



BIG IDEA

Even when things don't look good, God is with us.

GENESIS | JOSEPH | WEEK 3 OF 4

Enslaved

GOD STORY

Enslaved

Genesis 37:12–35; 39

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 is 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 today's lesson, chat about places where the students refuse to go and why that is.

2 | INTRO ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Introduce the Big Idea, then act out scenarios that highlight God is with us.

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*)

Read and discuss Romans 8:28. Make slap bracelets as reminders of the Key Verse for this series or today's Big Idea.

5 | WRAP-UP ACTIVITY (10 minutes)

Encourage the students to use a prayer activity page to help them share what they're experiencing with God.

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

- Kickstart the conversation by sharing your own answer first.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Welcome the students and gather them together.
- Check in quickly to see how their week is going.
- Ask: Is there a place where you would never go—even if someone paid you heaps of money? If so, where? Why wouldn't you go there?
- Depending on the size of your group, have the students share with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.

2 | Intro Activity

SUPPLIES

- None

INSTRUCTIONS

- Introduce today's Big Idea: **Even when things don't look good, God is with us.**
- Invite the students to take turns acting out scenarios from the list below:
 - You're in bed and your whole family is sleeping. Then you hear a creepy noise...
 - You're flying on an airplane—and you're super afraid of heights.
 - You and a friend got into a huge fight, and it feels as if nothing could be worse.
 - Your teacher makes you stand in front of the whole class and talk for two minutes about a topic you don't really understand.
 - Create your own situations.
- Once a scenario is well established, shout, "Pause! God is with you!"
- Encourage the actors to change up the situation to reflect that **even when things don't look good, God is with us.** For example, in the situation where someone's in bed and hears a creepy noise, they could pray and ask God for help not being afraid.
- Continue acting out different situations as long as time and interest permit.



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God Story | Life Story

3 | Weekly Video

SUPPLIES

- Video file

INSTRUCTIONS

- Play the video. It includes:
 - Host segment
 - God Story (Enslaved, Genesis 37:12–35; 39)
 - Life Story (T.J. was born with cerebral palsy. He experienced many difficulties because of his health issues. But God gave T.J. hope and helped him realize that he can accomplish a lot in Christ!)
- Recap the video teaching.
- Discuss: What stood out to you in today's Life Story? How about the God Story?

My Story

4 | Application Activity

SUPPLIES

- Bibles
- Slap bracelets
- Markers

INSTRUCTIONS

- Make sure everyone has access to a Bible.
- Guide the students to look up the first part of Romans 8:28 (the Key Verse for the Joseph series).
- Read it together.
- Discuss:
 - What do you think the Key Verse means?
 - How can you see it played out in Joseph's life?
 - Can you think of anyone else for whom this has been true?
- Give each student a slap bracelet.
- Place the markers where they can be shared.
- Direct everyone to write the Key Verse or today's Big Idea (**Even when things don't look good, God is with us**) on their bracelets. Encourage the students to be creative with decorating around the words.
- Make sure they sign their names on their bracelets.
- While the group works on their bracelets, ask them to consider how Joseph may have felt at this point in his story.
- Discuss:
 - How do you deal with those kinds of thoughts or feelings? Who do you talk to about this stuff?
 - How do you interact with God during these times? Who points you towards God?

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My Story

5 | Wrap-Up Activity

SUPPLIES

- Prayer activity pages
- Pens

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Give each student an activity page and a pen.
- b. Ask everyone to put down their electronics (or even hand them over momentarily).
- c. Invite the students to take a moment to talk to God. They could write a prayer on the activity page or pray silently. Encourage them to share something they're experiencing or going through with God.
- d. Give everyone a couple minutes without any distractions.
- e. To wrap up, pray that the students would know that God is always with them!

Our Story

6 | Dismissal

SUPPLIES

- Take-home cards
- Key Verses cards

INSTRUCTIONS

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