

IMAGINE

LIVING YOUR DREAM

Children's Curriculum



Week 2

Bible Story: Joseph in a pit (Genesis 37:23-35)

Bottom Line: God is building character in me

Memory Verse: Romans 5: 3-4 NLT

"We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation."

(Preschool) "We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials"

Welcome Time:

- What is Character?
 - o What makes you who you are
 - o Character traits (Good vs Bad)
 - o Situations you go through help shape your character
 - o How you are raised (learning good from bad)
- Your Choices help shape your character

Illustration:

Have some exercise equipment on stage and something the children built as they arrived. The teacher goes over to what the children built and knocks it over "what took longer, building it up or tearing it down?" (Let the kids answer) "What is harder, building it up or tearing it down?" (Let the kids answer)

"Yes it's always harder to build than it is to tear down, but we need to build, building is a good thing. Just like we need to train, training is like building. (Pick up a small weight) if I do things that are easy, am I going to get stronger?" (Let the kids answer)" what things do I have to do to get stronger?"(Let the kids answer) "Are those things easy?" (Let the kids answer)
"So if I want to grow stronger, I have to go through things that are hard. Is studying for a test easy? How about getting a degree from college? (Let the kids answer) your right, it's not easy, but it's important. We talked about what some of your dreams were last week, some wanted to be doctor, teacher, and some other things that the kids mentioned the week before.

Worship Songs: Same songs as last week.

Decorations: Same as last week and for the whole series.

Learning Activities:

1. Get in teams and make lists of good and bad character traits
At the end make a big list on stage asking for input from all the teams
2. Good VS Bad Run
Using the Character traits you discussed. Have kids line up against the wall to play a version of Red Light Green Light. Instead of a Green light, you will use good character traits, and Instead of a Red light you will use bad traits.
3. Have some pictures of some Super Heroes and Super Villains – Ask kids what character traits make the Heroes so good and the Villains so bad
4. Video: Show the part of Joseph being thrown into the pit from Joseph: King of Dreams.
5. See Joseph in a pit craft below under Preschool activities.

Learning Activities for Preschool:

1. Yay! Or Ney!
 - a. Read the following story and have the kids yell "Yay!" when the character makes a good choice and yell "Ney!" when they make a bad choice
 - b. Once there was a boy named Joe. Joe lived in very small house with his Mom, Dad, older brother, and 2 younger sisters. They didn't have much money but they had each other so they were happy most of the time. One day Joe went with his mom to the store to buy some milk. He asked his mom if he could buy a candy bar but she said they only had

enough to buy the milk. But Joe really wanted the candy so he decided to slip it in his pocket anyways. (bad choice) Once they left the store Joe felt really bad for stealing the candy. He knew that it was a bad choice, so he told his mom and went to give the candy back. (good choice) The Manager told Joe that it was not good to steal but that he was glad in the end Joe made the right choice to apologize and bring the candy back. The manager said he was so proud of Joe for making the right decision that he sent Joe home with a big chocolate chip cookie. When Joe got home he bragged and waved the cookie in his sister's faces saying "ha, I got a cookie and you don't!" (bad choice) But when he saw his sisters start to cry he realized that what he did wasn't very nice, it made him feel sad to see them cry. He wanted to make them feel better so he ran to his room and got all the money from his piggy bank, which wasn't very much, and went to talk to his mom. He told his mom what had happened and how he wanted to buy his sisters a cookie too. (good choice) His mom said he didn't have enough money though. Instead she said they all could help make cookies together. When they were nice and warm out of the oven, Joe wanted to have one right then but Dad told him to wait until after dinner. As much as Joe wanted to take one, He remembered all the choices he made that day and decided he needed to make the right choice and wait until after dinner when everyone could eat one together. (right choice)

2. Memory Verse Chant

Lead kids in a march around the room, repeating the memory verse. Start in a regular tone but each time do it differently, sometimes super quiet and sometimes really loud. End in a really quiet tone to help kids quiet down for the next activity.

3. Coloring Page of Josephs Coat

http://biblewise.com/images/kids_korner/fun_games/2012/may/joseph_thrown.pdf

4. Craft: Joseph in a pit craft

<http://www.makinglearningfun.com/themepages/JosephPitPuppet.htm>

Closing Thought: The challenges we go through can either make us bitter or better. Choose to be better.

Prayer Time:

Is anyone going through something rough right now that they would like us to pray for? (Most likely you will get a lot of hands raised) Can I get a volunteer to pray for everyone who needs prayer? (Pick one person to pray and let them know that after they pray, you will also pray and then close out the day) Let kids know that if they want to pray one on one that they can come see you or any leader after class.