

CITY LG – August 19-21, 2023

Today's Bible Story: Change the World (Joseph and the Plan to Save Egypt) • *Genesis 40–41*

Today's Bottom Line: You can use what God gave you to solve problems.

Monthly Memory Verse: *we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)*

SLIDE: Theme

What's up, everybody? How's it going? If you're having a pretty good day, give me a thumbs-up like this. (*Do a thumbs-up in front of your chest.*) If you're having a REALLY GREAT day, then give me a thumbs-up like this. (*Do a thumbs-up high above your head.*) Look at that! We just found a creative way to communicate with each other.

All month long, we've been talking about creativity.

SLIDE: Virtue

Creativity is using your imagination to do something new.

SLIDE: Theme

Creativity is God's idea in the first place. All you have to do is look around to see how creative God is! And since we're made in the image of God, that means we can be creative, too. We can make art by drawing or painting. We can make music by writing new lyrics and melodies. And we can even use our creativity to help other people and fix things that are wrong!

That's what our game is about today. You will get to use your creativity to solve a problem.

Picture this.

SLIDE: Game Image 1 (person in the woods)

Imagine you're going for a walk through a beautiful forest. Soon, you come to a deep, wide river.

SLIDE: Game Image 2 (add river)

You need to get to the other side of the river, but the bridge has been washed away!

SLIDE: Game Image 3 (add broken bridge)

If there's no bridge, what are some ways you could get to the other side of the river? I want to hear your creative solutions! Raise your hand if you have one.

Call someone up to the front to share one.

“

Oh, and just for fun, I want everyone to act-out this idea for all of us to see!

Continue calling a few more kids up, letting them know it needs to be a different idea than what has already been said.

Whoa! I didn't know how you would solve that problem of getting across the river, but you had some incredibly creative ideas. And look, you sure did make it across!

SLIDE: Game Image 4 (person on other side)

“Everyone say, ‘Woo-hoo!’”

Today, I have an amazing story of creativity to share with you from the Bible. It’s about someone who used the creativity God gave him to solve a big problem. That someone was Joseph.

Let’s take a look...

Bible Story Video (11:32)

I think it’s really amazing how God gave Joseph a really unique gift with his ability to understand dreams. And then Joseph USED that gift from God in a really important and creative way.

Like Joseph, sometimes you and I will have to face different challenges and problems in our lives. When we’re up against something difficult like that, we can remember that God is with us. We can ask God to give us the creativity we need to help make things right. Check this out...

Video: Bottom Line

SLIDE: Bottom Line

You can use what God gave you to solve problems.

The thing is, this is what God does! God fixes things that are wrong. We can trust that God is making ALL things right in the end. And we can see that when we go back to the very beginning. We can look back and see how Adam and Eve broke their relationship with God. But God always had a plan to send Jesus to be our Savior. And because of that, we get to have a relationship with God that will last forever!

It’s like our memory verse says...

SLIDE: Memory Verse

For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

Let’s pray.

“Dear God, thank You for the amazing creativity You gave Joseph so he could help others. With Your help, he was able to save lots of people during a time when there wasn’t any food. That’s amazing! Help us see the ways You’ve made US creative so WE can help others, too. Show us how we can make the wise choice and help fix things that are wrong. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

OFFERING:

All summer, our offering money will go to families in Kenya. As you can see in these pictures, this is an area in Kenya called Turkana that is very rural and the people who live there do not have much money for food.

SLIDES: Kenya 1-4

We are working with an organization called Missions of Hope. Our money will help them make food baskets for the families who live in Turkana. The food baskets will be such a blessing to the children and families in this community who have very little resources! If you have any offering you can bring it up now.