



WEEK FIVE – SEPTEMBER 2019 – KINDER/FIRST

Bible Story: *God's Plan • Genesis 42–45*

Bottom Line: *You can trust God has a plan.*

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: In Genesis 42–45, we conclude Joseph's story. Now second in command in Egypt, Joseph put his plan into action as the famine has spread far and wide. Joseph's brothers end up making the trek down to Egypt, and sure enough they ended up right in front of Joseph. After some back and forth for several weeks, Joseph can't stand it any longer. He revealed who he was to his brothers and offered them forgiveness for everything that had happened.

PRE-SERVICE ACTIVITIES

1. Early Arriver Idea

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

What You Need: Various familiar recipes

What You Do:

- Invite kids to place their offerings in the container.
- Read the recipes to the kids, inviting kids to guess what each recipe makes.
- Guide kids to make a stirring motion or some other silent cue when they have a guess. This can help prevent “blurting” and allow more kids a chance to solve the “recipe riddle.”

2. Heads & Shoulders

Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Lead kids in singing and doing the motions for “Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes.”
 - Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes
Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes
Eyes and ears and mouth and nose
Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes
- Add variety by omitting the name of one body part on each subsequent verse.
- You can also add interest by guiding kids to sing in different ways: baby voice, grandpa/grandma voice, loudly, and softly.
- Add challenge by ramping up the speed.

What You Say:

“When you sing ‘Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes,’ you know what’s coming next.

*[Transition] **The people in our Bible story today had NO IDEA what was coming next, but God had a plan! Let’s go to Large Group to learn more.**”*

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

LARGE GROUP

OVERVIEW:

Bottom Line: *You can trust God has a plan.* It's often hard to see how God is working in a certain situation while you're going through it. As we get older, we see that story that God was writing with our life. Kids are just starting this journey of faith, we pray that they'll discover that God has a plan and will trust them as they learn what that is.

SMALL GROUP

1. According to Plan

[Application Activity]

Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: Lincoln Logs, LEGOs, K'NEX, or other construction toys; diagrams with instructions for building with the toys

What You Do:

- Guide the kids to work in groups of two or three to build structures according to the diagrams provided. Provide help as needed.
- As kids create, use the conversation below as a guide to bring home today's Bottom Line: **[Bottom Line] You can trust God has a plan.**

What You Say:

*"Just like there was a plan that helped you make these great creations, God has a plan for YOU. He has a plan for who your family is, where you live, who your friends are, what you're good at, what you're not so good at . . . EVERYTHING about you! God has a plan for you, and God's plan is the best plan because He created you and He loves you. [Bottom Line] **You can trust God has a plan.**"*

2. Trust

[Memory Verse Activity]

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

What You Need: Bibles, "Trust" Activity Pages, Cheerios, glue, wet wipes

What You Do:

- Guide kids to look up and "read" the verse using the navigation tips from Week One.
- Give each kid an Activity Page.
- Guide kids to point to the words as you read the verse aloud.

- Lead kids to “draw” a thin bead of glue along the letter “T” and then attach cereal along the letter. Continue with the remaining letters.
 - *HINT: Open the glue bottles yourself, opening them only slightly. That way, if kids squeeze the bottles too hard, they won’t have a puddle of glue on their paper!*
- As kids work, use the conversation below to unpack how Joseph trusted God with all his heart.

What You Say:

“Did Joseph trust God with all his heart? (Pause.) Yes! Joseph told his brothers, ‘God sent me ahead of you to save many lives.’ Joseph knew that even though he’d been through lots of hard things, it was all part of God’s good plan to save his family.

*“God ALWAYS has a plan. The bad stuff happened to Joseph because God wanted to use him to save his family. God had a plan with His own Son, too! Bad stuff happened to Jesus because God wanted to use Him to save the whole world! And you know what? God has a plan for you, too. So when things are hard, remember to: Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding (Proverbs 3:5 NIV). [Bottom Line] **You can trust God has a plan.**”*

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: A recipe from Early Arriver and a diagram from the “According to Plan” activity

What You Do:

- Show kids a recipe and a diagram from “According to Plan.”
- Highlight that each item is a plan that helps people make certain things.
- Hold up a Bible and emphasize that God has a plan for our lives. The authors of the Bible tell us how much God loves us, how God wants us to live, and about His best plan for our lives.
- Lead kids in prayer, thanking God that He has a plan for us.

What You Say:

“Just like God had a plan for Joseph, He has a plan for you too. Whenever we think we’re alone or don’t know what to do; we can remember that God loves us and has a plan for our lives. We can trust Him.

“Dear God, thank You for giving us the Bible as a guide. Whenever we feel alone, scared, or don’t know how to make the wise choice, help us remember that You are with us and have a plan that we can trust. In Jesus name, amen.”

***As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to tell the adults today’s Bottom Line:
[Bottom Line] You can trust God has a plan.***