

Preschool Summer
Lesson 13:
Genesis – God Provides for Joseph and His Family

Objectives: Students will...

- 1) Continue to study Genesis: God Provides by Sending Joseph to Egypt to provide for his family
- 2) Do activities to remind them that God provides for us as He did for Joseph

Accommodations: How will I accommodate individual needs of students? See Lesson 1 for ideas

Supplies: Check with coordinator to ensure supplies are ready.

Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)

- Pens/Pencils
- Bible (please bring your own)
- Crayons/Pencil Crayons
- Attendance Sheet
- Stickers – enough for each child to have one every lesson for 13 lessons
- God Provides Color and Activity Page – one per child
- God Will Provide Chick Template Page – printed on white construction or cardstock paper – one per child
- Seeds – small seeds to glue onto chick page
- White glue or glue sticks to share
- Scissors to share
- Brad or paper fastener clip – one per child
- God Provides for Joseph’s Family Color Page – one per child

Optional Activities

- Storybook of the Bible story with pictures to show kids (if available) and/or
- Flannel Display Board with pictures or Visual Aids. (if available)
- Soft Ball – to share
- Dolls and Animals – enough to share OR
- Play dough – enough to share
- Large Flat Plastic Bin with sand poured inside
- Plastic Dolls or Dolls made out of pipe cleaners – enough for children to share (if made Joseph pipe cleaner you can use him as well)
- Little Tents made out of pipe cleaners and paper or cloth – enough to share
- Plastic small animals – sheep, cows, camels, etc. – enough to share
- Snack – Your Choice – enough for each child
- Napkins
- Cups with water or milk
- Puppet to tell students the real events from the Bible

Lesson:

1) Introduction to lesson:

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance (using attendance chart supplied). Write each child’s name on the sheet provided. Let each child put a sticker beside their name for this week. Have them sit around the table.

Say to students, **“We learned last time that Joseph got a special coat from his dad Jacob. And that none of his other brothers got a special coat so that made them jealous and angry. We also learned that Joseph had two special dreams. These dreams upset his brothers even more because they showed that Joseph was going to be in a higher position of authority than his brothers.**

Can anyone remember what his two dreams were about? Allow students to answer (grain and sun, moon, and stars all bowing down towards Joseph)

Since we are talking about families and sharing let’s sing a song about families and how nice it is when our families have Jesus in them!

Sing:

With Jesus in the Family

With Daddy in the family, happy, happy home.

Happy, happy home. Happy, happy home.

With Daddy in the family, happy, happy home.

Happy, happy home!

With Mommy in the family, happy, happy home.

Happy, happy home. Happy, happy home.

With Mommy in the family, happy, happy home.

Happy, happy home!

With Brother in the family, happy, happy home.

Happy, happy home. Happy, happy home.

With Brother in the family, happy, happy home.

Happy, happy home!

With Sister in the family, happy, happy home.

Happy, happy home. Happy, happy home.

With Sister in the family, happy, happy home.

Happy, happy home!

With Baby in the family, happy, happy home.

Happy, happy home. Happy, happy home.

With Baby in the family, happy, happy home.

Happy, happy home!

With Jesus in the family, happy, happy home.

Happy, happy home. Happy, happy home.

With Jesus in the family, happy, happy home.

Happy, happy home!

2) God Provides

10-15 minutes

***Optional:** if you have a book with pictures showing this story you can show the pictures as you read from the Bible, or if you have flannel characters, etc. you can use those as visuals while reading from the Bible.

***Optional:** If you have a puppet you can use the puppet to tell the event in the Bible.

Turn to **Genesis 39** and start to read the account of Joseph’s dreams from the shortened version below condensed from Genesis 39-47

Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. ² The LORD was with Joseph so that he was a successful man.

41 When two full years had passed, Pharaoh had a dream. ¹⁴ So Pharaoh sent for Joseph. ¹⁵ Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I had a dream, and no one can interpret it. But I have heard it said of you that when you hear a dream you can interpret it."

¹⁶ "I cannot do it," Joseph replied to Pharaoh, "but God will give Pharaoh the answer he desires." ²⁸ "It is just as I said to Pharaoh: God has shown Pharaoh what he is about to do. ²⁹ Seven years of great abundance are coming throughout the land of Egypt, ³⁰ but seven years of famine will follow them. Then all the abundance in Egypt will be forgotten, and the famine will ravage the land. ³¹ The abundance in the land will not be remembered, because the famine that follows it will be so severe. ³² The reason the dream was given to Pharaoh in two forms is that the matter has been firmly decided by God, and God will do it soon.

³³ "And now let Pharaoh look for a discerning and wise man and put him in charge of the land of Egypt. ³⁹ Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one so discerning and wise as you. ⁴⁰ You shall be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you." ⁵⁶ When the famine had spread over the whole country, Joseph opened all the storehouses and sold grain to the Egyptians, for the famine was severe throughout Egypt. ⁵⁷ And all the world came to Egypt to buy grain from Joseph, because the famine was severe everywhere.

When Joseph's brothers came to Egypt and saw Joseph, Joseph said to them,

45 ⁹ "Now hurry back to my father and say to him, 'This is what your son Joseph says: God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; don't delay. ¹⁰ You shall live in the region of Goshen and be near me—you, your children and grandchildren, your flocks and herds, and all you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there, because five years of famine are still to come. Otherwise you and your household and all who belong to you suffer greatly.'

47 ¹¹ So Joseph settled his father and his brothers in Egypt and gave them property in the best part of the land. ¹² Joseph also provided his father and his brothers and all his father's household with food, according to the number of their children.

Say, "Joseph went to Egypt thanks to God and was able to help Pharaoh the king of Egypt who in turn made Joseph in charge of all the land. Because Joseph was in charge he was able to help his family, thanks to God by providing a place for them to stay in Egypt and food to eat during a terrible famine - A famine means a time when there is no rain so the plants dry up and no food can grow making it hard to find food to eat. Without the help of God Joseph's family would have suffered because they would have run out of food! God provided for Joseph's family and God provides for us too!

Let's sing:

Joseph's Song

To the tune of "London Bridge"

Joseph's father had twelve sons,
Had twelve sons, had twelve sons.

Joseph's father had twelve sons,
Oh, what a family.

Joseph's father loved him best,
Loved him best, loved him best.

Joseph's father loved him best,
Oh, what a family.

A fancy coat was his gift,
Was his gift, was his gift.
A fancy coat was his gift,
Oh, what a family.

All his brothers were so jealous,
Were so jealous, were so jealous.
All his brothers were so jealous,
Oh, what a family.

His brothers threw him in a pit,
In a pit, in a pit.
His brothers threw him in a pit,
Oh, what a family.

Egypt bought him as a slave,
As a slave, as a slave.
Egypt bought him as a slave,
Oh, what a family.

God caused a famine in the land,
In the land, in the land.
God caused a famine in the land,
Oh, what a family.

By then Joseph was a mighty man,
Mighty man, mighty man.
By then Joseph was a might man,
Oh, what a family.

His brothers came to him for food,
Him for food, him for food.
His brothers came to him for food,
Oh, what a family.

Joseph forgave and fed them all,
Fed them all, fed them all.
Joseph forgave and fed them all,
Oh, what a family.

3) God Provides Color and Activity Page

10 minutes

Hand out one sheet to each child with pencil or crayons. Read the directions aloud and help the children by going through each picture and deciding what it shows on how God provides. Have the children circle the pictures as you discuss them, then if time allows, let them color the pictures and if able draw a picture at the bottom of other ways God provides for them!

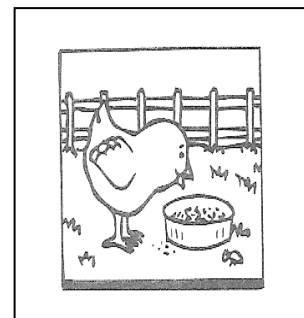
While you go through it, you may want to point out how God provided for Joseph and his family at the same time – provided food during the famine, a place to live that was safe, brought the family back together after being apart, etc.

4) God Provides Chick Craft

10 minutes

*Before class make sure you have seeds to glue onto page and if children are too young, cut out the chick and the square background of the farm beforehand as well.

During class: Hand out background of farm and allow students to color as you read from Philippians 4:4 on the page.



Ask:

How does God meet our needs? Let students answer: gives us food, family, clothes, love, etc.

How does God meet animal's needs? Gives food, water, care, etc.

God is great for providing for us and everything on earth. God provided for Joseph and his family by giving them a safe place to live and food after a big famine (a time when there is no rain so things don't grow and food becomes hard to find).

God cares for us today and God cares for animals too! Wow! How nice God is!

When students are done coloring, hand out a chick for them to color. When they have done that, take a brad (paper fastener) and punch a hole with it through the chick onto the mark on the page. Secure the chick to the page by flipping the page over and securing the brad at the back. Next take some glue and gently put some in the food bowl for the chick. Let each child take some seeds in their hands and gently drop the seeds onto the glue to stick so the chick has food.



Show the children how to move the chick up and down to eat its food.

Ask the children; **How is this chick being provided for?** It is getting food!

Say, **God provides food for the animals like this little chicken. God provided for Joseph's family and God provides for us too!**

5) Optional: Follow God Because God Provides Game

5 minutes

Line the students up in a row so that they can all see you and have enough space to move their hands and feet without hitting anyone beside them.

Say to the students: I am going to say "Joseph" and then an action word. I want you to follow and do what I say. Just like Joseph followed God and was good to his family, we are going to follow along and do what I say, ok? Ready? Everyone quiet and listen.....good job

Joseph – touch your hands together

Joseph – say "Thank You God."

Joseph – gather some food (pretend to gather food)

Joseph – say "I follow God"

Joseph – say "God provides"

Joseph – have a dream (pretend to put your hands under your head like you are sleeping)

Joseph – put on your special coat (pretend to put on a large robe)

Joseph – give your family a hug (pretend to give people a hug)

Joseph – hand out food to your visitors (pretend to hand out food to everyone)

Joseph – sit down!

Thank class for playing and then have them sit at the table for the next activity.

6) Optional: God Provides - Roll the Ball Game

5 minutes

During class, tell the kids, **"Let's all sit on the floor in a circle. While we are in the circle we are going to pass the ball to one another, as you pass the ball gently to a person and the person gets the ball; I want them to say, "God provides....." and then say something that God provides like a food, clothing, family member, etc.**

You can only pass the ball to someone who hasn't had a turn yet, if someone catches the ball that already had a turn, you must give it to someone who hasn't so we call get a chance to play, ok? "

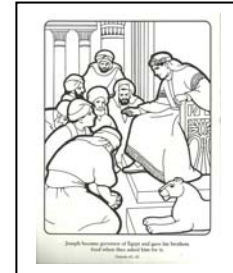
Remember, the person who gets the ball, must say “God provides! Along with something God provides them.

Make sure each child gets a turn before doing another round or moving on to another activity. It may be hard for little ones to think of something to say so you may have to help them out – what is your favorite fruit? What is your favorite shirt? Do you have a pet? How did you get here today? Etc.

7) God Provides for Us like He Did Joseph Color Page

10-15 minutes

Hand out one page to each child with crayons. Let children color the page while you discuss the following.



Ask the following questions:

God provides for us so we need to trust in Him as Joseph did.

What are some ways we can we trust in God?

Allow students to answer, examples might be: We can trust God when

- Having troubles at school
- Trusting that going to church is what God wants because He says too
- Trusting that we will be blessed for obeying God
- When we are scared
- When we share our faith with others
- Trusting that by following the Bible we are making God happy.

It's important to remember that God provides EVERYTHING we need – food, clothing, shelter, salvation, love, care, heaven, families. He even takes care of us when things seem to be going wrong. Look at Joseph –God was caring for him the whole time and ensuring Joseph and his family were cared for! Even though there was a big famine – meaning no food anywhere in the land. God provided for Joseph's family. God is wonderful and we need to remember and be thankful for all that God provides us – like He did for Joseph!

Let students finish coloring the page and talk about how the picture shows Joseph and his family meeting in Egypt and how Joseph was able to help his family thanks to God!

8) Optional: Joseph's Family Play Dolls/Play dough

5-10 minutes

Pass around dolls, play dough, animals or books about Joseph and his family and other things that will help children remember that they learned about the fact that Joseph got a special coat and had two special dreams. Also that God provided for Joseph and his family by sending Joseph to Egypt so that his family could come and have food and a safe place to stay during the famine. Say, **“The Bible tells us that Jacob was blessed with a family and he had 12 sons! One of his son's name was Joseph and he had two dreams about his family. Much later, those dreams came true when Joseph became the second in charge of Egypt and was able to bring his family to live in Egypt to have a safe place and food to eat during the famine. Let's play with our dolls as we think about Joseph and his family and how God provided for them and us!**

Let students play with the dolls and books and then clean up.

9) Optional: Sand Box Play Time with Joseph

5-10 minutes

Before class make pipe cleaner tents and dolls and/or purchase plastic dolls with plastic animals. Fill a large flat plastic bin $\frac{1}{4}$ of the way with sand for the children to play in. If needed make two bins if there are more than 4 children so they all have a side to play in.

*If available use the Joseph pipe cleaner dolls the children made last week to play with.

Explain that **Joseph helped his family move to Egypt during a famine so that his family would have a safe place to live and food to eat. He was able to help because God provided him with a good job and the knowledge to help the Pharaoh. Let's play with Joseph and his family and help them move to Egypt!**

10) Sing

Choose songs from the Songs section of the binder especially songs about Joseph

The Bible is God's Book (To the tune of Farmer in the Dell)

The Bible is God's Book,
His words are written there.
I like to open it and read,
That I am in His care.

He cares for you and me.
He cares for you and me.
Just like he cared for Joseph
Yes, He cares for you and me.

11) Optional – Snack : Your Choice

5 minutes

Hand out a snack for each child. Also give each child a glass of water or juice. Explain that, **“God provides for all our needs: our families, church, food, clothing, shelter and more. As we eat these snacks let's remember that it is because of God that we are able to eat these. It is because your parents believe in God and believe it is important to worship God that you are here today. Let's always remember that God provides for everything we need! God provides and we should be grateful to Him!** Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands. Discuss questions while snacking!

12) Close in prayer

Ask all children to bow their heads and fold their hands to pray, then say: Thank You God for the world You made and for showing us people in the Bible who followed You. Thank you God for our families too. Thank God that You bless us and provide for us if we are faithful like Joseph was! Pray that we will be like Joseph and be faithful, patient, trusting, kind and wise! Thank you for providing our food, clothes, family, homes and friends. Thank you God for your Son Jesus who loves us too and thank you God for everyone here today and those who could not be here because they were sick or away. We pray you will bring us all back to Sunday school next week safely. In Jesus name, Amen.