



WEEK TWO – SEPTEMBER 2019 – KINDER/FIRST

Bible Story: *Bad Day* ▪ Genesis 37; 39:1–2

Bottom Line: *When you think you're alone, you can trust God is with you.*

Memory Verse: *“Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding.” – Proverbs 3:5 (NirV)*

Life App: *Trust—Putting your confidence in someone you can depend on.*

Basic Truth: *I can trust God no matter what.*

Summary: Next, we find out what happens to Jacob's son, Joseph, in Genesis 37 and 39:1–2. Joseph learned what it meant to trust God through difficulty. Because Joseph was Jacob's favorite son, his brothers hated him. This only became worse when Joseph had a series of dreams where his brothers bowed to him. The brothers get back at Joseph when they sell him to a band of traders headed to Egypt. He must have felt scared and completely alone. Thankfully, he wasn't. God was with him the whole time.

PRE-SERVICE ACTIVITIES

1. Early Arriver Idea

Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery

What You Need: Manipulatives (21 pieces)

What You Do:

- Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and asking about their past week
- Invite kids to place their offerings in the *For Everyone* box on the wall near the main entrance
- Set out the manipulatives and challenge kids to work together to arrange them in groups of:
 - two
 - four
 - five
- Guide kids to observe what happens each time. (There's one left over!)

2. Alone or Together

Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Guide kids to mingle around your carpet
- Call out different things that are done either alone or with others, such as:
 - playing tag
 - playing soccer
 - drawing
 - playing “Tic-Tac-Toe”
 - reading
 - playing “Marco Polo”
 - watching TV
 - playing “Go Fish”
 - playing “Mother, May I?”
 - playing tug of war
 - playing an instrument
- If the activity is something that's done with others, kids quickly huddle all together to form a group.

- If it's something that can be done alone, kids separate and stand alone.
 - *NOTE: For some activities, some kids may vote for "alone" while others may vote for "with others," and that's okay.*
- Vary your voice and pace to keep interest high.
- End by calling out something that's usually done alone.

What You Say:

[Transition] "Let's go to Large Group, where we'll hear something ELSE that we can do when we're alone."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

LARGE GROUP

OVERVIEW:

Bottom Line: *When you think you're alone, you can trust God is with you. Kids will face times when they feel like they're alone. We hope this lesson from Joseph's life will encourage them as they remember that God is always with them.*

SMALL GROUP

1. Riddle Walk

[Application Activity]

Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: "Riddle Walk Cards" (Activity Page), "Riddle Walk Clues" Activity Page, tape

What You Do:

- Guide kids to sit in a circle.
- Tape a "Riddle Walk Card" to each child's back. (No peeking!)
- Guide kids to silently mingle ("trek") around the environment.
- Call out a riddle from "Riddle Walk Clues" Activity Page, and lead kids to gather around the child whose picture answers the riddle.
- Continue through all the cards.
- For variety, lead kids to "trek" in different ways: rock climbing, snow skiing, rowing a boat, swimming, etc.

What You Say:

“We all know what it’s like to feel alone. We’ve felt alone when we’ve gotten lost in a store. We’ve felt alone in our rooms at night. We’ve felt alone when no one wants to play with us. Sometimes being alone can feel uncomfortable—even scary.

*“But [Bottom Line] **when you think you’re alone, you can trust God is with you.** He loves you, and when you believe in Jesus, God promises that He will never EVER leave you. So remember: [Bottom Line] **When you think you’re alone, you can trust God is with you.** Talk to Him and tell Him how you feel. He loves you!”*

2. When Have You Felt Alone?

[Memory Verse Activity]

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

What You Need: Felt, scissors, tacky glue

What You Do:

- Set out the felt, scissors, and tacky glue.
- Tell kids to think about a time when they feel alone.
 - It might be when they’re in bed in the dark.
 - It might be when they’re on the playground at a new school or park.
 - It might be when their parents are going through a divorce.
- Instruct kids to think of something that can remind them God is with them during that time, and then make that item out of felt. For example:
 - If they feel alone in bed at night in the dark, they might cut out a light bulb or flashlight.
 - If they feel alone on the playground, they can cut out a hand or a person to represent Jesus being their friend.
- Encourage kids to share what they’re making while they work. What are they making? Why are they making it?
 - *Note: Be sensitive to kids who might share something more personal than usual or something difficult going on at home.*
- While kids share, you might want to write down some of their thoughts to use later.
- When kids are finished, tell them to lay their felt items at one end of your space.
- Call out a scenario you might have heard kids talking about or another one you think is relevant to the kids in your group.
- Point to one kid, and tell him to run to the felt items and pick one up that he thinks matches that scenario.
- Continue until each kid has a turn.

What You Say:

*“Everybody knows what it feels like to be alone. Maybe you’ve gotten lost in a store. Maybe you feel alone in your room when the lights go out at night. Some people can feel alone when they’re surrounded by people they don’t know—or sometimes even people they DO know. Being alone can make you uncomfortable or anxious, but it doesn’t have to be that way. **[Make It Personal] (Tell kids about a time you felt alone and anxious, but then you remembered that God was with you, and you were better able to deal with the situation.)** [Bottom Line] **When you think you’re alone, you can trust God is with you.**”*

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: Bible

What You Do:

- Invite a volunteer to open the Bible where marked.
- Use the conversation below to lead kids in a responsive prayer based on Psalm 139.

What You Say:

*“We all feel alone sometimes. We may feel alone when we’re lost, when no one wants to play with us, when we go to a new school, or when we’re scared. But [Bottom Line] **when you think you’re alone, you can trust God is with you.** Like Jesus, you can pray and talk with God. You can tell him how you feel. You can also think about God’s promises. Psalm 139 gives us some amazing promises about how God is with us. Let’s pray Psalm 139 (adapted below).*

“Lord, you have seen what is in [our] heart[s].

“You know all about [us].

“You know when [we] sit down and when [we] get up.

“You know what [we’re] thinking even though you are far away.

“You know when [we] go out to work and when [we] come back home.

“You know exactly how [we] live.

“Lord, even before [we] speak a word, you know all about it.

“You are all around [us], behind [us] and in front of [us].

“You hold [us] safe in your hand.

“Oh, Lord, You’re amazing! More amazing than we can even imagine. Thank You that You are always with us, even when we think we’re alone. We love You so much, Lord. Amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to tell their parents the day’s Bottom Line:
[Bottom Line] When you think you’re alone, you can trust God is with you.

