Teacher Preparation—Go Beyond the Hour!

During the Week

Jacob’s family was ruled by jealousy, covetousness, and hatred. How often these same attitudes are present in modern families! You have the opportunity to help young children know what God desires in our homes: contentment and love.

Read the background of Jacob’s family in Genesis 35:1–6 as preparation for studying this week’s lesson text. Also read instructions for families in Proverbs 15:1–6.

Have the new bulletin board display and attendance charts in place before the children arrive on Sunday.

Sunday Morning

As each child arrives, show him his new attendance chart and have him put the fire sticker over the 1. If he has brought an offering, have him give it before you direct him to the activities you have chosen to use now.

Materials

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Activity Time
Large brown paper grocery bag for each child; washable felt markers; strips of colored construction paper; books and puzzles about the life of Joseph, colors, and families; pattern 37-P02 (family) from resource CD 1237; music CD 1237

Bible Time
Music CD 1237; Bible Picture Book; verse visual 37-V1 (coat) printed on orange construction paper; action rhyme 37-A1 from resource CD 1237; week 1 picture for bulletin board

Handwork Time
Lesson 1 handwork sheet and Joseph’s coat sticker for each child; cotton balls

CHURCH TIME

Snack Time
Clear plastic cups containing slices of colorful fruit; e.g., strawberries, kiwi, mandarin oranges, blueberries; water

Activity Time
Pattern 37-P03 (coat) from resource CD 1237

Story Time
Music CD 1237; Bible Picture Book; silk flowers in various colors; vase; Michael and Emily Storybook; verse visual 37-V1; action rhyme 37-A1 from resource CD 1237

Craft Time
Pattern 37-P04 (wind sock) from resource CD 1237; crepe paper or ribbon streamers in various colors; stapler; paper punch; yarn

Closing Time
Today’s issue of Planting Faith at Home and the outer wrap for each child; music CD 1237

Desired Student Response
Each child will demonstrate ways to show love at home.

Lesson Theme
God wants us to love our family members.

Memory Verse
“Let us love one another, for love is of God” (1 John 4:7).

Text
Genesis 37:1–4

Topic
Sibling rivalry

Lesson 1 • June 3, 2012

Joseph’s New Coat
Use the following activities to prepare for Bible Time.

**CREATIVE ACTIVITY**

*Preparation:* Turn each grocery bag upside down. The blank side of the bag will be the front. The printed side will be the back. Cut straight up the middle of the “front” of the bag. Then cut a hole for the neck and hole in each side for the arms.

*Procedure:* Place the bags on the table with the “fronts” facing up. As the children arrive, let each one glue strips of colored paper onto his bag and draw designs to make a coat of many colors. As you show your sample project, tell the children that today they will learn about a young man who received a beautiful coat from his father.

**BOOKS AND PUZZLES**

Provide books and puzzles about the life of Joseph, colors, and families. Provide a copy of pattern 37-P02 and crayons for children who like to color. Talk about what the family might be doing.

As a signal to mark the end of Activity Time, play music CD 1237 or sing “This Is the Way We Help at Church” (track 17). Direct the children to help put away the activity supplies before they go to the story area. The Bible Time teacher should be waiting for the children in the story area.

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**SONGS**

(Sing “I Am Glad You’re Here Today” [track 5] to help the children focus on Bible Time.) What a wonderful day it is! I am so glad you are here. Your smiling faces make me smile too! Today we will learn about families. Let’s sing a song about how God wants us to act in our families. (Sing “My
Choice” [track 10] two or three times, depending on whether or not your students are already familiar with the song.

After we pray, we are going to hear a story from God’s Word, the Bible. Let’s sing about how we act during the story. (Sing stanza 3 of “This Is the Way We Help at Church” [track 17].)

PRAYER

Pray briefly, thanking God for families and asking God to help the children listen carefully to the Bible story.

BIBLE STORY

“Joseph’s New Coat” (Gen. 37:1–4)

Tell the story from your open Bible. Use pictures 37-1 and 37-2 when indicated in the story.

Introduction

This morning you made your very own colorful coat. They all look so beautiful! What colors did you use on your coat? (Allow response.) We are going to learn a true story from God’s Word, the Bible, about a young man who received a very special coat. It was made with many colors. Listen carefully!

Bible story

Long before Jesus lived on this earth, the Bible tells us about many people who loved God. Their true stories are in the front part of our Bibles called the “Old Testament.” (Show the Old Testament portion of your Bible. Have the children say “Old Testament” with you.) These people loved and worshiped God.

One of those people was Jacob. Jacob was married to Rachel. She died when the youngest son of Jacob was born. Jacob had twelve sons and one daughter—thirteen children! I don’t even have enough fingers to count to thirteen!

Jacob’s youngest son was Benjamin, and the next to the youngest was Joseph. (Show picture 37-1.) Benjamin and Joseph had TEN older brothers and a sister. Can you show me “ten” with your fingers? (Hold up both hands with fingers spread apart.)

Jacob and his sons were farmers and shepherds. They took care of large flocks of sheep. Joseph and his brothers all helped their father.

One day Jacob decided to give Joseph a very special gift. He gave Joseph a beautiful new coat with many colors. (Show picture 37-2.) Joseph and his brothers usually wore plain old clothes to work with the sheep. This coat was not for working! Joseph ran his hand over the soft, colorful wool. Joseph knew his father loved him. The coat was a very special gift.
But not everyone in the family was happy. Can you see who else is in this picture? (Point to the brothers.) How do they look? Why would the brothers be unhappy? (Allow responses.) None of them had received a coat. They were jealous. To be “jealous” means that you want something someone else has. It means that you are not happy for that person; instead you are angry that he got something and you didn’t. In fact, the Bible says the brothers hated Joseph and would not speak nicely to him.

(Speak in a sneering voice.) “Look at Joseph,” his brothers would say. “He’s got that coat on again. Who do you think you are, Joseph? You’re not better than us!”

Joseph’s brothers were not happy for Joseph. They were sinful. God was not pleased with their jealousy and hate. But God had a special plan for Joseph. We will learn more about that next week. (Place the week 1 picture on the bulletin board and place the color version of the coat [37-P03] over the Joseph figure.)

Questions

1. How many brothers were in Jacob’s family? (Twelve.)
2. What special gift did Jacob give to Joseph? (A colorful coat.)
3. How did Joseph’s brothers feel about Joseph and the new coat? (They were jealous and hateful.)
4. Why did they feel this way? (They did not get new coats.)
5. What does it mean to be jealous? (To want what someone else has. To be angry because someone got something you wanted.)
6. How did Joseph’s brothers treat him? (They were hateful and mean.)

ACT IT OUT

Choose one child to be Joseph; the other children are the older brothers. A teacher or helper is Jacob and puts the child’s colorful coat (from creative activity) on him. The “brothers” act jealous and angry and say mean things to Joseph. After a minute or two, playact again with a different Joseph. Let as many children as possible have a turn.

RHYME

Do the motions as you say the rhyme “A Loving Father” with the children.

MEMORY VERSE

Read the verse from your open Bible; then display verse visual 37-V1.
I will point to each word as I say it: “Let us love one another, for love is of God.” What word is in the verse two times? (Love.) Let’s “read” the verse again. (Do so.) Who does the verse say we should love? (One another.) Let’s “read” the verse one more time. Where does love come from? (God.) Now let’s say our verse together. (Repeat the verse two or three times.) Joseph’s brothers were not loving to him; they did not please God. But you can please God in your home. You can obey God’s Word and love the people in your home.

Let’s act out some ways to show love at home. (Choose volunteers to act out each scenario. Make up other situations appropriate for your class.) (1) Mother is trying to get everyone ready for church. Your baby sister is crying. (Play with the baby to entertain her.) (2) Your brother can’t find his favorite toy. (Help him look for it.) (3) Your little sister doesn’t have anything to do. (Stop what you are doing and play with her.) (4) Your friend wants to play with your favorite car. (Share the car with him.)

SONGS

Let’s sing a song that sounds like our Bible verse. (Sing “Love One Another” [track 9] two or three times.) Now let’s sing “My Choice” (track 10). How does the song tell us to act? (Patient, loving, and kind.) Were Joseph’s brothers loving and kind? Absolutely not! They were jealous and hateful. God wants you to do what the song says: be patient, loving, and kind with your family members. (Sing the song again.)

Handwork Time

Distribute the lesson 1 handwork sheet and coat sticker to each child. Guide the children in completing the handwork sheet by following the instructions on both pages. Discuss the story as the children work.

Cleanup Time

Changes usually take place near the end of the Sunday School hour and the beginning of the morning worship service. Some children leave, and some arrive. Therefore, keep this time relatively unstructured. One teacher should moni-
for the door, greeting new arrivals and saying good-bye to children who are leaving. Make sure each child has his take-home items, including today’s copy of *Planting Faith at Home*.

The children may help clean up and put away the handwork supplies. Take children to the restrooms. Make sure each child washes his hands before returning to the room.

**Snack Time** 10 minutes

Prepare fruit cups ahead of time. Select one or two children to help you set out the napkins and cups for water. Distribute the fruit cups. Ask one child to thank God for the snack.

Today we are having colorful fruit to eat. The colors of all the different fruits remind us of the colors in Joseph’s new coat. Can you name one of the fruits in your cup and its color?

**Activity Time** 20 minutes

Use the Sunday School activities or one of these suggestions: (1) playact the story, using the coats made in Sunday School (see page 11); (2) print copies of pattern 37-P03 and let children color the coat of many colors; (3) act out contemporary situations and have children portray the way they should react, the way that pleases God. Some ideas are as follows: a friend gets a gift that you want at a birthday party; mother allows sister to stay up later than you; teacher gives a classmate a sticker for being a good helper.

**Story Time** 20 minutes

**SONG**

Sing one or two of the children’s favorite songs. Review the new song “My Choice” (track 10).
BIBLE STORY REVIEW

Hide the silk flowers around the room. (You could do this while the children are going to the restrooms.) Ask a review question about the Bible story. Choose a volunteer to answer the question. If he answers correctly, he may find a flower and place it in the vase. Use pictures 37-1 and 37-2 as you review the Bible story together.

RHYME

Use the rhyme “A Loving Father” to further review the story. Encourage the children to do the actions with you.

MEMORY VERSE

Read the verse from your Bible. Display verse visual 37-V1 and say the verse again. Point to each word and have the children “read” the verse with you. Use a large ball for the review activity. You say the first half of the verse and toss the ball to a child. The child completes the verse and then tosses the ball to another child. That child says the first part of the verse and tosses the ball to someone else. Play continues until all the children have had an opportunity to say part of the verse. Recite the verse in unison.

SONG

(Sing “Love One Another” [track 9] two times.) Joseph’s brothers were not loving; they were jealous and angry. Let’s find out what is happening with Michael and Emily. At the end of the story, I will ask you which child was jealous.

STORY

Emily heard the front doorbell and followed Mommy as she went to answer it. “Why, hello, Mrs. Adams,” said Mommy. (Show picture 37-ME1.)

“I heard about Michael’s broken leg, and I wanted to bring him this coloring book,” said Mrs. Adams.

“Thank you,” said Mommy. “That was very nice of you.”

Emily felt a little sad and a little mad inside. Michael was getting another gift. Daddy had brought presents for Michael yesterday. And Pastor Bradley had brought some gifts from church.

“What’s wrong?” asked Mommy, noticing Emily’s frown. “Michael gets all the gifts,” said Emily in a pouting tone of voice. “I don’t get anything.”

“Michael can’t run and ride his bike or play outside right now like you can,” replied Mommy. “Our friends are
giving him gifts to help cheer him up.”

“I have an idea,” said Mommy. “How would you like to have me read a book to you before you have your afternoon rest?”

Emily smiled and ran to get her book. She noticed her Joseph coat of many colors that she had made in Sunday School. Emily remembered that Joseph’s brothers didn’t like it when he got the coat. Emily was acting just like those brothers.

“I need to be loving and kind,” thought Emily. “I want to please God. I don’t want to be like those brothers.”

As Emily walked by Michael’s room with her book, she looked in and said, “When I’m done resting, I’ll play a game with you.”

Michael smiled and so did Emily. Emily wanted to please God by being a loving sister.

Questions
1. What happened to Michael? (He had a broken leg.)
2. Why was Emily sad and mad? (Michael was getting presents, and she wasn’t getting any.)
3. What Bible story did Emily remember? (Joseph and his coat.)
4. How did Emily show kindness to Michael and please God? (She told him she would play a game with him.)

PRAYER
Let’s ask God to help us show love and kindness to others. (Pray briefly with these thoughts in mind.)

Craft Time
10 minutes

Distribute a copy of pattern 37-P04 and markers or crayons to each child. Show your completed project. Explain what a wind sock is. Read the Bible verse to the children and have them recite it. After the children finish coloring, help them cut out their wind socks and cut apart the strips. Give each child different colors of crepe paper or ribbon streamers. Show the children how to turn their pages upside down and glue the streamers to the existing strips on the bottom side of the wind socks. Help each child put glue where indicated and wrap the wind sock around to make a circle. Or staple the two ends together at the top and bottom. Tie a length of yarn through the holes for a hanger.
Give each child his papers and projects and today’s *Planting Faith at Home* leaflet and the outside wrap. Explain to the children that their parents can read the stories to them and help them do the fun activities together at home. Recite 1 John 4:7 in unison. Sing “My Choice” (track 10). Thank each child for coming to church today.

**next Week**

Gather the materials you will need for next week as listed on page 19. You will need adhesive magnet strips, glitter, and yellow cardstock during Church Time.