

SEPTEMBER

**EARLY CHILDHOOD CURRICULUM
FOUR YEAR OLDS - KINDERGARTEN**

Bottom Line

God Has A Plan
For Me



Week

Sep. 11

Bible Story

Joseph and His Family
Genesis 37



“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you, not to harm you...” Jeremiah 29:11, NIV

SUGGESTED CLASS SCHEDULE:

9:35 & 11:35	Activity to introduce the story
9:50 & 11:50	Story & Snack
10:05 & 12:05	Activity to reinforce the story
10:15 & 12:15	Line up to travel to the Island
10:20 & 12:20	Island
10:40 & 12:40	Playtime until parent's arrive

NOTE: If you wish to serve a snack, children are only to receive ONE cup of snack, not an unlimited supply.

SEPTEMBER

LEADER DEVOTIONAL

One of the Hebrew names for God is Immanuel, which means “God with us.” This name is most commonly used in reference to the birth of Christ but is not reserved just for Christmas. You see, Immanuel speaks to the character of our God and reminds us He is present among us— all the time.

Stop for a minute and consider that the Most High God, the Creator of everything that ever was or ever will be, is also a personal God who is with us in everything we go through. It’s amazing to think we’ll never have to be alone because God is Immanuel.

What have been the defining moments when God has reminded you He is with you? In hindsight, were there times when you didn’t recognize His presence but now see it clearly? How has God used your faith community to come alongside you and support you in your times of greatest need? What are words you would use to describe who God is to you?

Grab a permanent marker and some river rocks or paper. On each rock or piece of paper, write a word that describes who God has been to you in times of trial and triumph. Place your rocks in a place where you can be reminded of His continual presence. Then spend some time thanking God for being Immanuel.



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STORY BACKGROUND

Through the life of Joseph and his myriad struggles, we can learn about God being with us and working through us. So much so, biblical scholars make a case for Joseph being the Old Testament archetype of Jesus Christ. Both were obedient sons who were beloved by their fathers. Joseph was rejected and sold into slavery by his brothers. Similarly, the Jewish community rejected Jesus and the message He brought. Both were falsely accused and unjustly punished. Yet in the end, both were elevated to a place of powerful position and saved their people from death.

The sin and brokenness within Joseph's family is present throughout all of humanity. But God Himself is present. He has made a way for all who would receive Him to be adopted into His family. In God's family we're part of a faith community that stretches beyond our own lifetime, into eternity past and present.



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SEP. 11

Make It Fun:

Joseph's Coat

Joseph's Coat

What You Need: coffee filter (1 per child), markers, crayons

What you do: Have the children sit around the table. Pass out a coffee filter to each child. Ask them to color their coffee filter anyway they want. Once they are finished have them write their name on the filter. (NOTE: Student helpers can assist in writing their names on the coffee filters so that you will be able to give them their own later.)

What You Say:

"Today, we will learn about a boy named Joseph. His dad gave him a very special coat that had many colors on it. Let's color our coffee filters. Later we will make our own coat of mini-colors."



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Make It True

It is important to hold the Bible open while telling the story. We want the children to know that stories we tell are from God's Word and all of God's words are true.

Bible Story

What You Need: Bible marked at Genesis 37

What You Say: Today our story is about families and about 12 brothers! How many of you have brothers or sisters? (Allow children to answer). Me too, (share about your brothers/sisters or if you are an only child). Well, sometimes brothers and sisters don't always get along and they argue. The brothers in our story today, really didn't like their brother Joseph. Let's open our Bible and learn about Joseph and his family.

Joseph's dad was named Jacob. Jacob had lots of children, 12 boys! That is a lot of boys in one family. Jacob loved all of his children, but he loved Joseph the most. He gave Joseph a very special gift, a coat made of many different colors. This was a beautiful coat and made Joseph's brothers jealous of him. They didn't understand why Joseph got a beautiful coat and they didn't. Because of this, they didn't like Joseph very much.

One day while they were out in the fields working, Joseph's dad sent him to go check on his brothers. When his brother's saw him coming they decided to do a very mean thing. They took Joseph and ripped the coat off of him and put him down in well in the ground! They were not very nice to Joseph at all. When his brothers saw some travelers coming, they took Joseph out of the ground, and sold him! Can you believe that? They actually sold him so he couldn't go home. His brothers went back home and told his dad a lie; they told him that a wild animal had hurt Joseph. Jacob never knew until later that his son was alive.

Joseph was taken to the land of Egypt. I bet Joseph was scared. I know I would be scared if I was taken to a new land and couldn't live with my family. But God had a plan for Joseph and He has a plan for us. We have to faith that God's is to prosper us not to harm us like is says in our Bible verse from Jeremiah 29.

Prayer

"Lord, thank you for taking care of us. Thank you for the plans you have for us. We love you. Amen."



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SEP. 11

Make It Stick:

Joseph's Coat (cont'd)

Joseph's Coat

What You Need: coffee filter from Make it Fun, popsicle stick, tape, bible verse sticker, 1" round circle stickers, yarn

What You Do: Have the children join you at the table. Pass out the Bible verse sheets. Read over the Bible Verse with the kids and have them repeat it after to you. Then allow them to decorate their sheets. Have student leaders assist in writing the children's name on their sheets.

What You Say:

"Have your parents ever given you anything? (allow for responses) Well, in our Bible story today, Joseph's father gave him a beautiful robe of many colors. At the beginning of class, you made a beautiful painting. We are now going to turn that into Joseph's colorful robe."

- Give each child a popsicle stick and their watercolor coffee filter from the Welcome Activity
- Help the children poke their popsicle stick through the center of their coffee filter
- Help the children tape their coffee filter onto their popsicle stick as Joseph's robe
- Have the children glue the Bible Verse onto Joseph's robe
- Have the children glue Joseph's head onto the popsicle stick
- Help the children glue yarn onto Joseph's head for hair

"Wow, these look amazing! Keep this in your room at home to help you remember that God has a plan for."



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