



BIG IDEA

God can partner with us
anywhere.

GENESIS | JOSEPH | WEEK 4 OF 4

Prisoner

GOD STORY

The Prisoner
Genesis 40–41

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 which qualities the students look for in work partners. Introduce today's Big Idea.

2 | INTRO ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Play a few games to highlight the various ways partners may act. Emphasize that God chooses to partner 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 review Genesis 40:5–7 and 41:9–14.

5 | WRAP-UP ACTIVITY (10 minutes)

Look at descriptions of a variety of places and chat about whether God has ever partnered with the students in each one.

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

- Use this quick activity to welcome the students, build community, and set the tone for your group.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Greet the students and gather them together.
- Check in quickly to see how their week is going.
- Ask:
 - When you're told to find a partner in school, do you have a default person you always pair up with?
 - What qualities do you look for in a partner for a project? Does it depend on the subject? Why or why not?
- Depending on the size of your group, have the students share their stories with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.
- Introduce today's Big Idea: **God can partner with us anywhere.**

2 | Intro Activity

SUPPLIES

- Masking tape
- Ping-pong balls
- Cups
- Capped bottles half-filled with water
- Beach ball

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY

- Set up the games (see instructions below) around your group's space before the students arrive. Make sure the distances are challenging (e.g., where to toss the ping-pong from or the space between the students volleying the ball).
- Tape lines on the floor to separate the game areas and designate where the students should stand.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Guide the students to find partners.
- Explain how to play the mini games:
 - See how many tries it takes each partner to get a ping-pong ball into a plastic cup.
 - See how quickly both partners can successfully do a bottle flip that lands upright.
 - See how many times partners can volley the beach ball back and forth without it hitting the floor. Give each pair two tries.
- Spread out everyone at the games and direct them to take turns playing with their partners.
- Instruct the students to change partners when they change games.
- When everyone has played all the games, point out that some of the students were great partners at some games, but maybe not so great at others! Some of them were kind partners, and others...not so much. Humans make mistakes, and we get mad or irritated. However, God still chooses to partner with us!



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God Story | Life Story

3 | Weekly Video

SUPPLIES

- Video file

INSTRUCTIONS

- Play the video. It includes:
 - Host segment
 - God Story (The Prisoner, Genesis 40–41)
 - Life Story (Sisters Hannah and Miah wanted to bring about change in their school because there was a lot of anger and violence there. They started the Alpha youth program and saw amazing results!)
- 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

- Bibles

INSTRUCTIONS

- Make sure everyone has access to a Bible.
- Guide the students to look up Genesis 40:5–7.
- Invite someone to read the verses aloud.
- Discuss:
 - Where are they in this passage?
 - Imagine a similar situation today. Do you think God can partner with people in prison now? Why or why not? What might that look like?
 - Is there somewhere it seems as if God would be unlikely to partner with you? Are you open to God partnering with you there? What might that look like?
- Flip to Genesis 41:9–14.
- Ask another student to read the verses aloud.
- Discuss:
 - Where is Joseph by the end of this passage?
 - Did Joseph's relationship with God change during his time in prison?
 - How did God partner with Joseph when he was brought to Pharaoh?
 - Joseph ends up in the palace in front of Pharaoh. When things changed from bad to amazing, did Joseph change?
 - In your life, do you have the same relationship with God no matter what the circumstances are—good or bad?
 - What's your version of Pharaoh's palace? In other words, where's a fantastic place where you'd love to be?
 - How could God partner with you there? Are you open to him partnering with you there? Why or why not?

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My Story

5 | Wrap-Up Activity

SUPPLIES

- Signs
- Wall-safe tape

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY

- Hang the signs in four separate areas around your group's space.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Divide the students into four groups.
- Direct each group to a different sign.
- Encourage the group members to discuss the following questions at each sign: Has God ever partnered with you there? If so, how? If not, how might God want to partner with you there?
- Give the groups a couple minutes at each sign.
- Guide them to move to the next sign and repeat the discussion questions.
- When the groups have discussed all four places, gather everyone back together.
- Invite the groups to share their highlights or any cool stories from their discussions.
- Close in prayer together.

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.