



JOSEPH AND HIS BROTHERS

BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 37

FOCUS VERSES: Psalm 145:13, Isaiah 26:4,
Deuteronomy 7:9, Proverbs 21:1

Summary: Joseph was his father's favorite son out of twelve brothers. His brothers hated him. One day, they schemed to throw him into a pit and tell their father he was dead. They sold Joseph to a caravan of traders, and he was taken to Egypt. Joseph encountered more terrible situations, but God was using every single event for good. Eventually, God would use Joseph's circumstances to place him in a position of power in Egypt, where he would save many lives.



MONTHLY *Memory Verse*

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

(HEBREWS 13:8)



God can be trusted.

We will go deeper in God's truth by answering these questions:



WHY CAN GOD BE TRUSTED?
Because He is completely good, everything God does is right and good. He is completely faithful.



CAN WE TRUST GOD WHEN THINGS DON'T GO OUR WAY?
Bad things happen because we live in a broken world. We can trust that God has a plan and He is good.



HOW IS GOD INVITING ME TO RESPOND?
Kids will be given the opportunity to reflect on the truth they learned about God and respond accordingly.



IT COULD BE WORSE!

SUPPLIES:

None

PREP:

None

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: To increase engagement, have kids discuss each situation in pairs.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Welcome each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*
2. **Discuss:** What was the best and worst part of your week?
3. **Discuss:** This month we are learning that God is unchanging, which means that God never changes and always stays the same. How have you seen this week that God is unchanging?
4. **Discuss:** Have you had a good day turn bad? What happened?
5. **Say:** I will read a good situation and you will have to think of how that situation could be worse.
6. **Say:** Here is the first situation: You go to the beach for the day, and the water is perfect. I want you to think of what could happen to make this good situation bad.
7. *Encourage the kids to suggest different ideas—popcorn style.*
8. *Continue playing using the following good situations:*
 - You are invited to a birthday party.
 - Your team wins six games in a row.
 - Your parents let you choose your favorite restaurant for dinner.
 - Your new video game has arrived, and you can't wait to play it.
 - You have no homework.
9. **Say:** Wow. All of those situations went from good to bad. Sometimes life can feel like that! But we can also have bad things turn to good, too!
10. **Discuss:** Have you ever had any situations that went from bad to good? What happened?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Today we are learning about a person in the Bible who had some very good situations and some very bad situations happen to him.



Discipleship DISCUSSION

HOW CAN I KNOW THIS IS TRUE?

Discuss: What have you learned about ancient Egypt in school?

Say: Isn't it cool to think that Joseph was living in the middle of the culture you've learned about in school? Historians have not yet found much in Egyptian history that talks about Joseph, but scientists and historians are making new discoveries all the time. In fact, archaeologists have discovered evidence of a massive drought in Egypt and the surrounding areas. While there is disagreement about the date, it is possible that this was the cause of the famine mentioned in Joseph's story. We can always trust that God's Word is true.

BUT WHAT ABOUT ... WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN?

Discuss: Have you ever heard anyone say that if God is real, He wouldn't let bad things happen?

Discuss: Why might someone feel that way? How would you answer?

Discuss: What does the Bible have to say about that?

Say: It can be very hard to understand how a good God who loves us and is in control of everything would let bad things happen. First, we know that we live in a world broken by sin. God's design for the world did not include the terrible things that we experience today. But just like with Joseph, He uses hard times in our lives to fulfill His greater plan. He uses pain to bring us closer to Him and make us more like Him. Bad things happen to everyone, but that doesn't mean God isn't real. It just means that our world is broken. God is with us during the hard times, and He uses every situation for good. God says in Isaiah 41:10: *Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.*



ROLL-A-SITUATION

OLDER ELEMENTARY SMALL GROUP
JOSEPH AND HIS BROTHERS

PAGE 1 OF 1

PREP: Print the printable page.

SITUATIONS:



Your best friend is moving away.



Your parents are fighting a lot.



Your soccer team loses the championship game.



There are some kids at school making fun of you.



Your parent lost their job.



Your grandma is very sick.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: BELOW ARE A FEW QUESTIONS YOU CAN USE TO DISCUSS EACH SITUATION. VARY WHICH ONES YOU ASK EACH TIME.

- What can you remember about God in this situation?
- What can you pray for?
- How would you feel in this situation? Is there a verse that can help you?
- Who can help you? Who can you talk to about this situation?



TAKE-HOME ACTIVITIES

JOSEPH AND HIS BROTHERS

COMPLETE THE COMIC

MAKE NEW WORDS

How many words can you make out of this phrase?

GOD CAN BE TRUSTED

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

STICK MAN

1. Think of a word from today's story. Draw a blank for each letter.
2. Find a partner to guess letters.
3. If they guess a letter from your word, write it in the blank.
4. If they guess a wrong letter, draw a piece of the stick man.
5. Can they guess your word before the stick man is complete?





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BIBLE PASSAGE (GENESIS 37)

Summary: Joseph was his father's favorite son out of 12 brothers. His brothers hated him. One day, they schemed to throw him into a pit and tell their father he was dead. They sold Joseph to a caravan of traders, and he was taken to Egypt. Joseph encountered more terrible situations, but God was using every moment for good. Eventually, God used Joseph's circumstances to place him in a position of power in Egypt, where he would save many lives.

Today's Brite Idea is: God can be trusted.



MONTHLY Memory Verse

*Jesus Christ is the same
yesterday and today
and forever.*

(HEBREWS 13:8)



BIG QUESTION

Does God ever change? No!



God can
be trusted.



God has a
plan for us.



God has a
plan for me.



COLOR MATCH

SUPPLIES:

6 pairs total of colored items (crayons, blocks, toys, paper, books, etc.), bin

PREP:

Put all the colored pairs into the bin.

ACTIVITY INTRO:

Welcome everyone! My name is _____. *Greet each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*

INSTRUCTIONS:

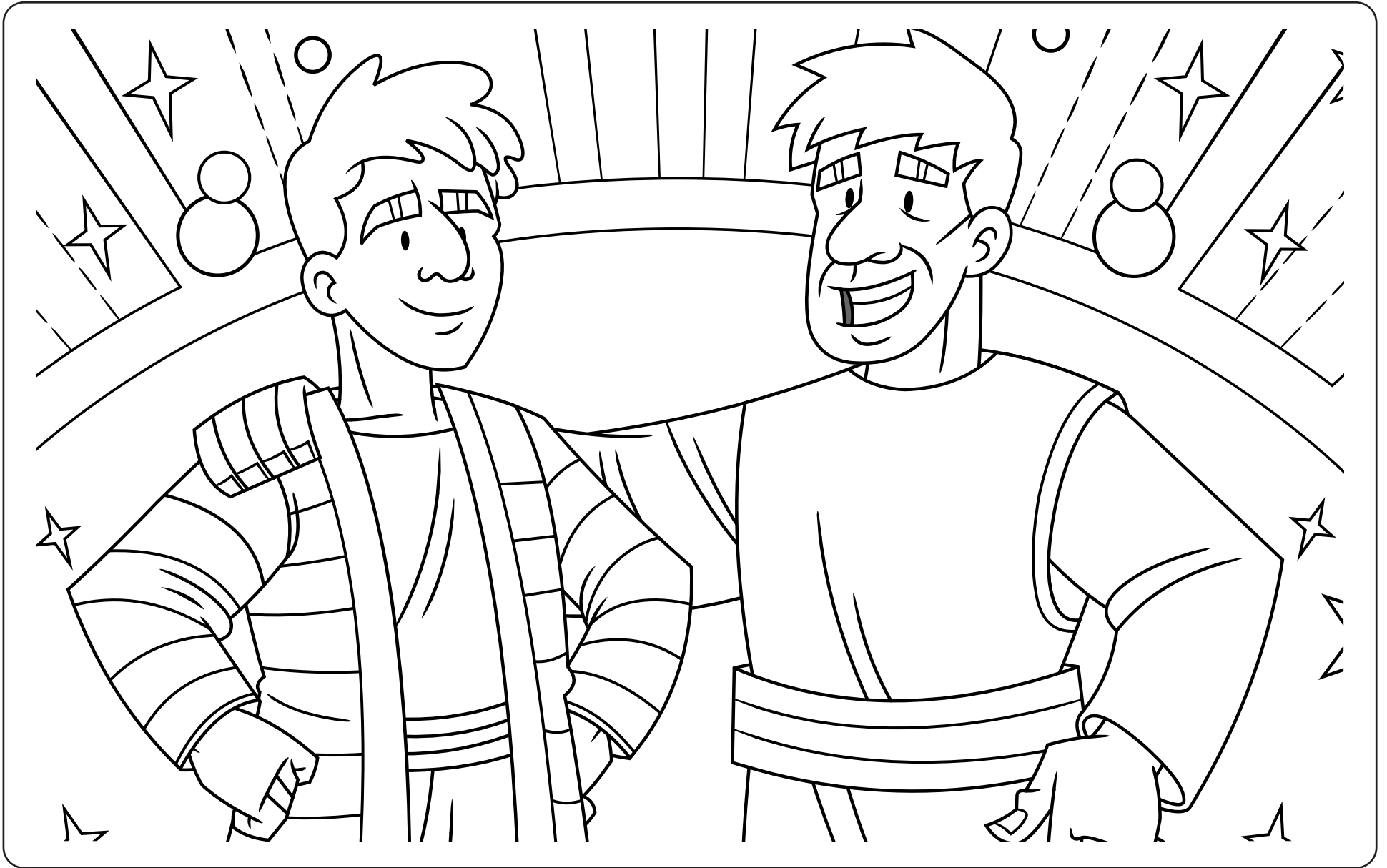
1. **Say:** I'm so excited for you to learn today's Bible story! In our story, a boy named Joseph will be given a beautiful coat! It had lots of colors on it.
2. *Hold up the bin with the colored items in it.*
3. **Say:** There are items of all different colors in this bin. We will sort through it together and find the items that are the same color.
4. *Gather kids around the bin and have them help you pull out the different items.*
5. *Hold up an item and ask what color it is. Then see if they can find another item that matches the color.*
6. *Repeat until all the items have a color match.*
7. **Ask:** What is your favorite color?

**ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:**

I loved all the colors from today's activity. We will learn more about Joseph and how the colorful coat made his brothers really jealous. They did something really mean. Let's find out what happens and how Joseph trusted God.

JOSEPH AND HIS BROTHERS

Genesis 37



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Genesis 37

? BIG QUESTION

Does God ever
change? No!

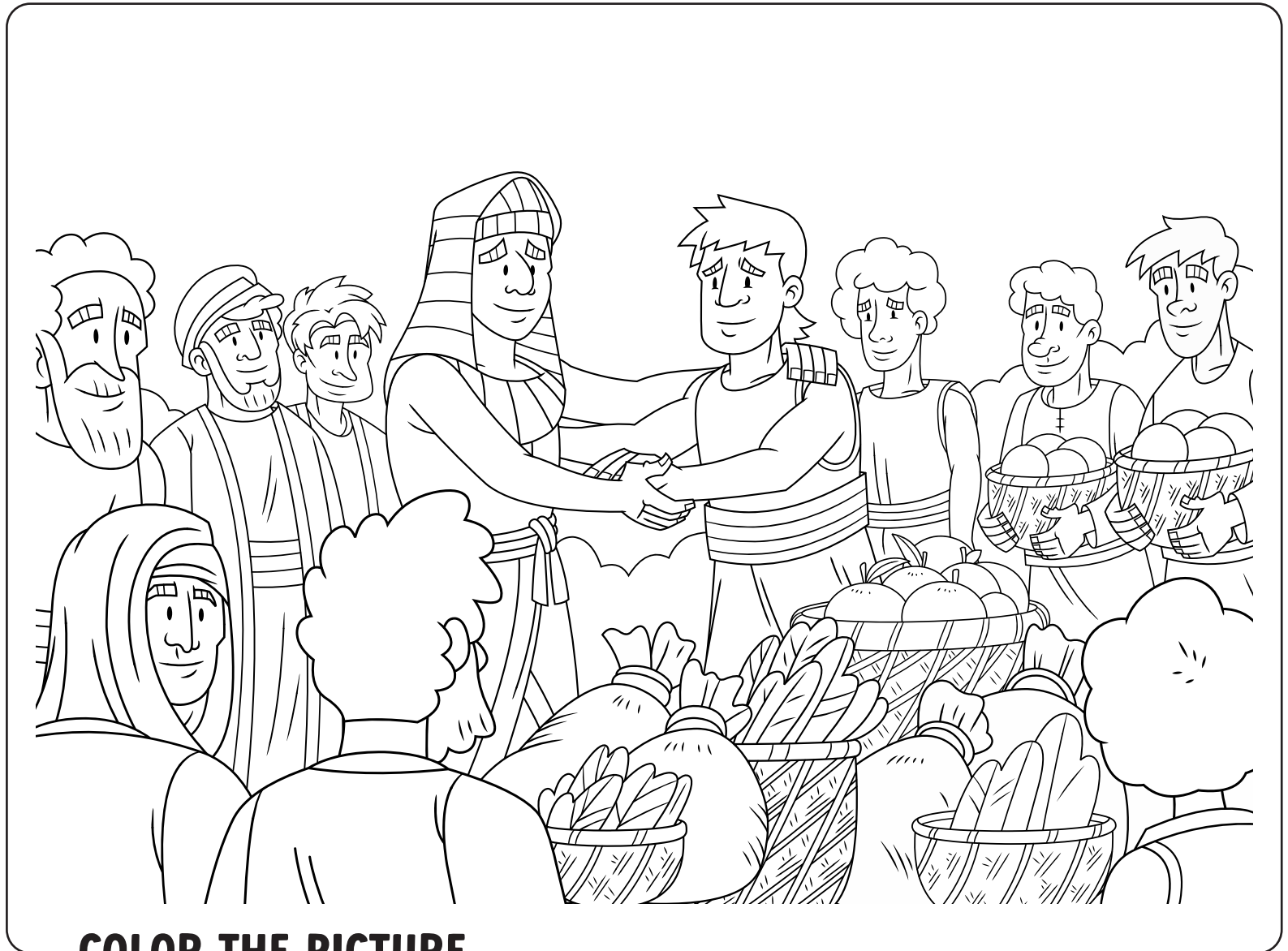
BRITE[®] Idea

God can be
trusted.

MONTHLY Memory Verse

Jesus Christ is the
same yesterday and
today and forever.
(Hebrews 13:8)

SCAN ME!
FOR AT-HOME
DISCIPLESHIP DISCUSSION



COLOR THE PICTURE