One will hold a **piece of red paper**, one a **piece of green paper**.
- One adult leader will read a series of questions. Kids will answer by choosing the RED side of the room or the GREEN side of the room. They will get special instructions on *how* to move and have a chance to share ideas with each other.
- Here are the questions and instructions:
 - Would you rather hike in the woods (red) or roll down a hill (green)?
 - Pretend to hike to get to the hiking (red) or rolling (green) side of the room.
 - Have kids tell a friend who went to the same side: why or why not?
 - Would you rather sleep in a tent (red) or outside on the ground (green)?
 - Make a tent shape with your hands and skip to the side of the room to answer.
 - Have kids tell a friend who went to the same side: why or why not?
 - Would you rather eat hot dogs (red) or marshmallows (green)?
 - Pretend to gather sticks for a fire as you go to the side of the room of your choice.
 - Have kids tell a friend who went to the same side: why did you choose that food?
 - Would you rather be outside in winter (red) or summer (green)?
 - Pretend to be cold if you like winter and hot if you prefer summer.
 - Have kids tell a friend who went to the same side: why did you choose that season?
 - Would you like to dance in the rain (red) or carry an umbrella (green)?
 - "Dance" to the side of the room you prefer
 - Have kids tell a friend who went to the same side: why did you choose to go out into the rain or stay dry?
- Now split into small groups and ask:
 - What do you guys do outdoors? What do you like/dislike about being outside? (Be careful not to assume kids have had certain experiences. Let them share with you.)

Before you go to Large Group, you can ask kids how their week went. You can also remind kids of the expectations for Large Group behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) recall hard things Joseph faced while following God, (2) recognize that obeying God will sometimes be hard (3) understand that we should obey God anyway.

Why? There are a lot of layers to this story. If kids understand that we should obey God because he has a big plan, that's a win.

Tip: Be really honest about a time you've had to obey God.

small group

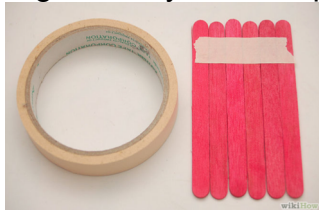
REVIEW THE STORY

***You may want to begin taping popsicle sticks while you discuss (see below!)**

1. When do you think it was easy for Joe to obey God?
2. When do you think it was hard for Joe to obey God?
3. Why did bad things happen to Joe even though he obeyed God? (God knew the ending and had a big plan)
4. When is it easy for you to follow God? When is it hard?
5. Why should we follow God's plan, even when it is hard?

MAKE IT PERSONAL

- Give each kid **8 popsicle sticks**.
- Lay the popsicle sticks out flat. Give kids **one piece of tape** to connect them, like this (for younger kids, you can tape it for them):



- **Turn the popsicle sticks over** so that the tape is facing down.
- **ASK:** what's one way you can obey God this week? (could be what they heard from God during the response time or help them with ideas: tell the truth, forgive somebody who hurt you, share with others, obey your parents, or even talk to God.)
- Have kids draw a picture of themselves doing that hard thing.
- Remove piece of tape and let kids reassemble as a puzzle. (Give kids a **plastic bag** to store the pieces in.)

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For reference, puzzles will look something like this:



****Pray together, asking God to help kids obey him this week. Remind kids that just like a hiking stick helps us during hard parts on a mountain, God wants to help us obey him even when it's hard!***

Give kids a **mountain coloring page**. Review the verse with kids and remind them that God has good plans for them! If you still have extra time, play another game of Would You Rather. You can let kids come up with options. Or play Red Light Green Light using the paper from Connect Time.

special notes

There will be several elements repeated during the month of July as a part of the great outdoors series:

- An item on-screen from backpack to get kids into the story
- “Set the scene” to help kids imagine themselves in a particular environment
- Learn Jeremiah 29:11

presenter tips

Obeying God is a lot easier said than done. We want kids to be prepared to be obedient even when they don't feel like it. Hopefully the story of Joseph will show them God knows what he's doing.

script

*Click to play intro music

Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. It's great to see you here! I'm excited because all of our lessons this month are going to have an “outdoors” theme. That's why we talked a lot about things we do outside. Whether you have camped in the woods or just looked outside at the sky, we all have seen some part of nature. So I want to hear from you guys: what are some of your favorite things to do outside? (Let 4-5 kids share quickly.)

Those sound pretty fun. But I bet we have things we dislike doing outside too. You might have heard something in our “Would You Rather” game that sounded terrible! What kind of outdoor things do you dislike? (Let kids respond.) Ugh, you're right.

You know, a lot of stuff in life has parts we like and parts we dislike, easy parts...and hard parts. Even obeying God! Sometimes it's easy...and sometimes it's hard. Today, we're going to hear more about that.

WHAT'S IN THE BACKPACK?

To help us get excited for today's story, we're going to pretend we're going on a journey outside. If we camp or walk in the woods or even just play outside, we sometimes need special items, don't we? What are some of the things you take outside with you? (Let kids say: sunscreen, towel, bug spray, tent, etc.) That's right.

For the next few weeks, we're going to pull one item out of our **backpack** that will help us understand part of God's story. Are you guys ready to see what we need for today? Let's check it out! (**Click to show a picture of our hiking stick.**)

Does anybody know what this is? (Let kids respond.) Yep, a hiking stick. Why do we use this? (Let kids respond.) That's right, we need it if we are going to walk somewhere steep or rocky,



script continued

like on a mountain. When it's hard to walk, a hiking stick can help!

SET THE SCENE: HIKING

(Click to show the mountain hiker image.) So we've got our hiking stick. Now let's all pretend we're on a break during a big hike. A lot of us have never seen a mountain or gone for a hike on a steep trail, but that's okay! We're all going to imagine it right now. So lay down, close your eyes and imagine with me....

(Click to play the night sounds.) Pretend you've had a long day of hiking. Your legs are aching! Maybe you even twisted your ankle a little—ow! You stop, and all you can hear are bugs and birds and the sounds of the mountain. (Pause to listen.) It's peaceful but a little scary. You don't know what kinds of animals are out there.

(Click to show night camping scene.) Since it's dark and getting cold, you build your fire and rub your hands over it to keep warm. You can feel the wind blowing softly on your skin. (Pause.) Great! Now open your eyes and sit back up (let kids respond).

Let's think about that for a second. What kind of things would you LIKE about hiking up a mountain? (Let kids respond. You can give them hints.) And what kinds of things would be HARD? (Let kids respond. You can give them hints.)

OBEYING GOD HAS EASY AND HARD PARTS

So playing outside has good parts and hard parts. Hiking up a mountain has easy parts and hard parts. And there are lots of other things like that in life! Like...school. Does school have easy parts and hard parts? (Let kids respond.) Yep, sure does. Now let's talk about how obeying God has easy parts and hard parts.

To do that, we're going to watch a video about a guy named Joseph. He obeyed God and God had a big plan for him. As you watch, see if you can figure out if it was EASY or HARD to obey God.

Video: God's Story: Joseph

KID RESPONSES: Wow, so let's play our red and green game again. (Hold up the **red paper**): If you think it was mostly HARD to obey God, go to this side of the room. (Hold up the **green paper** with your other hand.) If you think it was mostly EASY for Joseph to obey God, go to this side of the room. (Let kids choose sides. Then ask 1-2 kids from each side to choose WHY they said it was hard or easy.)

SUMMARIZE: Yeah, it can be really hard to follow God sometimes. Joseph had to trust him even when his brothers almost killed him, when he was a servant, when he was blamed for something he didn't do, and when he was in jail! But... God really had a good plan, didn't he? What was God's big plan for Joseph? (Let kids respond.) Yes, God used Joseph to save many lives, including God's family in Egypt. Now have a seat (let kids sit).



script continued

WHY HARD THINGS HAPPEN EVEN WHEN WE OBEY

Sometimes it's hard to understand why bad things happen when we're obeying God and following his plan! Here to help us out is our friend Shrimpola. Let's see what he has to say. As you watch, see if you can figure out why bad things happened to Joseph while he was following God's plan.

Video: Ask Shrimpola: Joseph

So why do hard things happen sometimes, even when we are obeying God? (Kids might have a hard time with this. You can let them respond or you can summarize for them.) That's right, God knows the ending! He has a BIG plan for us. We can show him we trust him by obeying.

So is following God *always* going to be easy? (Let kids say: No!) Should we do it anyway? (Let kids say: Yes!) And to remind us that God knows the ending and has a good plan for us, we're going to memorize a verse from Jeremiah 29:11 in the Bible:

SLIDE: For I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.

Let's read that out loud together. Repeat after me: (lead the kids in saying it out loud but break it into smaller, repeatable parts). Great job!

RESPOND AND PRAY

Let's take some time to talk to God about this. (Have kids lie down, **click to play another slide with stars and night sounds.**) Think about how following God can be hard sometimes. Maybe it's hard for you to tell the truth, forgive somebody who hurt you, share with others, obey your parents, or even talk to God. God will help us obey him, even when it's hard!

Ask him to help you obey him this week. We're going to take a few minutes of silence as you talk to God in your head. (Give kids silence. Then wrap up with something like this: God, we know that sometimes following you will be easy but sometimes it will be hard. Thanks for having a good plan for us. Help us to trust you and obey you even when it's hard.)

WORSHIP

Now let's stand and thank God that he has a good plan for us no matter what. And even if it's hard and scary, we can obey him.

Song: Who I Am

Song: I'm Not Afraid

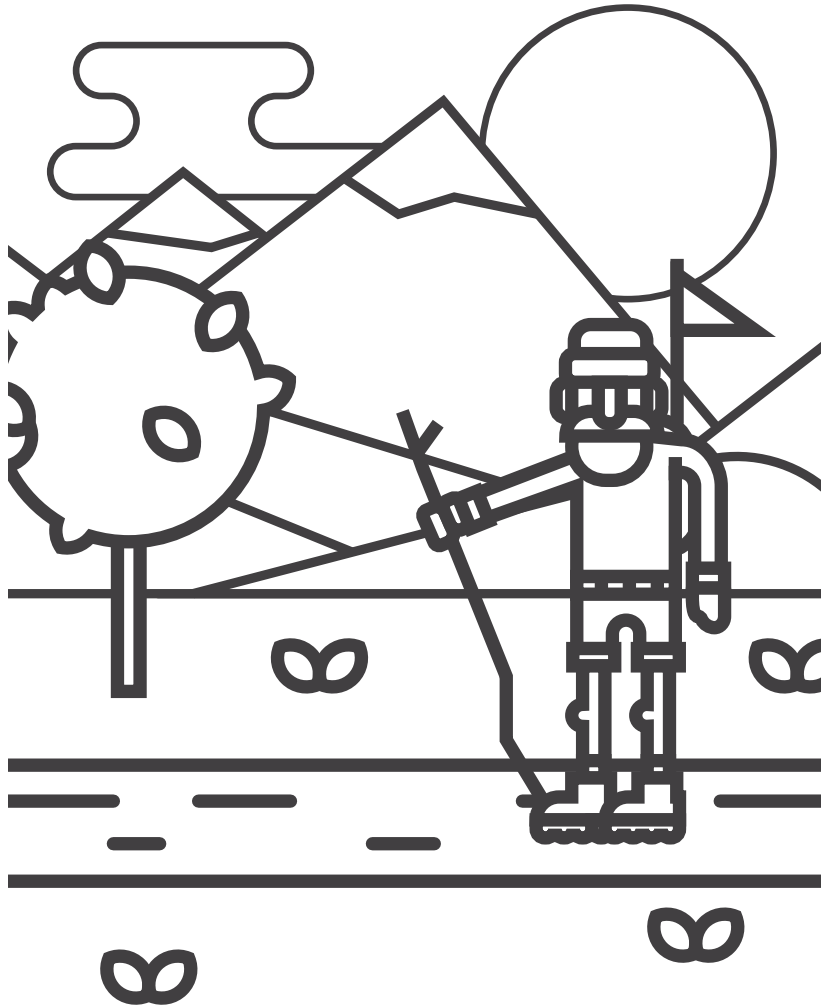
**Dismiss kids to small groups.*



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PREP needs



connect time supplies

Per Room

- 1 piece of red construction paper
- 1 piece of green construction paper

small group supplies

Per kid

- coloring page
- 8 popsicle sticks
- Mountain coloring page
- 1 ziploc bag (that can fit the popsicle sticks in it)

Per group

- roll of masking tape/group
- Markers
- 1 Bible

large group supplies

Bible

- 1 piece of red construction paper
- 1 piece of green construction paper

backpack (used all month)

a/v needs

1. Slide: Great Outdoors loop
2. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
3. Image: hiking stick
4. Image: mountain hiker
5. Night sky and sounds: the first minute of this:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jzN3yJXlWrg>
6. Camping scene:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HzpzvAPj1kw>
7. Video: God's Story / Joseph (<https://vimeo.com/66760375>)
8. Video: Ask Shrimpola / Joseph (<https://vimeo.com/71261647>)
9. SLIDE: For I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.
10. Night sky again (same image and sounds as slide #2; the first minute of this: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jzN3yJXlWrg>)
11. Music Video: Who I Am (<https://vimeo.com/9860987>)
12. Music Video: I'm Not Afraid (<https://vimeo.com/121403086>)
- 13.

connect questions

- Tell me about Joseph.
- When did Joseph obey God?

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