



Unit Overview

Joseph



Joseph's story is not just one in which good triumphs over evil; it's also one in which Yahweh shaped and refined an individual's personal character through tough circumstances, making him a more useful tool in His hands. Ultimately, God used hardship in one man's life to benefit countless others at that time. Yet He also set the stage for an exodus from slavery for His people centuries later, one that would foreshadow an even greater deliverance that would be secured by His own Son on the cross many centuries beyond the exodus. In Joseph's life, therefore, we see God as a loving and masterful orchestrator of events to accomplish both short- and long-term objectives. Even preschoolers can understand that the main character in Genesis 37-50 isn't Joseph, but God.

Kingdom Perspective

In the realm of God's kingdom, conventional wisdom gets turned on its head. In Matthew 18:4, Jesus said the one who humbles himself with childlike humility "is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven" (see also 23:11-12). The story of Joseph in Genesis 37-50 is a "kingdom story" in terms of its place in God's unfolding story, but it also is this kind of story because it emphasizes the infinite value of incorporating kingdom principles into one's outlook and daily routines.

Lesson 1: "Joseph's Special Coat" (Genesis 37)
Bible Truth: God will always be with me wherever I go.

Lesson 2: "God Was with Joseph in Egypt" (Genesis 39-40)
Bible Truth: God will always be with me and help me do what is right.

Lesson 3: "Joseph Helped the King" (Genesis 41)
Bible Truth: God will help me do His work

Lesson 4: "Joseph and His Family" (Genesis 42-47)
Bible Truth: God can help me love and forgive those who have been unkind to me.

Making the Most of the "Joseph" Unit from God's Unfolding Story for Older Preschoolers

The lesson plans and related resources for the above lessons can be downloaded from SundaySchoolZone.com. In addition, there are a number of other helpful articles and resources on the website that can help you be an effective teacher and make the most of this unit. Below is a list of helpful articles you can link to or download in "Getting Started with God's Unfolding Story."

The Session Schedule
God's Unfolding Story Cube
Lesson Components
Who Developed this Stuff?
Parents Connect
Scripture References and Bible Phrases
Why Are We Using Yahweh to Refer to God?
Materials and Supplies
What We Believe
God's Unfolding Story for Older Preschoolers Study Plan
Preschoolers are Incredible People!
Where Is this Going?