

CITY SG – 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: *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)*

1. Joseph Illustrated

What You Need: "Joseph Illustrated Images" Cards (1 set per pair of kids)

What You Do:

- Pair kids up and give each pair a set of "Joseph Illustrated Images."
- Encourage them to look at the images and attempt to put them in story order.
- As they finish, lay out a set of images in front of you to review the story using the key points below.
- As you review, encourage pairs to check their pages to see if they are placed in the correct order.
- If incorrect, let pairs correct the order of their pages.
 - Image 1—Joseph in Jail: Joseph was wrongly accused and put in prison. While there, God helped him make sense of two fellow prisoners' dreams.
 - Image 2—Drink Taster Released: Joseph told the drink taster that he would be freed from prison and returned to his job, and that's exactly what happened. He promised to tell Pharaoh about Joseph once out of prison, but the drink taster forgot.
 - Image 3—Joseph Interprets Pharaoh's Dreams: Years go by while Joseph remains in prison. Pharaoh has two dreams that he doesn't understand. Finally, the drink taster remembers Joseph, and he's brought to the pharaoh to interpret his dreams.
 - Image 4—Seven Years: With God's help, Joseph tells Pharaoh that his dreams mean they will have seven years with plenty of food followed by seven years with no rain so NO food.
 - Image 5—Pharaoh Promotes Joseph: Pharaoh is so impressed by Joseph - the way he interpreted his dream and followed it with an action plan - that he puts him in charge, making him second in command just under Pharaoh himself.
 - Image 6—Help from Joseph: People from surrounding nations, including Joseph's family, travel to Egypt for food.
- Say, "This week when you have a problem in front of you, don't get discouraged. Trust God and ask Him to help you come up with a solution like Joseph did. You can use what God gave you to solve problems!"

2. Gathering Grain Memory Verse

**We are teaching the NIV version of the verse this month, and the Bibles in the carts are NIV. If you are going to have kids use the Bible, the verse will read differently.*

What You Need: “Stalks of Grain Verse Cards” (NIV version, 2 sets per bin plus extra)

What You Do:

- Review the memory verse together a few times, *“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)”*
- *For non-readers, go through each word card and read it to the group.*
- Divide into two teams to line up on one side of your Small Group area.
- On the opposite side, scatter a set of “Stalks of Grain Cards” across from each team. (So both teams have a complete set of cards across from them.)
- When you say, “Go,” the first kid from each team will run to grab one card and run back to tag the next friend in line.
- Once teams have their cards, they must work together to put the verse in order then sit down to signal they’re finished.
- *Non-readers will need your help putting the verse together.*
- Check their work and declare a winner!
- Repeat the verse together one more time.
- Play a few times, trying to get faster.

3. Discussion Questions

- What are some ways that you like to be creative?
- Have you ever faced a problem that was hard to solve?
- Have you or any of your friends ever helped someone that needed something?
- What are some of the things you’re good at or that you enjoy, that you could use to help others around you?

4. Pray

- “God, thank You for everything You’ve given us and made us to be. Thank You for our hearts so we can feel the love You have for the people around us. Thank You for our minds and the way You’ve wired us to dream, think, and plan how we can demonstrate Your love to others. We’re grateful for the gifts and skills You’ve put inside us so we can creatively introduce people to You. Lastly, thank You for our whole, creative, selves. Help us use everything You’ve given us- and all You’ve knitted us together to be- to help the world around us. May we always be reminded that we can use what You gave you to solve problems.”

Extra Time Coloring Sheets