

Joseph

Free Bible lesson for under 5s



Grown-ups

Introduction

This week we will look at the story of Joseph. You can point out that Joseph is the grandson of Isaac and Rebekah and the son of Jacob. His story is found in Genesis 37-45.

Some of the key points that we will examine are—

- God has a wonderful plan for our lives and can turn a bad situation into good. Romans 8:28
- Even if people forget us, God will never forget us.
- Forgiveness. Joseph forgave his brothers even though they hurt him.

Bible Lesson

Bring out a piece of paper. Show the child how perfect the paper is. As you begin to speak, fold the paper. You will be creating a snowflake. Explain how each cut you make might be seen as a bad thing, but as you unfold the paper and show the beautiful snowflake, point out that the seemingly bad cuts created something beautiful. Explain how sometimes things happen to us that make us sad, but God only allows it if it is to make something better. Read Romans 8:28.

Ask the child if they have ever forgotten something. Maybe a toy or a picture to give to someone. Point out an instance where you forgot something. Remind them that God never forgets. He knows everything.

Explain about forgiveness. Point out that forgiveness is to stop feeling angry because of someone else's bad behaviour. Ask the child if someone has ever done something to them which made them sad or angry, or if they have ever done something wrong to someone else. Point out some of the ways we can do wrong. Disobeying and fighting with siblings. Pouting. Explain that it is important to ask forgiveness from God and those we have wronged.

Give an example of a time your child needed forgiveness. Explain how Joseph offered forgiveness even though his brothers didn't ask for it. Demonstrate how you ask God for forgiveness for sins you have committed.

Thank You

Thank you once again for joining us for this week's lesson. There will be a new one added each Friday covering the Old Testament in 2019. Please give me feedback, so that I can adjust the lessons over the next weeks to best meet your needs.

Do you need more of something? Colouring pages, crafts, activities sheets, instructions.

If you have any friends who would benefit from these lessons, feel free to share it with them.

Blessings. Jon

Video playlist



inc video lesson



The Story of Joseph

Joseph had eleven brothers, but his father loved Joseph best. One time, He gave Joseph a beautiful, colourful coat.

Joseph's brothers were angry that their father had given him the coat and loved him the most. They decided they would do a very bad thing. They grabbed Joseph and sold him to some people as a slave. A slave is someone who is owned by another person.

Joseph's brothers did another bad thing. They took Joseph's coat to their father and said, "Joseph is dead."

Their father was very, very sad.

But Joseph was not dead. He had been taken to Egypt and sold to a man named Potiphar. Potiphar liked Joseph because he always worked his best and was honest. God blessed Potiphar because Joseph lived in his house.

Potiphar had a wife, and she was not a good woman. She wanted Joseph to do something wrong. Joseph said, "No." and ran away.

Potiphar's wife was angry and told Potiphar that Joseph was a bad man. Potiphar believed his wife's lies and sent Joseph to prison. A prison is a place where someone is locked up for doing something wrong. Joseph was there even though he hadn't done anything wrong.

Joseph worked in the prison, and soon his boss liked him and made him a helper. One day, Joseph met two men who had dreamed the night before. They said, "We don't know what these strange dreams mean."

Joseph said, "I will tell you."

Both men listened to Joseph. Everything happened just like Joseph said it would. One of the men told Joseph that he would remember Joseph had helped him and help him become free.

But He didn't remember.

Joseph stayed in prison. Two more years passed. That is a long time, but God had a plan.



One night, the pharaoh, which is like a king, had a strange dream. He was very confused. He asked everyone, "Do you know what my dream means?"

They couldn't help him.

Finally, the forgetful man who Joseph had helped said, "I know who can help you."



Pharaoh called Joseph. Joseph listened to his dream and said, "There will be seven years with lots of food, and then seven years with no food."

The pharaoh was scared. "What shall I do?"

"You should save food during the years with lots of food," said Joseph. "I will help you."

When the years with lots of food ended, the years with no food began. Everywhere people were hungry. Far away, Joseph's father and brothers were hungry too. They heard about the food in Egypt. "We will go there," said Joseph's brothers.

His brothers arrived to buy some food from Joseph, but they did not recognise him because a long time had passed.

Here was Joseph's chance to punish his brothers for selling him, but he didn't send them to prison. He decided to see if they had changed. He created some tests to see if they were still bad. He did many things to them.

Joseph's final test was to pretend that one of his brother's had committed a crime. He said that brother would go to prison.

One of his other brothers said, "No, punish me instead."

Joseph knew that his brothers had changed. He told the truth. "I am your brother Joseph."

Then his brothers were afraid that Joseph would punish them. Joseph said, "I will not harm you. You did a bad thing to sell me. God used it for good. I was able to save food to help people."

Then Joseph's family came to Egypt. Joseph and his father were happy to see each other. God can always use bad things to do good.



Games and Activities

Paper snowflakes

Fold some paper and cut out bits.

When finished unfold to make a snowflake.

For application to this weeks lesson see lesson notes.



Mr Crocodile

This classic playground game is great for teaching colours. Child asks "Mr Crocodile, may I cross the river?" The Crocodile replies, "If your wearing You may cross." If the child is wearing the mentioned colour they take a step forward. If playing with more than one child, you can have them run across the river without being taged by the crocodile.

Funny faces

Find some things inside or out to build a den. When finished why not use it to read this week's story?

If your feeling really adventurous, pitch a tent in the garden.



Draw a line to match Joseph's face to how he was feeling?

Cheeky



Surprised



Angry



Happy



Sad



Joseph had a coat of many colours. Can you match these children's clothes to the right colour?

Green

Red

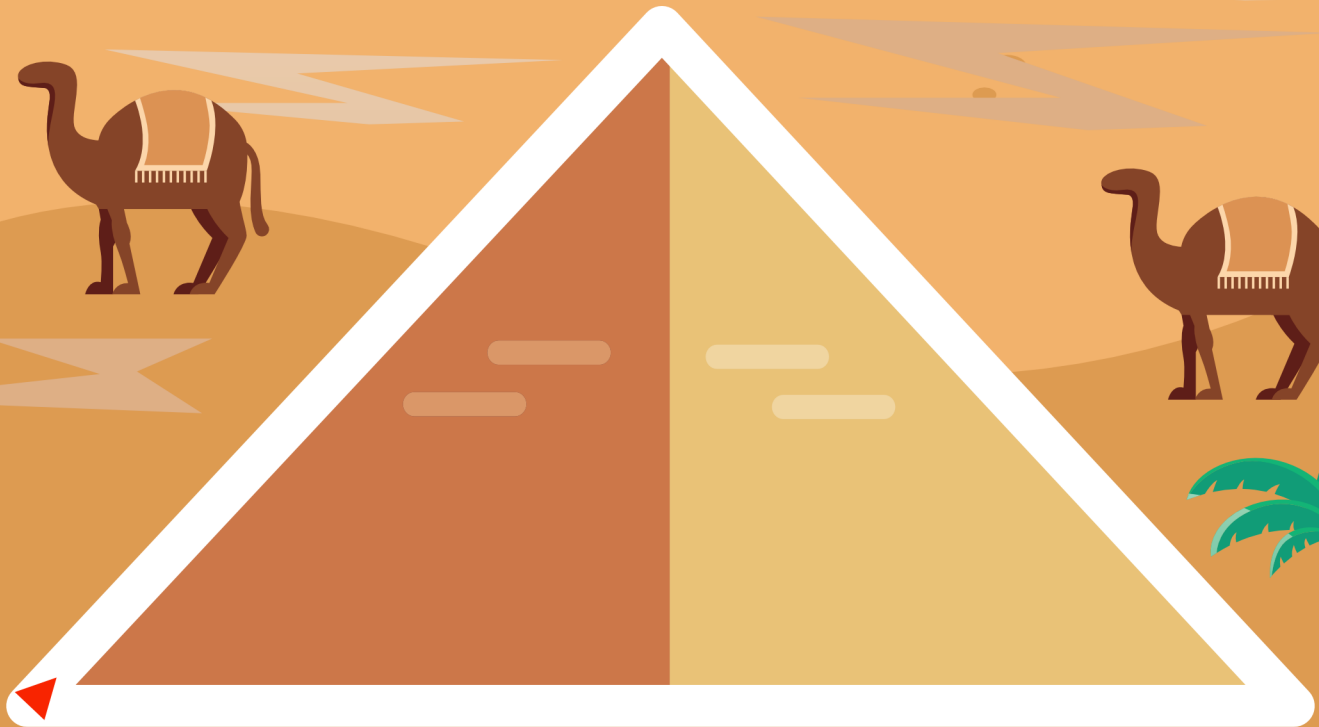
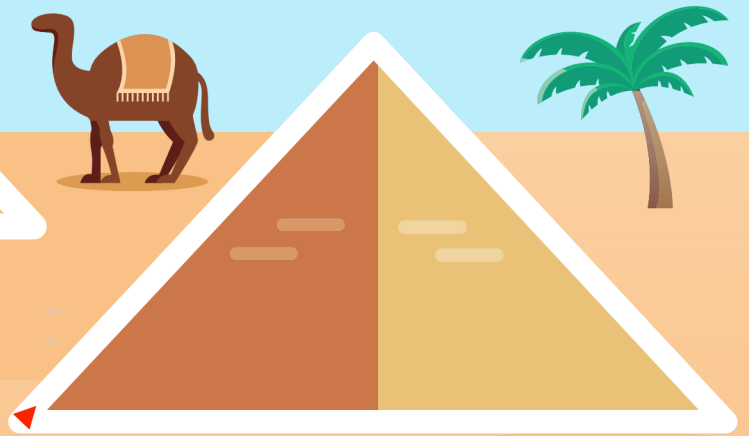
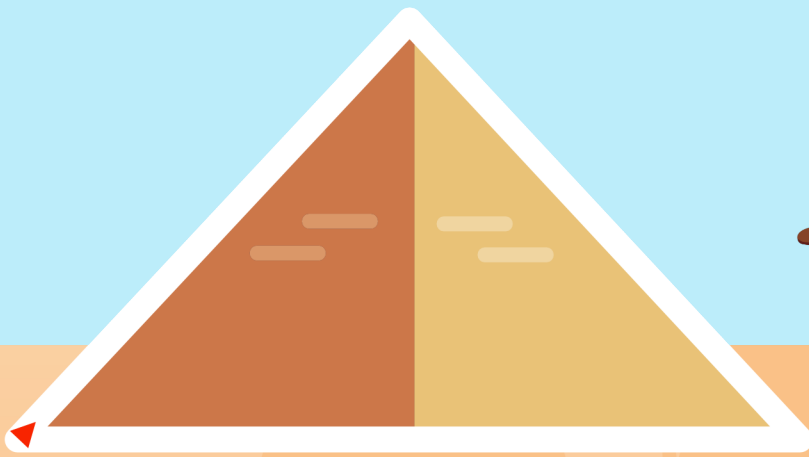
Yellow

Blue

Orange



Draw around the pyramids. Try to stay inside the white lines.





Joseph's coat collage

Glue on bits of paper to make a colourful coat for Joseph. Try this easy to make craft.

What you need

- Template
- Scissor
- Glue
- Colour paper



What to do



Cut colour paper into small squares



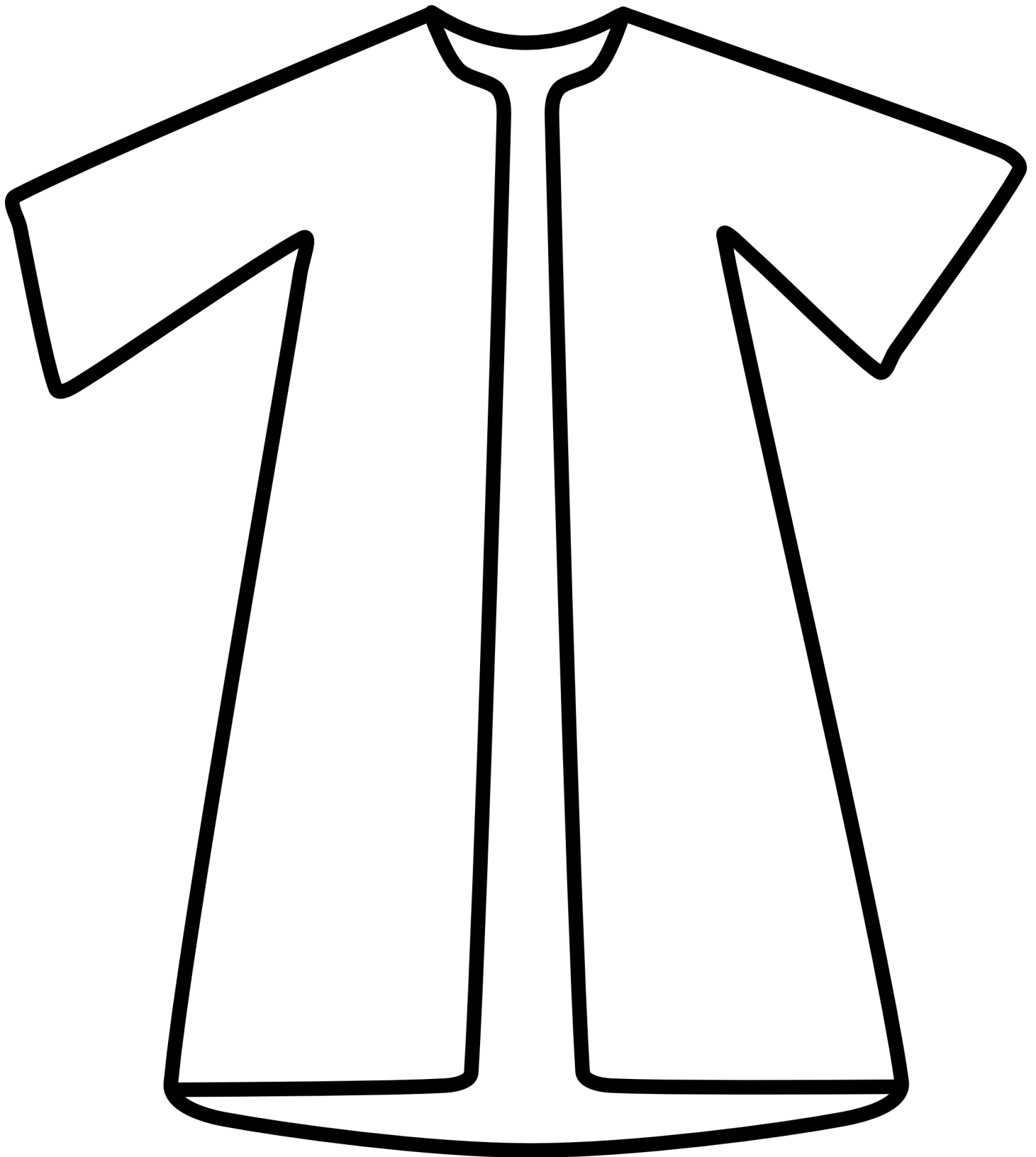
Cut out coat shape
From template



Glue paper bits onto coat
Allow to dry

Craft Template

For best results print onto white card.



Worship Time

God Always Keeps His Promises

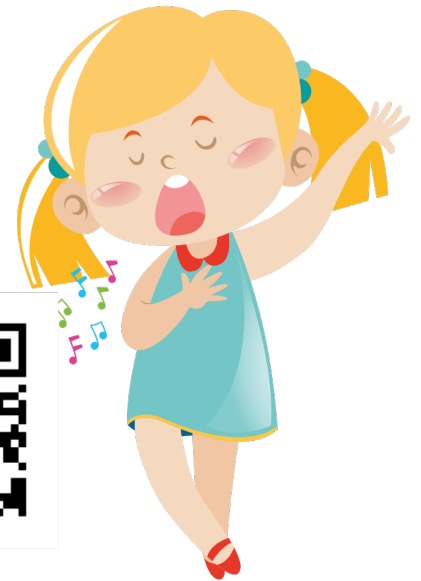
<https://youtu.be/WzrFkvn1LGg>

Joseph Song

<https://youtu.be/nAE0tjDSHqg>

Do Not Give Up

<https://youtu.be/EPqPcQjHDwg>



Prayer Time

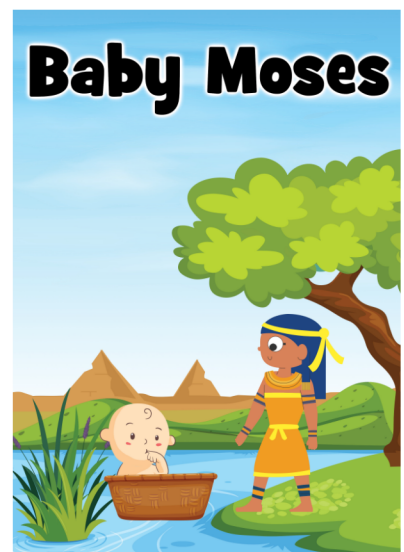
Ask God to help you forgive others

Thank God working everything for your good.

Next Week:

Baby Moses

Friday, 5th April 2019



If you haven't already done so, sign up to receive future lesson by email.

