

Alley SG - September 28-29, 2019

Bible Story: Joseph Forgives His Brothers • Genesis 42–45

Bottom Line: You can trust God has a plan.

Key Question: When have you had to trust God?

Memory Verse: *Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding.*

Proverbs 3:5, NIV

1. Just for Fun

What You Need: Puzzles (2 per group)

What You Do:

- **Join** kids together in two teams.
- **Give** each group a puzzle without letting kids see what the final puzzle looks like.
- The challenge is to complete the puzzle even though they have no idea what the picture is.
- After you have given kids time to work on the puzzle, if they haven't completed it, **give** them the box to finish the puzzle faster.

2. Get Your Head in the Game

What You Need: Tub (1 per group), Frisbee (3 per group), Card stock paper

What You Do:

- **Place** a tub near a wall.
- **Create** a "tee box" using a piece of paper.
- **Explain** the group is going to play a game of golf.
- **To play:**
 - **Ask** kids: How many throws do you think it will take you to get the frisbee from the "tee box" into the "basket"?
 - Kids take turns throwing the frisbee into the basket. Just like in golf, all subsequent throws must be from where the frisbee lands.
 - If there is time, **repeat** the game placing the basket away from a wall. This should be a bit more challenging.

What You Say:

"You planned how many throws it would take to make a basket, but it didn't always work out how you planned. God has plans, too—He has plans for all of us. They are good and perfect!"

3. Take a Snapshot

What You Need: Grid Sheet (1 per kid, per service), Plan Cards (1 set per group), markers

What You Do:

- **Give** kids a "Grid Sheet."
- **Allow** kids to select a "Plan Card."
- **Tell** kids to color in the squares on their grid according to their "Plan Card" to determine what their picture is.
- As they work on their pictures, **ask** them what they think the picture is going to be.
- **Allow** kids to share their completed drawings.
- **Ask:**
 - When you started, you didn't know what the final result would be. How many times did you change your mind what you were drawing?

What You Say:

"Just like it was hard to see what your final picture would be, sometimes it is hard to see how things will turn out in life. But no matter what you are going through, you can trust God no matter what. You can trust God to be with you through everything and that God knows the entire picture and you can trust He has a plan."

4. Discussion Questions

Ask:

- Have you ever seen a movie that ended differently than you thought it would? Or read a book and were surprised how it ended? How would you have changed the ending?
- Can you think of an example of when you weren't sure how something would end only to be surprised?
- **Encourage** kids to share about a time they had to trust God because they weren't sure how to do something or they weren't sure what was going to happen next. **[Make it Personal]** Be prepared to share an age appropriate example of when you had to trust God.
- Is there something you are trusting God with right now?
- How does the Joseph story help you to remember God has your back and He has a plan for you?

5. Make it Personal with Prayer

What You Need: Alphabet Tiles (1 set per group)

What You Do:

- **Gather** kids in a circle.
- **Set** out the alphabet tiles in the center of the circle.
- Using the tiles, **spell** out the word "TRUST" in the center of the circle.
- **Encourage** kids to build on the word "TRUST" like you would in Scrabble or a Crossword puzzle.
 - Kids use the alphabet tiles to add words to their crossword board. For example, using the "T" in "TRUST" they could form the word "Totally" or using the "R" they could form the word "DREAMS" or "FORGIVES"
 - All the words created should relate to the Joseph story and what kids learned during the month.
 - Depending on your group, you can have multiple puzzles being created simultaneously.
- **Close** in prayer.

What You Say:

"God, Thank You for the story of Joseph and for showing us even when life around us doesn't make sense, You have a plan. You have a plan for each of us and part of Your plan is that we would know Your Son, Jesus. God help us to remember You are always with us. We can trust You with all our heart even when we don't understand what is going on because You understand everything! Amen!"

BEFORE DISMISSAL: AT "COMMUNION CALL"

HAND OUT "GOD TIME" CARDS TO EACH STUDENT BEFORE DISMISSING AND ALLOW THEM TIME TO BEGIN WORKING ON THE WEEKLY ACTIVITY

IF STUDENTS BRING THEM BACK THE FOLLOWING WEEK, THEY RECEIVE \$3 IN ALLEY CASH!