



BIG IDEA

Everyone has a part to play in God's story.

GENESIS | JOSEPH | WEEK 1 OF 4

Character

GOD STORY

Creation to Joseph
Genesis 1–36

KEY VERSE

We know that in all things
God works for the good of
those who love him.
Romans 8:28a (NIRV)

LEADER TIPS

- When students join your group, introduce yourself and learn their names. Encourage the students to learn one another's names, too.
- Remember that being well prepared allows for smoother transitions and a better experience for everyone.
- This series follows Joseph from the beginning of his life until he's reconciled with his family. Highlight the ways in which God is at work through the life of Joseph.

My Story

1 | CONVERSATION STARTER (7 minutes)

To lead into the lesson, chat about how the students view the Bible and why. Introduce today's Big Idea.

2 | INTRO ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Compete in teams to list the names of as many people from the Bible as possible in one minute. Highlight that they all had a part in God's story.

God Story | Life Story

3 | WEEKLY VIDEO (12 minutes)

Watch the video, which includes host, God Story, and Life Story segments. Recap and discuss the teaching.

My Story

4 | APPLICATION ACTIVITY (12 minutes*)

Discuss when the students have felt insignificant and their roles in their everyday lives. Emphasize that God has a part for everyone in his story.

5 | WRAP-UP ACTIVITY (10 minutes)

Share stories about God using the students in cool ways, then wrap up by praying together.

Our Story

6 | DISMISSAL (2 minutes)

*Extend as needed and adjust timing for other activities.



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My Story

1 | Conversation Starter

SUPPLIES

- None

LEADER TIP

- This is meant to be a casual conversation as the students arrive. Move on quickly to the Intro Activity so you have time for it before the teaching video.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Welcome the students and gather them together.
- Check in quickly to see how their week is going.
- Ask:
 - What is the Bible? How would you describe it to someone who had never heard of it before?
 - Why do you view the Bible that way?
- Depending on the size of your group, have the students share their stories with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.
- Explain that the Bible is God's story given to us. God partnered with regular people to write his message. It's a mix of writing styles: poetry, historical books, letters, and parables (stories). The Bible helps us understand who God is, as well as his desire for a relationship with us.
- Introduce today's Big Idea: **Everyone has a part to play in God's story.**

2 | Intro Activity

SUPPLIES

- Paper
- Pens
- (Optional) Timer
- Prizes

LEADER TIP

- This activity could work with the students divided into teams or paired up. Do whatever works best for your group.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Divide the students into teams.
- Give each team a piece of paper and a pen.
- Let them know they'll have one minute to write down the names of as many people from the Bible as they can.
- After one minute, invite a team to read aloud their list, pausing after each name. Instruct the other teams to raise their hands if this person is also on their list.
- Award one point for each unique person (who is actually in the Bible!) that no other team listed.
- Repeat with each team's list of people.
- Give prizes to the winning team.
- Point out that every one of these people had a part to play in God's story. We do, too!



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God Story | Life Story

3 | Weekly Video

SUPPLIES

- Video file

INSTRUCTIONS

- Play the video. It includes:
 - Host segment
 - God Story (Creation to Joseph, Genesis 1–36)
 - Life Story (When Andrew is older, he'd like to take on roles in the film industry. An important role he already plays is helping other kids learn about Jesus!)
- Recap the video teaching. Discuss:
 - What's the Key Verse for this series about Joseph? (Romans 8:28a)
 - What stood out to you in today's Life Story? How about the God Story?

My Story

4 | Application Activity

SUPPLIES

- Sticky notes
- Pens

LEADER TIP

- Be prepared to kickstart the conversation by sharing your own example.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Discuss: Have you ever felt as if you were insignificant or didn't really belong somewhere?
- Point out there are people in the Bible who may seem insignificant to us or to God's story. However, everyone matters to God!
- Guide the students to get into groups of three or four people. If possible, get them to sit facing one another so it's easier for them to focus.
- Give each group some sticky notes and pens.
- Explain that they will be identifying the various roles they play in their everyday lives.
- Prompt the group members to take turns being the focus. Encourage everyone to work together to come up with roles that person plays (e.g., athlete, daughter, friend, leader, listener, sister, student). Direct them to write each role on a note and stick it to the student.
- Make sure each person gets a turn before bringing everyone back together.
- Tell the students these roles they wear are great and God can partner with them in many ways. However, there may be another part for them in God's incredible story that has nothing to do with these roles. God weaves us into his story in amazing ways!
- Emphasize the Big Idea: **Everyone has a part to play in God's story.**



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My Story

5 | Wrap-Up Activity

SUPPLIES

- None

INSTRUCTIONS

- Gather everyone back together in a large group.
- Invite the students to share their stories about times when God used them in cool ways. If possible, share your own story too!
- To wrap up, pray for the students and the parts they play in God's story.

Our Story

6 | Dismissal

SUPPLIES

- Take-home cards
- Key Verses cards

INSTRUCTIONS

- Take a few moments to pray for the students if you have not already done so.
- Remind everyone about any upcoming events or relevant announcements.
- Make sure the students have all their take-home materials.
- Ensure the adult teaching is over before dismissing the students.