

OVERVIEW					
2s and 3s	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Lesson 3	Lesson 4	Lesson 5
Title	God Has a Plan: Trust and Obey	God Is with You: Serve Faithfully	God Is in Control: Remain True to God	God Convicts of Sin: Ask for God's Forgiveness	God Is Good: Trust His Plan
References	Gen. 37	Gen. 39; 40	Gen. 41:1—42:2	Gen. 42:1—43:3	Gen. 43—45; 50:15–21
Focus	God wants us to show our trust in Him by being obedient to Him.	God is with us even when our circumstances are hard.	God is in control and working out His plan in His time.	God convicts us of our sins and stands ready to forgive us.	God's plan is trust- worthy because God is good all the time.
Bible Verse	"Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, for the LORD your God is with you" (Josh. 1:9).				
Snacks	Sun, Moon, and Stars Joe's Colorful Coat Make Obedience a Pattern	Dreamy Treats Jail Bars Egyptian Pyramids	Plentiful Harvest Royal Ring Cupcakes Ears of Corn Gather the Grain	Hit the Trail Mix God's Forgiveness Change of Heart	Brothers' Feast Golden Chariot Wheels Forgiveness Snacks

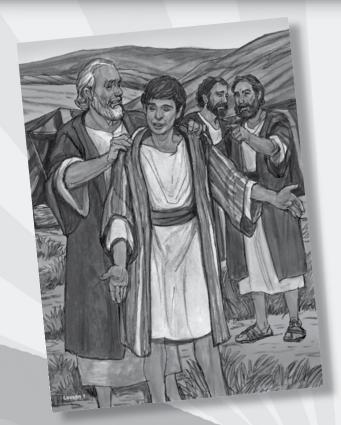
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GOD HAS A PLAN: TRUST AND OBEY

Gen. 37



MEMORY VERSE

"Be strong and of good courage; . . . for the LORD your God is with you" (Josh. 1:9).

TOPIC

God's Plan

THEME

God wants us to show our trust in Him by being obedient to Him.

MISSION OBJECTIVE

The students will choose to obey.





Select one of the following activities to start your session.

Option 1: Science Station—Where Is My Mother?

Materials

• Farm bulletin board set (31583) or pictures of baby and adult farm animals, such as cows, pigs, sheep, goats, horses, chickens, ducks, dogs, and cats; tape; container of water; container of oats.

Before class: Display images of adult animals at child height. Place the images of baby animals in a folder.

ACTIVITY: Hold up a picture of a baby farm animal. **ASK:** What animal is this? Give hints to help children answer correctly. **DISPLAY:** Display oats and water as they are mentioned.

This baby animal will not stay little for long. It will grow big. The farmer will give the baby animal water and good food. He will find a nice, warm place for the baby animal to sleep. Soon the baby animal will grow and grow and GROW!

DISPLAY: Hold up baby animal photos one at a time. **ASK:** What will the baby animal look like when it grows up? **ACTIVITY:** Help students match each picture of a baby animal to the picture of the adult animal displayed on the wall. Tape the picture of the baby animal next to the adult animal.

Just like the baby animals grow, we grow too! Today we will learn about a boy who loved God and tried to do right.

Option 2: Welcome to the Farm

Materials

• Farm play sets (31633); plastic farm animals (31629); farm-related toys.

Before class: Gather age-appropriate farm-related toys, such as barns, farm animals, and toy tractors and farm equipment.

ACTIVITY: As children enter, direct them to the farm toys and guide them to pretend they are on a farm.

Farms are fun places to explore. You can play outside. You can see the gardens where yummy vegetables and fruit grow. Maybe the farmer will take you for a ride on a big tractor. On a farm you can see lots of animals like cows and sheep. Today we will learn about a family who took care of lots of sheep!

- Smile, greet, and get to know each student.
 Kneel and make eye contact when speaking with a student.
- Make sure you have a completed registration card (30208) for each student.
- Distribute nametags (31533).
- Help each child record attendance on the attendance chart (31532).

Option 3: Farm Mural

Materials

• Green and brown construction paper; clip art from the decorating CD of the director's resource CD set (31502); craft paper; masking tape; scissors; markers; farm animal sticker roll (31581); foam farm stickers (31576).

Before class: Tape a length of craft paper to the wall. Create a farm scene mural, using clip art, construction paper, and markers.

ACTIVITY: As children enter, encourage them to add stickers to the mural.

Look at all the fun things we can explore on the farm! We can see all kinds of animals. We can learn about the families who care for the animals. Today we will hear a true story from the Bible about a family who took care of animals.



Cowabunga Farm

Hello, young farmers! Welcome to Cowabunga Farm! We will do lots of fun things as we explore Cowabunga Farm.

ACTIVITY: Have children stand and sing the following words to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell."

Let's go to the farm. (Walk in place.)

Let's go to the farm. (Walk in place.)

We will see some animals (Hold hands above your eyes.)

On Cowabunga Farm. (Clap three times.)

We will see a cow.

We will see a cow.

We will see a cow that moos (Moo.)

On Cowabunga Farm. (Clap three times.)

(Repeat, acting out different animals.)

Let's go to the farm (Walk in place.)

Let's go to the farm (Walk in place.)

We will learn about our God (Point up.)

On Cowabunga Farm. (Clap three times.)

Great job, farmers! Today we will hear a true story from the Bible. We will learn about a boy with lots of older brothers. He and his brothers helped take care of his family's sheep.





Teacher Tip ► Open in prayer and teach with an open Bible.

Materials

 Bible; lesson 1 visual packet and CD (31507); gift bag; multicolored robe or fabric; artificial stalks of grain.

Before class: Place the multicolored robe or fabric into a gift bag.

RECITE: Use this action poem to emphasize that this story is from the Bible. Encourage students to do the motions.

This is my Bible; its stories are true. (Form open book with hands.)

It tells me about God. It tells me what to do. (Point up. Point to self.)

Listen to the story, and you'll agree (Cup hands behind ears.)

That God loves and cares about you and me! (Point up. Point to another. Point to self.)

Joseph's home was a lot like a farm. Joseph had a LOT of brothers—and at least one sister. All of his family worked together to take care of the family's sheep. They worked together to grow good food for the family to eat.

ACTIVITY: Show a stalk of grain. Explain how grain is picked and then tied together into bundles called sheaves to make it easy to carry. The grain can be ground up and baked into bread.

One day, Joseph's dad gave him a special gift.

ACTIVITY: Ask children to guess what might be inside the bag. Open the bag and let the children see and touch the colorful robe or fabric. **DISPLAY:** Show visual picture 1. Point to Joseph.

Joseph's dad gave Joseph a special coat. This coat had lots of colors! Joseph's brothers knew the coat was special. Joseph got this special coat, but they didn't get one! This made them unhappy! (Make a sad face. Invite children to make a sad face with you.)

Joseph's brothers were angry at Joseph. They thought their dad loved Joseph more than he loved them. (Make an angry face; have children make an angry face with you.) (Whisper.) One night, Joseph was sleeping. Let's pretend to be Joseph.

ACTIVITY: Have children put their heads on their hands and pretend to be asleep. **DISPLAY:** Pass around long artificial stalks of grain. Remind students that the bundles of grain were part of the food that Joseph's family grew. Show the first half of visual picture 2. Point to the sheaf of grain. Remind students about gathering the grain and tying it into bundles called sheaves.

Joseph had a dream. He dreamed that he and his brothers were working together, tying grain into bundles. Joseph's bundle of grain stood straight up and tall. But his brothers' bundles of grain bent down low.



Lesson 1 Visual 1



Lesson 1 Visual 2

DISPLAY: Point to Joseph's bundle and have the children sit up straight and tall with their hands in the air. Point to the brothers' bundles and have children bend down low. **DISPLAY:** Show the second half of visual picture 2.

Joseph told his dream to his brothers. Joseph's dream meant that one day Joseph's brothers would bow before him! Joseph's brothers were angry. We would NEVER bow to Joseph, they thought.

One day, all of Joseph's big brothers were taking care of the sheep far away. Joseph's dad said, "Joseph, I have a job for you. Please check on your brothers and the sheep."

DISPLAY: Show visual picture 3. Point to Joseph.

Joseph obeyed right away! He had to walk a really long way, but he chose to obey! Joseph looked all over for his brothers.

ACTIVITY: Children stand and pretend to be Joseph. Walk in place, looking all around for his brothers.

Soon, a man came to Joseph and asked, "Who are you looking for?" Joseph told him, "I am looking for my brothers. Do you know where they are?" The man pointed. "They went way over there!"

Joseph walked and walked, looking for his brothers. Joseph may have been tired. But Joseph had a special job to do for his father. He obeyed!

ACTIVITY: Children stand and walk in place, pretending to be Joseph. Pretend to see the brothers in the distance.

As Joseph came closer to his brothers, they saw Joseph. They did not like Joseph. They wanted to do something mean to him. They wanted to kill him! Poor Joseph! The brothers took Joseph's beautiful coat. They threw Joseph in a deep, deep hole.

DISPLAY: Show visual picture 4. Point to Joseph's coat and the pit.

Joseph's brothers did not do right. They sinned. "Sin" is the Bible word for the wrong things we do. The Bible says that we all do wrong things. We all do wrong things sometimes. But God still loves us. We all deserve to be punished for the wrong things we do. But God loves us very much. He sent Jesus to take the punishment for the wrong things we do. Those brothers did a very wrong thing when they threw Joseph into that deep hole.

The brothers sat down to eat. While Joseph's brothers were eating their food, they looked up and saw some men and camels. These men were going far, far away to a country called Egypt.

DISPLAY: Point to the traders in visual picture 4.

Joseph's brothers had an idea of what they would do to Joseph! They could tell





Lesson 1 Visual 3



Lesson 1 Visual 4

the men to take Joseph with them. Joseph was taken far, far away from his home. But God still loved Joseph and was taking care of him.



Boys and girls, Joseph loved his father and chose to obey him. But Joseph's brothers did lots of bad things. They did not love their brother Joseph. They wanted to do something mean to Joseph. When we do not obey, it is a sin. "Sin" is the Bible word for the wrong things we do.

The Bible, God's Word, says that all people do wrong things. We all sin. Sometimes we get mad at our brothers or sisters. Sometimes we do unkind things to them. Sometimes we do not tell the truth. The Bible says that sin must be punished.

But God loves us so much that even though we do wrong things, He sent Jesus, His Son, to die on the cross to take the punishment for the bad things we do. But Jesus didn't stay dead. Three days later, He came alive again!

I am so glad that God loves us. God wants us to love and obey Him.

PRAY: Close in prayer. Invite students who wish to pray to tell God that they love Him and ask Him to help them to do right.



Joseph's Coat

Materials

• Brightly colored robes and shirts; large box; lesson 1 visual book (31507).

Before class: Gather brightly colored robes and men's striped shirts. Place the clothing in a large box. Don't worry if clothing is too large; children love to dress up in grown-up clothes!

ACTIVITY: Display the box of clothing. Encourage children to pretend to be Joseph and to try on the various "coats." As children pretend, review the story, using the lesson 1 visual book.

Joseph's dad made him a special coat of many colors. Joseph loved and obeyed his father. Joseph went to find his brothers. God is happy when we obey our parents. He is happy when we are kind to each other.



"Be strong and of good courage; . . . for the LORD your God is with you" (Josh. 1:9).

Teacher Tip ►

Hold your Bible open as you teach the verse, emphasizing that the verse is from the Bible.

Joseph trusted God. To trust God means that you believe God. You believe He loves you. You believe God will take care of you. God was with Joseph. Even in very hard times, God took care of Joseph. God is with us too! Because we know God loves us and will take care of us, we can be strong and brave.

"Be strong (Make a muscle with the right arm; hold the position.) and of good courage; . . . (Make a muscle with the left arm.) for the LORD your God (Point up.) is with you" (Point to others.)

Joshua 1:9. (Form open book with hands.)

Big and Small

ACTIVITY: Encourage children to mimic your actions as they say their verse. Say the verse while squatting low to the ground. As you repeat the verse, pretend to "grow," so that you are standing and reaching high to the ceiling when the verse is finished.

All the animals on the farm start out as tiny baby animals. But they grow and grow and grow! Let's pretend to grow big and strong while we say our verse together!



Option 1: Farmer and His Animals

Materials

• Plastic farm animals (31629); stuffed farm animals; boxes; blocks.

ACTIVITY: Children pretend they are farmers caring for their animals. Encourage them to build barns and pens from the boxes and blocks.

Farmers take good care of their animals. They make sure their animals are safe in fences or barns.

Option 2: Brothers and Sisters

Materials

• Toy cars; farm play sets (31633); toy trains and train tracks; blocks.

ACTIVITY: Encourage children to pretend they are all brothers and sisters. Remind them to share and show kindness to others as they play.

Families are special. God wants us to love our family. We obey God when we are kind to our brothers and sisters.





Option 1: I Will Obey!

Joseph chose to obey his father. Let's be just like Joseph. Let's choose to obey.

ACTIVITY: Sing the following words to the tune of "London Bridge Is Falling Down."

When my mom says, "Eat your food, eat your food, eat your food." (Pretend to eat.)

When my mom says, "Eat your food." (Pretend to eat.)

I will obey. (Clap three times.)

When my dad says, "Time for bed, time for bed, time for bed." (Point "go.")

When my dad says, "Time for bed." (Point "go.")

I will obey. (Clap three times.)

When Teacher says, "Listen, please. Listen, please. Listen, please." (Hold hand to ear.)

When Teacher says, "Listen please." (Hold hand to ear.)

I will obey. (Clap three times.)

When we obey our parents and teachers, we are obeying God!

PRAY: Pray, asking God to help the children choose to do right.

Option 2: God Is with Me

Materials

• Clean spray bottle; water; small fan.

Before class: Fill the spray bottle with water. Place the fan nearby. Ask workers to act out the scenarios below.

Joseph knew that God was always with him. God was with him even when he had to move far, far away from his home. God is always with you too. We can trust God. To trust God means we know He is with us and will take care of us even when we are afraid.

ACTIVITY: Act out several of the following scenarios below.

God is with me when I am in my bed in the dark. (Dim the lights. Have children put their heads on their hands and pretend to be asleep.)

God is with me during a loud storm when the wind blows and there is thunder. (Spray mist in the air. Turn on the fan. Make a loud sound like thunder.)

God is with me when I stay with my babysitter. (Have a worker pretend to be a babysitter and to play a quick movement game with them, such as Follow the Leader.)

PRAY: Pray, thanking God that He is always with us and that we can trust Him.