



3rd-5th

March 11-12, 2017

DATE

I Am Journey Week 5: Joseph

LESSON TITLE

Genesis 27-48; Psalm 139:13-14

WHERE TO FIND IT

We can follow God.

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

Looking for an easy win? Pull out a board game, or Legos, and invite a new kid to play with you! It will help relieve the awkwardness of them trying to find something to do, and will give you an opportunity to get to know them better.

check-in/out

As kids leave, ask them about their mini books, and what they wrote/drew inside them!

large group heads up

Week 5 of the **I AM Journey** is about the story of Joseph. It's quite a rollercoaster! But God used everything in Joseph's life for good. Joseph's story shows us how trustworthy God is, that he has a bigger plan in mind, and that we can follow him no matter what happens!

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.*

GROWING GESTURES

- Break up into **small groups** (If one adult has to lead several groups, that's OK.)
- Choose a leader to make up a gesture (Any type of movement will do—a head nod, a shrug, sticking one arm in the air, a silly face, standing up then sitting down, etc.)
- Move around the circle clockwise. The second person must mimic the leader's movement and add his/her own. The third person must repeat the first *and* second person's *and* his/her own.
- Continue adding motions as each kid takes their turn in the circle. This should become very difficult and very silly!
- *Alternative way to play:* If kids seem shy, put them in pairs and let groups of two make up and mimic gestures.

TALK ABOUT IT

- What was hard about that game?
- What was the silliest motion you had to do?

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) understand why Joseph was able to follow God throughout his life, even when bad things happened, (2) recognize that following God is part of our real identity and (3) identify a specific step they can take this week to follow Jesus.

Why? Actions are a natural result of beliefs! So when we believe that our identity comes from God, that means we can follow God with our actions!

Tip: Encourage kids to come up with a specific example of following God in today's activity. Something tangible that they can do this week!

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. Share your favorite part of today's story—or one part that surprised you.
2. How did God rescue Joseph throughout his life? How did he turn the "bad" into "good"? *(After Joseph was sold into slavery, he was put in charge of the household. After he was thrown in jail, he was put in charge of other prisoners and then began to help people understand their dreams; then Pharaoh put him in charge of Egypt's food and he helped rescue God's family, and his brothers!)*
3. How did Joseph follow God? Do you think it was hard? Why?
4. If you were Joseph, would you have kept following God during the bad times? Why or why not?
5. Is it ever hard for YOU to follow God? Why?
6. What's one specific way you can follow Jesus this week? *(You can bring up baptism and explain that this is how we publicly declare that we want to follow Jesus, and that lots of people are getting baptized this weekend!)*

MAKE IT PERSONAL

- **Say:** The coolest part about following God is that he made us each different, so we can follow him in all kinds of different ways. Think about how God made you, and the gifts he's given you.
- **Ask:** What specific ways could you follow God that other people might not? Remember, it might not always be easy! *(Here's some examples to share: If you like to play soccer, maybe you can follow him by being kind to your teammates, or helping out a teammate who's struggling. If you have siblings, maybe God wants you to show kindness to them, even when they aren't kind to you. Maybe tell the truth, forgive somebody who hurt you, share with others, obey your parents, or talk to God, etc.)*

(Continued on next page.)

- Give each kid a **template** (It has 4 rectangles on it.)
- Tell them to **fold it in half once** (So that there's two rectangles on each side).
- Now **fold it in half again** (Now it should look like a miniature book, with a rectangle on each page. See below.)

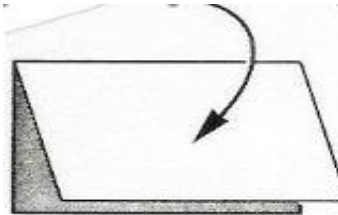


Fig. 17A

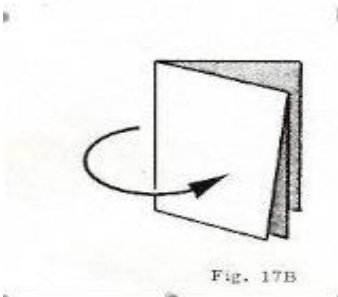


Fig. 17B

- Now, have kids draw a picture or write down (in their book) how they're going to follow God this week.
- If there's time, have kids share what they wrote/drew.

Extra time? Go around the circle and one sentence (and kid) at a time, make up a funny story about a bad day that gets worse and worse...then turns and gets better! Go back and forth between good and bad things happening in the story.

special notes

Today's lesson ends with an opportunity to lay out the Gospel to kids, and give them time to respond to the fact that Jesus died to rescue us. Make sure to leave time for the response activity!

presenter tips

Here's a link to today's Kids' Club videos:

God's Story: Joseph

<https://vimeo.com/66760375>

script

WELCOME AND WORSHIP

Main Goal: Review Connect Time and introduce the lesson.

Notes:

**Click to play intro music.*

- **Welcome:** Hey everybody, welcome to Kids' Club! It's great to see you here today. Before we get started, we're going to take a minute and talk to God.
- **Pray:** God, thanks for bringing us to Kids' Club today. We want you to show us how much you love us, and how we can follow you. Amen!
- **Say:** Alright, let's kick things off with some worship! This song is called "I'm Yours" and it's all about how we belong to a loving creator—God! So everybody stand up, and let's sing and dance with as much energy as possible!
- **Music Video:** I'm Yours
- **Ask:** Great job; you can sit back down. How did you all like the game from Connect Time? Did anybody have trouble doing all the motions that other people came up with? Why? (Let kids respond.) Yep, you had to memorize and do exactly what the kids did before you! You had to follow them by doing what they did.
- **Ask:** Can you think of any other times in life when you have to follow people? Maybe at home, or at school? (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** Yep, we all have to follow people sometimes. Sometimes it's fun and silly, like today, but sometimes it might be hard too.

WE ALL HAVE BAD DAYS

Main Goal: Describe what it's like to go through hard things!

- **Say:** Today we'll hear about a guy named Joseph who followed God, even though he was going through some REALLY hard times. He followed God through good days...and a lot of bad days too.
- **Say:** Let's talk about bad days for a minute. Bad days are the worst, aren't they? Let's watch a quick video of a cat who's not having a very good day...
- **Video: Cat Jump Fail (30 seconds)**
- **Ask:** Yikes! That was pretty funny, but I would not want to be that cat! Let's switch gears, and let me tell you about a bad day I had (Give an example of a bad day you've had.)
- **Say:** How about you guys? Has anybody had a bad day...one that just made you *miserable*? (Let kids respond.) Yeah, we all have them sometimes. Unfortunately, bad/hard days are a part of life. Sometimes we even have a whole lot of bad days in a row.

INTRO: JOSEPH

Main Goal: Introduce Joseph, and give an overview of how he followed God in the midst of really hard times.

- **Say:** If anybody understands having a bad day, it's Joseph. His life seemed to be going really great: he was his dad's favorite son, he got special gifts, and life was AWESOME. But some really *not-great* things were about to happen.
- **Say:** We're going to watch a video about Joseph, and see how God turned his bad days into good ones. As you watch, see if you can figure out why he trusted and followed God, even when his life was really hard.
- **Video: God's Story / Joseph**
- **Say:** So how do you think he was able to keep obeying and following God that whole time? (Let kids speculate.) I think you're right. He trusted that God had a bigger plan. And even after so many bad days, he was actually able to say that God used them for *good*. Has anybody ever been able to call a bad day "good" before? (Let kids respond.) It's pretty hard, isn't it?

JOSEPH'S GOOD DAYS

Main Goal: Describe Joseph's life when things were going "good"!

- **Say:** Let's go over some of the amazing things that happened. First, what *good* things happened in Joseph's life? (Let kids respond, then summarize with the following.)
- **Say:** Yeah, he was his dad's favorite, Potiphar put Joseph in charge of his whole house, the guard put Joseph in charge of the other prisoners, God helped Joseph understand what dreams meant, Pharaoh put Joseph in charge of Egypt, and God used Joseph to save his special family!

JOSEPH'S BAD DAYS

Main Goal: Describe Joseph's life when things were going "bad"!

- **Ask:** Now what happened that might have been *hard* for Joseph? (Let kids respond, then summarize with the following.)
- **Say:** Yep, his brothers hated him because they were jealous, and they sold him as a slave. Somebody lied about him and he was sent to jail for something he didn't do. Then he had to stay in jail for years. Joseph's life would seem GREAT one minute (use an upbeat tone)....then it would be not so great the next. (Switch your tone.)

GOD HAD A BIGGER PLAN

Main Goal: Understand that God had a rescue plan in mind, and he wanted Joseph to be a part of it.

- **Ask:** So why was Joseph able to say that God used all this for good? (Let kids speculate.)
- **(Image: Joseph and God's family)** Yep, God used Joseph to save his family. And Joseph ended up being one of the most powerful people in all of Egypt, even though he was sold as a slave and thrown into jail!
- **Say:** You see, Joseph knew that God had a bigger plan. That's why he trusted and followed God no matter what happened. Because even though it may have seemed like everything was going wrong, God was behind the scenes the whole time, planning for his family to be rescued!

OUR PURPOSE IS TO FOLLOW GOD

Main Goal: Understand that God made Joseph so that he could follow him and help rescue his family, and that God made US to follow him too!

- **Say:** Joseph knew that God created him and loved him, and wanted the best for him. And it's the same with us. We can trust and follow God because he loves us and wants the best for us. He created us each with a special purpose in mind, and part of that purpose is to follow him!
- **Say:** Let's read our verse for this month; it talks all about the special way God made us.
- **Slide: Psalm 139:13-14** You created the deepest parts of my being. You put me together inside my mother's body. How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well.
- **Say:** You see, God created us all uniquely, and that means we can follow him in lots of different ways!
- **Ask:** So what ways do you think God wants YOU to follow him, right now? (Let kids respond.) Maybe he wants you to show love to people who need it. Maybe he wants you spend time with him, and tell him about your struggles. Maybe he wants you to tell others about Jesus, or invite a friend to Kids' Club!

RESPONSE TIME

Main Goal: Give kids a chance to actively respond to what they've heard today.

- **Ask:** There's one way to follow God that's probably the most important thing we could ever do. Anybody want to take a guess? (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** Here it is: Believing that Jesus came to the world to rescue us from all the wrong things that happen. Jesus died on the cross for us, even though he didn't deserve it. He did it to rescue us, so that we don't have to be punished for all our wrong choices. Pretty amazing, huh?!
- **Say:** Right now, we're going to do something a little different. I'm going to say some words, but I want you to imagine that Jesus is saying these words to you. They are things that he said over and over again in the Bible. Everybody close your eyes, relax, and get comfy.
- **(Click to play instrumental music as you say the following. Take your time, and pause between sentences if it feels right.)** *"I created a path just for you, and I will lead you down it day by day. I will help you over every obstacle. I will pick you up whenever you fall. I will walk alongside you so that you are never alone. Remember how much I love you. Remember that I made you just the way I want you to be. And remember that I died so you could be free. You can follow me."* **(Click to stop music.)**

WORSHIP AND PRAYER

Main Goal: Close in prayer and celebrate God through singing and dancing!

- **Say:** Okay, open your eyes! I am so excited that we get to follow Jesus, and that he has a purpose and a plan for each one of us, just like he did for Joseph. So let's celebrate God for that and sing one more worship song to him!
- **Music Video: Who I Am**
- **Pray:** *Invite a kid to come up to use the microphone and close Large Group in prayer.*

**Send kids to small groups.*

LESSON needs

3rd-5th

March 11-12, 2017



connect questions

Tell me about Joseph.

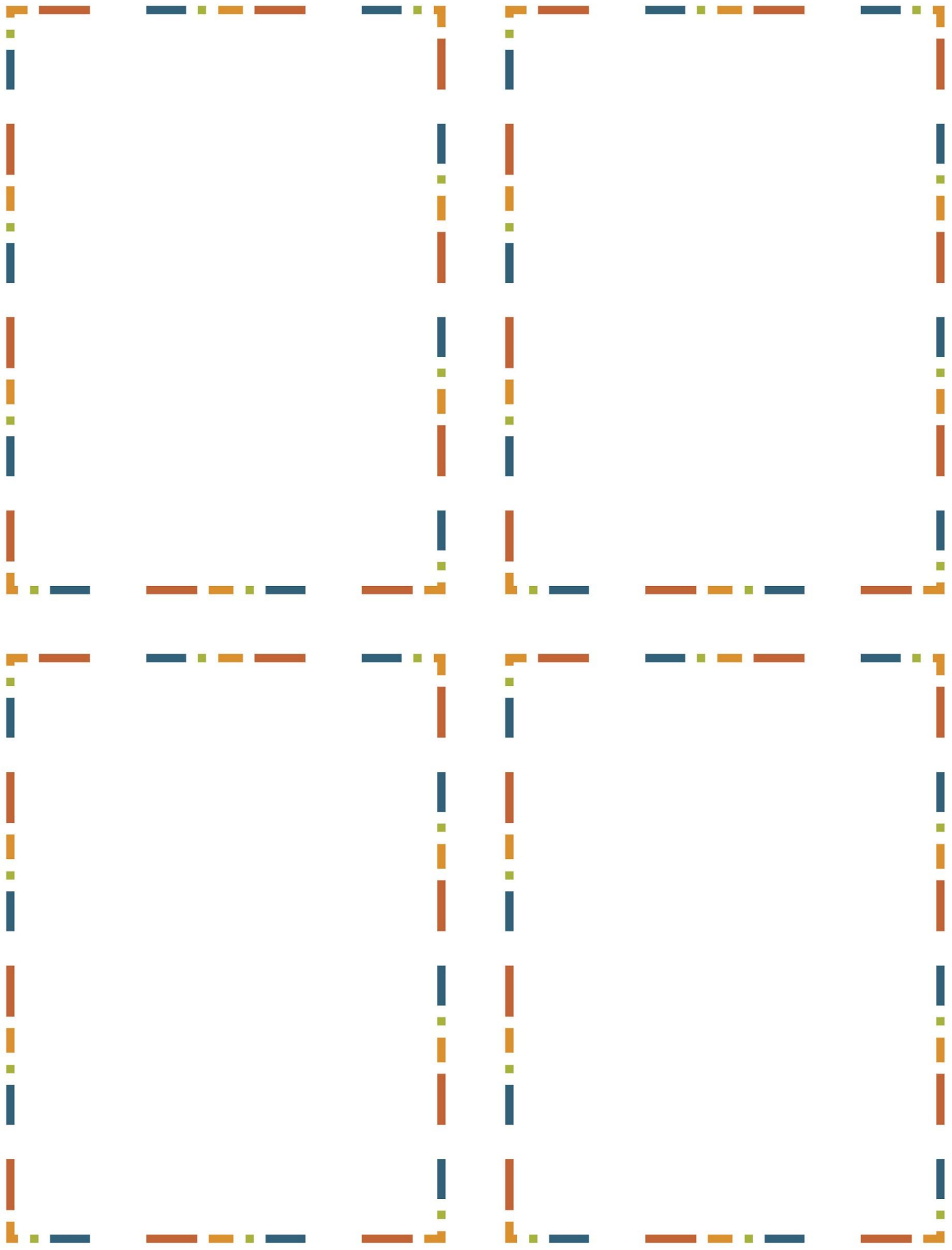
How can we follow Jesus?

lesson supplies

Connect Time			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
No Supplies Needed			

Small Group			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
Markers	1 set per small group, reused		site
<i>Following God</i> template	1 per kid	8.5x11 paper, color, Page 10	site

Large Group			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
Adventure Bible	1 per room		site





1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. Music Video: I'm Yours (<https://vimeo.com/77168212>)
3. Video: Cat Jump Fail (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Awf45u6zrP0>)
4. Video: God's Story / Joseph (<https://vimeo.com/66760375>)
5. Image: Joseph and God's family
6. Slide: Psalm 139:13-14 You created the deepest parts of my being. You put me together inside my mother's body. How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well.
7. Song: Reflective Music Loop (KC/SM media videos songs>songs>itunes)
8. Music Video: Who I Am (<https://vimeo.com/9860987>)