



WEEK 3

PRESCHOOL LESSON OUTLINE



BIG IDEA

Heroes make wise choices.

THE BIBLE

Joseph is Held Captive: Genesis 37:12-36; 39:1-23

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

WELCOME TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | A Tangled Mess
- **ACTIVITY** | Don't Get Caught in a Web

TEACHING TIME

- **MUSIC** | Worship Time
- **THE BIG IDEA** | Heroes make wise choices.
- **BIBLE STORY** | Genesis 37:12-36; 39:20-23
- **ACTIVITY** | Joseph in the Well
- **PRAYER**

DISCUSSION TIME

- **DISCUSSION** | Snack and Discussion
- **ACTIVITY** | Circle Time
- **ACTIVITY** | Joseph in Jail
- **MEMORY VERSE** | Isaiah 40:31

PLAY TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page of the Week
- **ACTIVITY** | Jail Tag
- **ACTIVITY** | Block Building



WEEK 3

PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE



BIG IDEA

Heroes make wise choices.

THE BIBLE

Joseph is Held Captive: Genesis 37:12-36; 39:1-23

WELCOME TIME

WHAT? *What are we talking about today?*

ACTIVITY | A Tangled Mess

- Welcome, everyone! We're going to talk about heroes making good choices.
- Spider-Man slings webs that trap other people, but he never gets stuck in his own webs, does he? That's because he makes wise choices and does things the right way.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Divide the kids into groups of four or five with one adult volunteer per group. Have them stand in a circle. With their right hand, each person should reach across the circle to hold someone else by their extended right hand. It can't be the person standing directly beside them. Repeat with the left hand. Now, everyone should be holding someone else by both hands. They can step over and under others, roll on the floor, or whatever else they need to do as long as they don't let go. Adult leaders should guide this untangling.*
- **Did any group get untangled?** What a mess! No one wants to get tangled up in anything.

ACTIVITY | Don't Get Caught in a Web

- We talked about Spider-Man capturing bad guys in his web. The bad guys get stuck and can't move. They're trapped!
- Sin is anything we do that isn't what God wants us to do. Sins, such as lying, can be like a sticky spiderweb. When you tell one lie, you start telling other lies to cover up the first one, and before you know it, you're trapped in a web of lies. See if you can get out of this web!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Create a web under a table or in a hallway by weaving yarn from side to side and*

at different heights. The kids will climb through the web without touching the web or they are “stuck.”

- When sin gets us trapped in a web, Jesus is ready to help us get unstuck! We'll learn about how Joseph got into a bad place, but he remained honest and did the right thing.

TEACHING TIME

MUSIC | Worship Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Spend some time singing with your preschoolers. You can sing any songs you'd like, but for this lesson we like, “Superhero” by Hillsong Kids and, “My God Is So Big” by LifeKids.

THE BIG IDEA | Heroes make wise choices.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Each week, do a big reveal (and make it fun) when you announce the Big Idea, like:
 - Ask the kids to give you a drumroll by stomping their feet or patting their laps.
 - Shout the Big Idea, then point to the kids and have them shout it back (Change it up by using funny voices, different volumes, or inflections).
 - Have a character (either recurring or rotating) come out every week to reveal the Big Idea.
 - Write it on a piece of paper and hide it somewhere in the room. Have the kids go on a “hunt” for it. When it's found, read it to the kids.
- This week's Big Idea: **Heroes make wise choices.**

BIBLE STORY | Genesis 37:12-36; 39:20-23

- Last week, we read about Joseph getting a special gift from his father, a fancy coat. It made his brothers really jealous. Let's read from the Bible to see what happened next.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Look up the story in your Bible and read it to your preschoolers.
- **What did Joseph's brothers plan to do to him after they heard about Joseph's dreams?** They planned to kill Joseph, but instead they threw him into a big hole in the ground used to catch water called a well. But he didn't stay in the well.
- **What happened to Joseph next?** His brothers sold him as a slave.
- **Do you remember what happened to Joseph's robe?** The brothers soaked it in animal blood and took it to Joseph's father. They pretended Joseph was killed by an animal. His father was very sad.
- **Where did Joseph go after he was sold into slavery?** He ended up a servant in the home of a man named Potiphar. Potiphar trusted Joseph and put him in charge of everything, and things were getting better for Joseph. Then, Potiphar's wife tried to get Joseph to sin, and he refused. She got mad at him and lied to get him in trouble. Potiphar had Joseph thrown in prison.
- **Did God leave Joseph when he was thrown in prison?** No! God was always with Joseph. He helped Joseph and the prison guards liked Joseph and were nice to him.
- **Do you think Joseph liked what was happening to him?** No way! Joseph needed courage to face the bad things that were happening to him.
- **Where do you think his courage came from?** God gave him courage.
- Joseph made wise choices, even when people tried to get him to sin. He refused to sin and chose to do the right thing and be honest, even if it meant he would get in trouble.
- Joseph trusted God so much that he refused to give in and do the wrong thing.
- You can make wise choices and do the right things, too!

ACTIVITY | Joseph in the Well

- Joseph's brothers were so angry and jealous of him, they wanted to kill him. Instead, they threw him into a well and then sold him to become a slave in Egypt. Joseph knew God was with him, and he made wise choices. Joseph was a superhero. Let's play a game about saving Joseph from the well.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Get a bucket and a pretend Joseph (a small person figurine). Have the kids hold Joseph in their hand with their arm raised over their head and try to drop Joseph in the bucket (the "well"). Once Joseph is in the well, you can have another kid try to rescue him using a scoop or some tongs.
- Even when Joseph was thrown in jail, he made wise choices. **What does it mean to make a wise choice?** It means we do the right thing.

PRAYER

- Let's spend time talking with God in prayer.
- Dear God, thank You for being with us even when we go through hard times. Please help us to make wise choices and do what is right, even when it's hard. Amen.

DISCUSSION TIME

DISCUSSION | Snack and Discussion

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Pass out a snack to all of your preschoolers and ask them to sit and listen while they eat. Your discussion will be more effective when they're busy sitting and snacking!
- **Where did Joseph's father send him?** (To check on his brothers and the flock of sheep.)
- **What did Joseph's brothers plan to do to him?** (To kill Joseph.)
- **What did his brothers decide to do instead?** (Throw him in an empty well.)
- **Did the brothers leave Joseph in the well?** (No, they sold him as a slave.)
- **What did the brothers tell their father had happened to Joseph?** (He was eaten by a wild animal.)
- **What happened to Joseph once he was in Egypt?** (He worked at Potiphar's house.)
- **How did Joseph end up in jail?** (Joseph made the wise choice and did not sin, but Potiphar's wife lied and Joseph was put in jail.)

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have the kids join you in a circle on the floor and read a list of choices. Tell the kids to give you a thumbs up if it is a wise choice, and a thumbs down if it's not a wise choice. For older kids, you can ask them to tell you how they could change the unwise choice to make it a wise choice. You can also have them help you make up some other wise choices.
- Your parent or guardian tells you to clean up your room, and you put a blanket on top of the toys instead.
- Your brother or sister needs help getting off the couch, and you come help them.
- You aren't supposed to eat anything right before dinner, but you find some cookies and eat two of them.
- You're at church and another kid spills a whole box of crayons. You help pick them up.
- Your friend looks sad, and you ask them, "Are you OK?" and give them a hug.

- You make a picture for someone who is sick, telling them you care about them.
- You take a toy from your brother or sister, and then tell your parents you didn't do it.

ACTIVITY | Joseph in Jail

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print the Joseph in Jail printable (in your Week 3 folder) onto card stock. Cut strips of black or silver paper to make the bars of the jail. Have the kids color the picture of Joseph in jail, then glue the bars onto the picture.
- Joseph had some really hard things happen to him, but he made wise choices and God never left him.
- Take your picture home to remind you of the story we heard today about Joseph.

MEMORY VERSE | Isaiah 40:31

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Check out the Memory Verse Guide in your Programming Folder for ideas on how to help your preschoolers memorize Bible verses. Here are the hand motions for this month's memory verse . . .

BUT THOSE WHO TRUST (make a T with your arms)
IN THE LORD (point up)
WILL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH (flex both arms).

PLAY TIME

While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . . .

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page of the Week

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give every kid a coloring page, plus markers or crayons. As they color, remind them Joseph made wise choices.

ACTIVITY | Jail Tag

- **INSTRUCTIONS:**
- Set a place in the room to be the "jail." Choose a kid to be "it" and play a regular game of tag (or a walking version, if you have a small space). When a kid gets tagged, they have to go to jail. The only way they can get out of jail is by having a friend come over and give them a high five or fist bump.

ACTIVITY | Block Building

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide the kids with blocks and people figures. Encourage them to build a well and retell today's story from the Bible.

Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.