

Lesson 5: God Will Provide for Us Like Joseph!

Objectives: Students will...

- 1) Review Joseph's life so far and see how God provided for him all the way through
- 2) Study verses from the Bible to learn that God will be with us and provide for us like He did for Joseph
- 3) Do activities to reinforce the idea that God provides for all our needs

Supplies:

Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)

- Bible(s)
- Markers/Pencil Crayons
- Pens/Pencils
- Attendance Chart (See Template)
- Stickers for Attendance
- Match the Verse Activity Sheet – one per student
- God Provides Word Search – one per older student
- God Provides Color Page Activity – one per younger student

Optional:

(Rubber Band "Stress" Game)

- Rubber bands – approximately 10 for each child plus a few more in case some break
- Scissors to share to cut bands in needed

Snack:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| - Your choice | enough per child |
| - Napkins for snack | one per child |
| - Juice or water and cup | one per child |

Lesson:

1) Introduction to Lesson

2-5 minutes

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance. Once children are seated say:

What did we study last time about Joseph? Joseph interpreted a dream for the cupbearer and baker of the king. A few years later, Pharaoh had a dream and the cupbearer remembered that Joseph could interpret dreams and had Joseph interpret the dream for Pharaoh. Joseph also gave a wise plan of action to help with the dream. This plan pleased the Pharaoh and because God was with Joseph – the Pharaoh made Joseph second-in-command and went from a lowly forgotten prisoner to the most important man in Egypt besides the Pharaoh!

2) God Provides for Us!

10 minutes

Hand out one Match the Verse Activity Sheet to each child. Some may be too young to read, but they can listen as the rest of you read and study the verses. Hand out a pencil to each child and ask them to write their name on the page.

Say to the students: **Today we are going to study how God provides for us – just like He provided for Joseph!**

What are some ways God provided for Joseph? Raise your hand if you can think of one of the ways God provided. God provided Joseph safety from his brothers by being sold as a slave rather than being murdered. God provided a way out for Joseph when Potiphar's wife was trying to seduce him. God provided people in Joseph's life that trusted Joseph and gave him charge in the places he was. God provided the cupbearer who eventually shared with Pharaoh that Joseph could interpret dreams. God provided Joseph with the ability to interpret dreams. God provided Joseph a family in Egypt with 2 sons and a wife. God provided Joseph with a job – being second-in-command to Pharaoh!

Match the Verse with the Way God Provides
Draw a line from the verse to the right explanation on the right.

<p>Psalm 68:10 Your people wept to it, and from your bounty, God, you provided for the poor.</p>	<p>God provides for the poor</p>
<p>1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has overcome you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you will not sin.</p>	<p>God provides us with everything we enjoy</p>
<p>1 Timothy 6:17 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.</p>	<p>God provides us with strength</p>
<p>Hebrews 1:3 The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.</p>	<p>God provides a way to do right</p>
<p>1 Peter 4:11 If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, as that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.</p>	<p>God provides us with purification of sins</p>

God Provides!

God provides for us too! God gives us everything we need. Let's look at these verses and see what God provides us. Then we will match the verse with the correct description on the right. Make sure you draw a line from the verse to the description after we all read through each one together. If there are any words you don't understand just ask.

- Answers:**
- Psalm 68:10 – God provides for the poor**
 - 1 Cor. 10:13 – God provides a way to do right**
 - 1 Tim 6:17 – God provides us with everything we enjoy**
 - Heb 1:3 – God provides us with purification of sins through Jesus**
 - 1 Peter 4:11 – God provides us with strength**

3) Word Search or Color Page on Ways God Provides 15-20 minutes

Hand out one sheet per student. Give students a choice between the color page or word search. Hand out crayons for the color page and ask students to pick a crayon to use for their word search. (IF students want they can do both if time, or take one home to do later.) The idea is to give younger students the option of coloring rather than looking at words they might not know how to spell yet.

God Provides!

Color all the pictures below that show how God provides for all of our daily needs!

Can you think of other ways God provides? If so, draw or write it here.

God Provides for Us Word Search

The words can be found in: down, left, right, diagonal, or backwards!

P	W	E	H	E	L	P	A	T	N	E
R	I	G	H	T	O	U	S	I	N	E
O	E	V	G	E	L	N	A	N	E	I
V	T	L	A	N	L	I	M	I	B	O
I	F	F	W	I	O	P	F	I	S	T
O	N	E	D	I	T	R	E	N	G	H
E	V	E	R	Y	T	H	I	N	G	A
I	S	P	D	N	W	R	T	D	P	P
B	O	C	V	E	R	E	T	A	W	E
E	C	M	U	N	C	L	O	T	H	E
H	I	D	L	O	C	K	E	P	I	N
J	A	C	O	F	O	R	T	I	M	E
G	O	O	D	N	E	S	A	V	R	O

For the word search read the instructions and words to look up aloud before students begin so they know what the words are supposed to be. Ask if there are any words they might not understand and if so explain them to them. Go through each word as students work on the search and ask them how this word shows that God provides for us.

For the color page, read the instructions and have them color the pictures and then draw some other ways God provides for us.

When finished ask students to clean up before moving on to the next activity.

4) God Provides for Us Like He did Joseph Because Joseph Trusted in Him 10 minutes

- Ask the following questions:**
- God provides for us so we need to trust in Him as Joseph did. When did Joseph trust in God?**
- When he was sold as a slave he trusted God would keep him safe
 - When he fled from Potiphar's wife he trusted God would take care of him
 - When he was put in prison he trusted God would care for him
 - When he interpreted the dreams of the cupbearer and baker he trusted that God was able to interpret the dreams

- When Joseph went before Pharaoh he trusted that God would be with him and interpret the dream for him.

How and when can we trust in God?

Allow students to answer, examples might be:

- 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, etc. He even takes care of us when things seem to be going wrong. Look at Joseph – most people would think things were terrible for him and then in the end you see God was caring for him the whole time and ensuring Joseph and his family were cared for! God is wonderful and we need to remember and be thankful for all that God provides us – like He did for Joseph!

5) Optional – Rubber Band “Stress” Pull Game

10-15 minutes

Have rubber bands and scissor for students ready.

Explain to students that **we are going to play a game with rubber bands. In order to do that I need everyone to make sure they listen and follow the rules. At no time can anyone point or throw a rubber band at anyone else – only towards the target which is the wall. Anyone who does not follow the rules will be asked to sit down immediately and have their rubber band removed because we don't want anyone to get hurt. Understood?** Make sure children nod or say yes before moving on. **Great. Now the goal of this game is to be the first pair of students to create a rubber band that will stretch from one end “Here” to the wall “There” in 10 minutes. It is up to you to make the stretchiest rubber band you can in the shortest amount of time. To win, your rubber band must stretch from the wall you're standing in front of to the far wall. You can tie, cut, stretch and use all the rubber bands you and your partner each have and join them together to make the stretchiest band possible. Ready? Go!** After 9 minutes, say 1 more minute. Then declare time is up. The group with the bands that stretch the farthest win!

Then discuss:

How did you feel when you and your partner were trying to win the game?

What fears, if any, did you have during the game?

When was there a time you felt like that in real life? Think of an answer in your head.

We need to remember that God provides. He is with us and will help us if we trust and ask Him to! Let's remember that when we feel stressed and “stretched” we need to trust and talk to God!

6) 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. It is because you came that you are eating a snack that was prepared to remind**

you that God provides. If you didn't come today – you wouldn't have gotten the snack! Let's always remember that God provides for everything we need! Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands. Discuss questions while snacking!

7) Optional – Songs

5 minutes

Have children sing songs with you. Some examples:

- 1) **Old Testament Books of the Bible – Sung to the Alphabet song**
- 2) **Songs of Joseph** (See Printed Song Sheet)

8) Close in prayer

*If desired, ask the children if they have any prayer requests and write them down to help you remember. Then ask all children to bow their heads and fold their hands to pray.

Thank God that He will bless us and provide for us if we are faithful to Him like Joseph was! Pray that we will be like Joseph and be faithful, patient, trusting, kind and wise! And thank God for all we have because of Him and His Son Jesus Christ.

Thank you for serving Christ in this way!