



Rotation Model Sunday School Lesson Plans

“Joseph in Egypt”

Memory Verse: “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him.”
(Romans 8:28a)

Learning Center Overview:

Holy Word Cinema: This video workshop includes a discussion of the Nest video, “Joseph in Egypt.”

Cooking: Students will make “dirt” from crushed Oreo cookies as they learn how “crushing” experiences can separate us from family and friends, yet we are never separated from God. Knowing this helps us respond differently when we face disappointments.

Computers: Students will learn the story of Joseph through an online presentation using Lego characters. They will then use Kid Pix 3D software to color a picture of Joseph’s coat and utilize Cal & Marty Scripture Software to learn this month’s memory verse.

Bible Games: Students will play a game that involves answering questions, singing, acting, and sculpting – a Cranium/Trivial Pursuit type of game to learn the story of Joseph.

Holy Word Cinema | Joseph in Egypt

Memory Verse: “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him.”
(Romans 8:28a)

1. Watch the Nest DVD “Joseph in Egypt”
2. Use the Adventure Quiz in the Special Features section to have kids answer questions about the movie/Bible Story. Even if kids know the answer, refer to the Scripture option, to have kids pull the right answer from the Scripture verses projected for that question.
3. Share this month’s memory verse.
4. Close with prayer.

Reply to "COMPLETE LESSON SET: Joseph's Coat of Many Colors, from FUMC, Ann Arbor, MI"



CreativeCarol ● Board Member & Writing Team Editor a Supporting Member!

Joseph's Coat

Cooking Workshop

Summary of Lesson Activities:

Students will make "dirt" from crushed Oreo cookies. They'll learn how "crushing" experiences can separate us from family and friends, yet we are never separated from God. Knowing this helps us respond differently when we face disappointments. [Note: 1st – 3rd graders visited this workshop.]

Portions of this lesson were from a free cooking lesson that use to be available from Potter's Publishing, unfortunately they closed their site on 1/1/2020.

Scripture Reference:

Genesis 37:1-36, 39:1-6b

Key Verse:

"We know that God is always at work for the good of everyone who loves him." Romans 8:28a (CEV)

Leader Preparation:

- Read the scripture for this lesson.

- Read and reflect on the overview material provided for this lesson.
- Gather the materials.

Supplies List:

- Spoons
- One cup size liquid measuring cups – 1 for every 4 students
- Serving spoons and spatulas – 1 for every 4 students
- Napkins
- Washable cups -1 per student
- Milk – 1 cup for every 4 students
- Aprons
- For 3rd grade: purple *Adventure Bibles*, One with tabs (Law, History, etc.), and Bible tab writing kit: tabs, fine-line Sharpie pen
- *The Beginner's Bible* and *The Children's Illustrated Bible*
- Plastic, quart-sized jars with tight fitting lids – 1 for every 4 students
- Wax paper
- Snack size (or sandwich size) plastic zipper bags (1 per student)
- Large box (6 serving size) Instant Chocolate Pudding Mix – 1 box for every 8 students
- Oreo Cookies – 1 per student
- Gummy worms (1 per student)
- Kitchen shears
- Wooden mallet
- An easel; appropriate marker

Before Start of Class:

- Wash a metal table.
 - Divide the contents of each box of pudding in half, placing each half onto sheets of wax paper. Fold-up these wax paper sheets of pudding mix (to protect them).
 - Leave the separated pudding mix and the plastic quart-sized jars on the metal table in the kitchen. Arrange serving spoons and spatulas and washable cups close at hand.
 - Place Oreo Cookies into zipper bags – one cookie per bag. Prepare one bag per student.
 - If gummy worms are large, cut them in half using kitchen shears provided. Place the gummy worms and the spoons (for eating) accessible in the Social Hall.
 - Have the bags of cookies and the wooden mallet in the Social Hall. Keep the wooden mallet hidden.
 - Write the key Bible verse on the easel.
 - Book mark a purple *Adventure Bible* to Genesis 39:1.
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Presentation

Opening- Welcome and Lesson Introduction:

Gather everyone around the tables in the Social Hall. Greet your students warmly, welcoming them to the Cooking Workshop. Introduce yourself and any other adults.

[Note: Ask the Shepherd to take care of attendance/nametags while you start the lesson.]

Say: Today we are learning (continuing to learn) about the Old Testament story of Joseph and his brothers – Joseph thinks he’s on top of the world because he receives a very special coat as a gift from his father, but then something really awful happens.

Ask: Does anyone know what awful thing happened to Joseph? (allow a few answers)

Say: We’ll talk about what happens and how Joseph reacts, but first let’s begin with prayer.

Ask for any prayer requests. Ask if anyone would like to lead the group in prayer. Use the Lord’s Prayer as the ending. [You may ask one or two students to lead the Lord’s Prayer.]

A suggestion: Dear God, Thank you for the chance to be together. Help us to recognize your work in our world. Remind us not to look for you wearing a flashy coat like Joseph’s. Help us remember that you are near to us, comforting us always. (End with the Lord’s Prayer) Amen.

Dig-Main Content and Reflection:

For portions of this lesson it refers to the free cooking lesson that use to be available from Potter’s Publishing, unfortunately they closed their site on 1/1/2020), and so the instructions for the “Smash the Cookie” segment is no longer available.

Tell the story:

[Might need to say: I need you to pay attention to the story, so push your bag of crushed cookie towards the center of the table. After we talk about our Bible story we’ll talk about what we’ll do with the cookies.]

Say: Our Bible story is about Joseph. Joseph had an experience that left him feeling crushed.

Ask: If Jesus learned this story when he was your age, where would we find it in the Bible? (in the OT)

Say: Our Bible story happened a long time ago. We find our story in the book of Genesis, which is the first book of the Old Testament in the Bible.

For 3rd graders:

Say: We say that the book of Genesis is part of a collection of Bible books called “Law.” Law

books include the first five books of the Bible. They are called the books of Law because they include the commandments or laws that God revealed to his people. If you have your own Bible today, be sure you receive a tab for the Law section of your Bible.

[Show the classroom Bible with tabs. Have the Shepherd add a Law tab for students who bring their Bibles. Use the classroom Bible with tabs as an example.]

For all students:

Show page 74 in *The Beginner's Bible*.

Say: Joseph was the only one in his family to receive a special coat as a gift from his father.

Ask: Do you suppose that this was a crushing experience for Joseph? (no, he probably liked getting a nice coat)

For whom was it a crushing experience? (Joseph's brothers)

Show page 75 in *The Beginner's Bible*.

Say: Here is Joseph dreaming. This looks like a nice pleasant dream about bundles of wheat.

Ask: Do you think that was a crushing experience for Joseph? (no)

Say: OK, listen while I read you the story about Joseph; see if you can identify any "crushing experiences" for Joseph.

Read to them pages 56 and 57 in *The Children's Illustrated Bible*.

Note: Later in the month encourage the kids to tell you the story. Fill in any missing details.

Say: For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,

The class says: Thanks be to God!

Say: We say those words after we read in the Bible. We say that what we've read is the word of God and we are very thankful to have God's words!

Discussion:

Say: So, the brothers ganged up on Joseph, throwing him in a pit and eventually selling him! That's a crushing experience!

Ask: How did the brothers come to have such bad feelings for Joseph?

What did Joseph have that they wanted?

Say: They were probably jealous of Joseph.

Ask: What does jealousy mean? (feeling unhappy because of another person's possessions or advantage)

Tell me about a time when you felt jealous.

Why do you suppose Jacob (the father) played favorites and gave only Joseph a special coat?
(allow all responses)

Say: Jacob had four wives but the Bible tells us that Rachel, who was Joseph's mother, was his favorite wife. Perhaps that's why Jacob gave Joseph a special coat.

Ask: Perhaps Jacob felt that God had special plans for Joseph? (allow any response)

Do you suppose that God has a plan for your life?

How do you suppose that God makes his plans known to us?

Say: God's activity in our lives may appear to be hidden to us, but God does have a plan for each of you. God is always with you, at work in your lives. Let's look at our key Bible verse for this month.

Refer to the easel with the key Bible verse. Ask students to say it with you: "We know that God is always at work for the good of everyone who loves him." Romans 8:28a

For 3rd grade:

Say: We find this verse in the New Testament book of Romans, chapter 8. That little "a" after the verse number 28, means that we stop reading after the first sentence that is in verse 28.

For all students:

Say: This is a good Bible verse to know by heart. When something crushing happens to you, you can pull this verse out of your memory. [Refer to the easel.] "We know that God is always at work for the good of everyone who loves him."

Ask: Earlier you were telling about how you've handled crushing experiences you had. What do you suppose Joseph did with his disappointment? (allow any answers)

Say: We actually need to peek ahead in the Joseph story to find out what happened to Joseph in Egypt. We're going to learn about that part of the story next month but I'll tell you this much - Joseph didn't give up his faith in God! He knew that no matter what - he would never be separated from God; that God was always at work. Joseph made the best of his bad situation.

Follow the "Brainstorming Ideas" segment and the "Making Dirt Pudding" of the Potter's Publishing Cooking lesson.

This portions of the lesson was from a free cooking lesson that use to be available from Potter's Publishing, unfortunately they closed their site on 1/1/2020.

Back to the Social Hall – More discussion with eating:

Serve Gummy worms.

Allow everyone to enjoy the snack.

Say: Joseph had really been through a crushing experience. His brothers had sold him to some traders on their way to Egypt. Joseph was probably really bummed, but he didn't let it get him down. Joseph remembered that God would always be with him; he would never be separated from God. Let's read a little bit about what happened to Joseph.

For 3rd grade:

Distribute purple *Adventure Bibles*. Have everyone find Genesis 39:1 in the Bible.

For all students:

Read to them Genesis 39:1-4.

Ask: Do you suppose that God will fix it so nothing bad ever happens to you? (no)

Say: God's promise is not to stop all trouble. We unfortunately are still going to have crushing experiences. But God's plan is to help us grow stronger. Learning to handle problems is one way we experience growth.

Closing:

Say: We've made a tasty snack from broken pieces of cookie. It may not always be easy to fix our crushing experiences but always remember that God is with you.

If you have extra time:

Have each group that worked together to create "dirt" recite a portion of the key Bible verse. For example, if there were 4 in a group break up the verse as...

We know that God is always/ at work for the good/ of everyone who loves him./ Romans 8:28a

Have each group repeat the verse faster, louder, or softer.

Resources:

- *The Beginner's Bible*. Brentwood, TN: Mission City Press, 1989.
- Hastings, Selina. *The Children's Illustrated Bible*. New York: Dorling Kindersley, 1994.
- Klusmeyer, Steve & Brenda. "Joseph the Dreamer." Oct. 2002. (Lesson is no longer at this site.)

- "Living in Land of Many Colors: Joseph Remains Faithful". Bloomington, IL: Potter's Workshops, 2000.
 - *The NIV Adventure Bible*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zonderkidz, 2000.
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A lesson written by Carol Hulbert for First United Methodist Church
Ann Arbor, MI

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If you use this material, even in a modified form, please include the above resources as well as the following
reference:

Hulbert, Carol. "Joseph's Coat: Cooking Workshop." Jan. 2010. Place URL where lesson found inside angle brackets<>.

A representative of Rotation.org reformatt&ed this post to improve readability.

1/21/10 @ 10:55 PM *

Home / Sunday School Lessons and Resources / LESSONS: GENESIS
/ Joseph and his brothers, Coat of many colors, Potiphar, Pharaoh, etc
/ COMPUTER WORKSHOP Lessons and Ideas for Joseph's Story

Reply to "COMPUTER WORKSHOP Lessons and Ideas for Joseph's Story"



Ann Wright  Lesson Wrangler (100+ pts)

Joseph in Canaan

Computer Workshop

Summary of Lesson Activities:

The children will learn the story of Joseph through a presentation using Lego characters. They will then use **Kid Pix 4 or the newer "3D" version** to decorate Joseph's coat. 4th through 5th grade will also write a poem to remind them of Joseph's story.

Scripture Reference:

Genesis 37:1-36; 39:1-6b

Memory Verse:

Romans 8:28a

Key Concepts and Life Application:

The children will:

1. Identify Genesis as the first book in the Old Testament; locating the story in Genesis
2. Retell the story in their own words – identifying story characters and their feelings.
3. Explain how jealousy erupted in Joseph's family. Learn how feelings can separate us from family and friends.
4. Learn that each of us is a favorite in the eyes of God.
5. Understand that God loves us and is never separated from us, no matter what happens.

Leader Preparation:

- Read the scripture ahead of time.
- Gather the materials.

Supplies List:

- Bibles – minimally one for every two children.
- Projector. See Arrival Setup.
- The Brick Testament, "Joseph is Ambushed," Slideshow, installed on classroom PC. See references.
- "Types of Poetry" handout, one for each 4th and 5th grader
- Add Joseph's Cloak to Kid Pix 4 on each PC: To find a Joseph's cloak, use an internet search on "Joseph's Coat Coloring Page". Save it as a JPEG. On each computer, login to Kid Pix 4 using a common username ("student"). Click on Add -> Import Background. Locate the picture. Select Fill Canvas without Shrinking/Stretching. Select Also Add To Library
- Filler Materials: Add Romans 8:28 to Cal & Marty

Presentation:

Opening-Welcome and Introductions

Greet the children and introduce yourself. Wear your nametag. The Shepherd will be taking care of attendance, etc. This can all happen quietly while you are starting your lesson.

Overview

Distribute Bibles to each child or every two children.

Say:

We are learning about Joseph and his coat of many colors.

This week we are going to view the story in a little different way. I've got a slideshow for you from The Brick Testament. This is a website that shows different Bible stories using Legos.

Turn on the projector and start the slide show. You will need to click to make the slide show progress. Below is a script with a minimized picture of the slide show to help you discuss it.

Say:

Before we view the slideshow, let's review where the story is found in the Bible.

Ask:

Can anyone tell me whether this is in the Old or New Testament? Old

What about the book? Genesis

Say:

Genesis is the first book in the Bible. Let's turn to Genesis, chapter 37, to see where the story is located.

Now, let's watch the slide show while I read selected verses.

Note: Even though you'll be reading the story to the students, the exercise of finding the story is still important. We will do this every week. Most 3rd through 5th graders have been given a Bible by Saint Andrews. Encourage them to bring it every Sunday.

Tell the 4th and 5th graders the verse you will be reading and encourage them to find the verse, even though you are reading excerpts of the verses.

All verses below are excerpts from the NIRV Bible.

Dig-Main Content and Reflection:

Show the Brick Testament version of the story. This can be downloaded to your computer. I modified it to make it more Biblically correct but that is up to you. You do need to send a note to the website owner to request usage so he knows it is being used.

Kid Pix 4 Application

At this time, the class will use Kid Pix 4 to decorate Joseph's coat. Walk the class through the following steps and then let them have fun.

Note for 4th and 5th grade: In addition to decorating the coat, have them write a poem about Joseph and add it to their picture. Give them the handout describing four simple poem types so they can be thinking as they decorate.

1. Open Kid Pix 4 (double click the icon or right click and select Open)
2. Sign is using the "student" user name. This is the same name used in the "Materials" section. If you don't use this user name, you will not find the "Joseph's Coat" background
3. Click on the background icon in "Paint Zone"
4. Select the folder called "My Backgrounds"
5. Select the Joseph's Coat background image
6. Decorate the coat. If they don't like it they can start over as many times as they choose.
7. 4th and 5th grade: Once they've decorated their coat, have them add a poem about Joseph to the page.

Filler Time (Use only if you need it)

Use Cal & Marty to practice the memory verse, Romans 8:28. After each child has practiced, they may play any other games on the PCs.

Closing:

End with a prayer.

Tidy and Dismissal:

Ask children to help tidy up. Close the door and turn off the lights. Store your materials back in the cabinet.

References/Sources

The visuals for the Bible story were obtained from:

- The Brick Testament, "Joseph is Ambushed," <http://www.bricktestament.com/...shed/gn37_02-03.html >
Information on different types of poems for children was obtained from:
 - Poetry for Kids, <<http://www.kathimitchell.com/poemtypes.html>>
This lesson was compiled by Ann L. Wright, Children's Ministry Director, Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church, Raleigh, NC, <http://www.sapc.com/>
 - Where to purchase Kid Pix 4 or the newer "3D" version software
 - Where to purchase Cal & Marty This software is FREE to supporting members! [Learn more here.](#)
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Types of Poems:

Choose one of the following poem formats and write a poem about Joseph. Add this to your picture of the beautiful coat.

Acrostic: The first letters of each line are aligned vertically to form a word. Use JOSEPH for your word. An example is below:

Great and powerful
Over all the earth
Doing wonderful things

Cinquain: Five line poems with the following format with an example below it.

Line 1: Title (noun) - 1 word
Line 2: Description - 2 words
Line 3: Action - 3 words
Line 4: Feeling - 4 words
Line 5: Title - 1 word

God
Loving, forgiving

Listens to me
Makes me feel safe
Father

Haiku: There are three lines with five syllables in the first line, seven syllables in the second, and five syllables in the third. An example is below:

God is always near
He listens to my prayers
He forgives my sins.

Color Poem: Pick your favorite color from Joseph's coat. Write about how that color makes you feel. An example is shown below.

Yellow is the color of the sun on a summer day.
Yellow is the sound of a busy bumblebee
Yellow is the taste of a big glass of lemonade
Yellow is the smell of a daisy
Yellow is the feeling of my puppy's fur
Yellow is a color of energy!

A lesson written by Ann Wright from: St. Andrews Presbyterian Church.
Raleigh, NC

A representative of Rotation.org reformatted this post to improve readability.

7/11/12 @ 9:37 PM *



Screen shot of "Joseph Coat" coloring page in Kid Pix 3D software program. Picture is found in My Backgrounds.

²⁸And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Reply to "COMPLETE LESSON SET: Joseph's Coat of Many Colors, from FUMC, Ann Arbor, MI"



CreativeCarol ● Board Member & Writing Team Editor a Supporting Member!

Joseph's Coat

Games Workshop

Summary of Lesson Activities:

Play a game that involves answering questions, singing, acting, drawing, and sculpting – a Cranium®/Trivial Pursuit type of game. Learn story details. [Note: 4th – 6th graders visited this workshop.]

Scripture Reference:

Genesis 37:1-36, 39:1-6b

Key Verse:

"We know that God is always at work for the good of everyone who loves him." Romans 8:28a (CEV)

Leader Preparation:

- Read the scripture for this lesson.
- Read and reflect on the overview material provided for this lesson.
- Gather the materials

Supplies List:

- Copies of the story paraphrase - one for every two kids (see attached)
- Whiteboard easel and dry erase markers
- Four sets of colored cards with the letters J-O-S-E-P-H (one letter on each card, each letter is a different color) – Assumes a class size of approx. 12 kids

- One set of colored cards with questions/activities for each game category. The colors correspond with those of the letters J-O-S-E-P-H. For example, the J card might be yellow and the question cards to “earn” a J would also be yellow.
- Four sets of index cards or small pieces of paper (each set contains the words of the Key Bible Verse – one word per card)
- Lots of scrap paper and pencils/pens for the drawing activities
- Playdoh™ for the sculpting activities
- One beanbag
- Game questions for the leader [See attached)
- Sand/two minute timer

Before Start of Class:

- Write the key Bible verse on the easel.
- Organize the game supplies – Make sure you have available the:
 - Questions/activities on colored cards
 - The leader’s sheet with the game questions/activities
 - The game supplies needed for the questions/activities

Presentation

Opening- Welcome and Lesson Introduction:

Greet your students warmly, welcoming them to the Games Workshop. Introduce yourself and any other adults. Have the students sit in a circle. [Note: Ask the Shepherd to take care of attendance/nametags while you start the lesson.]

Say: Let’s start with prayer.

Ask for any prayer requests. Ask if anyone would like to lead the group in prayer. A suggestion: “Dear Lord, We are thankful to be here to learn about Joseph and to learn that even when bad things happen, God is with us and watches over us. (End with everyone joining in on the Lord’s Prayer.) Amen.”

Dig- Main Content and Reflection:

Distribute copies of the Joseph’s Coat Story Paraphrase. Ask the kids to share a copy with someone else and follow along in the reading. Instruct the students and adults take turns reading paragraphs.

Say: “We will take turns reading a paraphrase of this story. When the person next to you finishes reading a paragraph, please continue reading at the beginning of the next paragraph.

[Note: After the second week of the Rotation the students will become more familiar with the story. Have them locate the scripture in their Bibles. Then ask them to tell you the story. Fill in any missing details by using their Bibles.]

Do: Spend some time going over the Key Bible Verse. Using the key verse written on the white board, have everyone read the key verse. Then ask a student to erase one word. Then have everyone read the verse filling in the missing word. Have students take turns erasing words each time reading the verse aloud as a group.

Play the Game:

Game Play Rules:

- Divide the group up into 2 – 4 teams (ideally there will be 2-3 kids on each team). Have them move to their own space in the room.
- Explain that each team is trying to collect letter cards to spell JOSPEH. Display one of each card.
- Determine the order that the teams will go based on guessing numbers, drawing straws, birthdays closest to today's date (however you would like to do this). Be sure that there is a distinct order.
- Before starting the game, be sure to cover up the Key Bible Verse.
- Beginning with team #1, allow the team to choose which letter they would like to earn on their turn.
- There are 6 different types of activities. When a team completes an activity, the workshop leader hands the team the letter earned. The team should place the letter in front of their group and begin to spell "JOSEPH". The first team to spell "Joseph" wins, though if there is time, continue playing until all teams have spelled "Joseph" Leave 5 minutes for the closing.
- The six different activities are:
 - J = Just the Facts
 - O = Open Ended Life Application Questions
 - S = Sculpting
 - E = Energy filled Drawing
 - P = Play the Part
 - H = Have-to-do-it
- The S and E and P activities are to be done by one team member while the other team member(s) try to guess what is being depicted. So show these cards (or read them quietly) to one designated member of the team.
- Cards that are marked with the words "ALL PLAY" indicate that all of the teams have a chance to earn that particular letter by completing the activity with their own team at the same time.

Other game hints:

- When someone draws an "O" type question: explain that there are no right or wrong answers. The workshop leader will determine whether their answer earns a letter.
- Use every opportunity during game play to allow discussion that may occur from a particular question/answer.
- You may wish to set a time limit on how long students have to answer the questions by using the sand timer.

Closing:

Ask: What advice about our lives can we take away from this scripture? Are we able to keep our faith during tough times? Are we able to truly feel the statement made by our key Bible verse from Romans 8:28a?

"We know that God is always at work for the good of everyone who loves him."

Choose any of the following activities to close with (depending on what you think the group of kids would enjoy).

- Have the whole entire group sing the Key Bible Verse to the tune of Amazing Grace or Joy to the World
- As you toss a bean bag to each team member, the team member holding the bean bag must say the next word in the key verse.
- Repeat what you did at the beginning of the lesson: Using the key verse written on the white board, have everyone read the key verse. Then ask a student to erase one word. Then have everyone read the verse filling in the missing word. Have students take turns erasing words each time reading the verse aloud as a group.

Attachment: Story Paraphrase Genesis 37:1-35, 39:1-6a

Jacob and his large family lived in the land of Canaan. Jacob had many sons (eventually 12 in all) and one daughter. Troubles began because Jacob liked his son Joseph the best. Joseph brought bad reports about his brothers to his father.

Jacob loved Joseph so much that he made Joseph an outlandish coat – it is often described as having many beautiful colors. The coat made Joseph proud. He felt special! But it made his brothers...mad! They hated Joseph. They couldn't speak one kind word to him.

One night Joseph had a dream. When he told his brothers about it, they hated him even more. "Listen to my dream," said Joseph. "We were out in the field, tying our bundles of wheat

together, when suddenly my bundle rose and stood upright. All of your bundles gathered around mine and bowed down to it." His brothers said, "do you plan to be king over us?" They didn't like what Joseph had to say.

Then Joseph had another dream. He told his brothers. "In this dream the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me." Joseph's brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept wondering about the dream. What could it mean? Was God sending Joseph a message?

One day Joseph's brothers had taken the sheep to graze away from home. Jacob asked Joseph to go check on them. So, Joseph went to find his brothers. His brothers saw him coming—it must have been because of the colorful coat. "Here comes that dreamer," said his brothers. "Let's kill him! Then we'll see what comes of his dreams!"

"No, don't kill him," a brother named Reuben said. "Let's only throw him into a pit. There's one over there." Reuben was thinking that at night he would secretly rescue Joseph.

Joseph came up to his brothers. Before he could even say hello, they grabbed him. They took his multicolored coat and threw him into a pit. Then his brothers sat down to eat their dinner!

As they were eating a brother named Judah said, "Look, here come some men on their way to Egypt – Ishmaelite traders. Let's sell Joseph, and then we won't have to kill him. After all, he is our brother." So when the traders came by, his brothers pulled Joseph up out of the pit. They sold him for twenty pieces of silver.

To cover up their deed, Joseph's brothers killed a goat and dipped Joseph's fancy coat in its blood. They took the coat to their father and said, "We found this!" Jacob recognized it. "Joseph must have been killed by a wild animal!" Jacob mourned for Joseph a long time.

Meanwhile, the Ishmaelites took Joseph to Egypt and sold him to Potiphar, the king's official in charge of the palace guard. Soon Potiphar realized that God was helping Joseph to be successful in whatever he did! Yes, God was with Joseph.

Attachment: Game Questions

The J's – Just the Facts [Allow use of Bibles to help answer these questions.]

- In what book and chapter of the Bible is our story found? (Genesis, Chapter 37 and part of 39)
- How many brothers and sisters did Joseph have? (11 brothers, 1 sister)

- Why was Joseph having dreams about his brothers? (God was sending Joseph a message through the dreams)
- Why were Joseph's brothers jealous of him? (Joseph was Jacob's favorite son, he was always telling his father about the bad things his brothers did)
- Define jealousy. (feeling unhappy because of another person's possessions or advantage)
- Give an example of how God was at work in Joseph's life. (accept most answers – a few might be... Joseph's life was spared; God sent messages to Joseph through dreams; God helped Joseph to be successful in whatever he did)

The O's – Open Ended Life Application Questions

[There are no right or wrong answers to these questions. Use material from the Bible Background to help you discuss these questions with the students. Spend time discussing these questions – they are important!]

- Why do you think Reuben objected to the idea of his brothers killing Joseph?
- Why do you think the brothers decided to sell Joseph instead of kill him?
- How could Joseph and his father have helped their family feel happier?
- Give an example of how God has worked in your life or the life of someone you know.
- Tell about something that may cause family members today to be jealous of each other or angry with each other.

The S's – Sculpting

[One team member sculpts while other team member tries to guess what is being sculpted.]

- Sculpt: Joseph wearing his special coat
- Sculpt: The sun and moon and stars bowing down to Joseph's star
- Sculpt: The pit that Joseph was thrown into
- Sculpt: Joseph living in Egypt with Pharaoh
- Sculpt: Joseph's coat torn up by a "wild animal"

The E's – Energy-filled Drawings

[One team member draws on the whiteboard while other team member tries to guess what is being drawn.]

- Draw: The sun and moon and stars bowing down to Joseph's star
- Draw: Joseph's brothers tearing off Joseph's special coat and throwing him into a pit.
- Draw: Joseph's brothers showing Jacob the torn coat and Jacob mourning the loss of Joseph.
- Draw: God "speaking" to Joseph in his dreams

The P's – Play the Part

- Act out that Joseph is receiving his new, fancy coat from Jacob
- Act out Joseph's dream about the brother's bundles of wheat bowing to Joseph's bundle of wheat
- Act out Joseph's brothers plotting to get rid of Joseph
- Act out Joseph going to look for his brothers who were with the sheep
- Act out Joseph's brothers selling Joseph as a slave to the Ishmaelites

The H's - Have-to-do-it

- As you toss a bean bag to each team member, the team member holding the bean bag must say the next word in the key verse.
- Sing the key verse (using Amazing Grace or Joy to the World).
- Do the key verse in a rap.
- Arrange the scrambled word index cards in the proper order of the key verse.

Resources:

Hulbert, Carol. "Story Paraphrase: Genesis 37:1-35, 39:1-6a." 2010.

*A lesson written by Beth Pascoe for First United Methodist Church
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Pascoe, Beth. "Joseph's Coat: Games Workshop." Jan. 2010. Place URL where lesson found inside angle brackets<>.

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