



GETTING READY

1. Opener/Closer

What You Need:

- Host
- Camping/hiking gear for the Host
- Pre-selected adult volunteer who can draw well
- Flip chart with at least 26 pages—on an easel or hanging on the wall
- Poster markers
- Host's phone
- Bible

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room
- Bluegrass music (instrumental)

Large Group Visuals:

- Theme Slide
- Trust Slide
- Blank Bottom Line Slide
- Bottom Line Slide

What You Do:

- **Pre-select someone who can draw well for the game. You may also want to have the same artist draw your banner for the Bible story.**

2. Bible Story

What You Need:

- Storyteller
- Host
- Bible
- Royal, biblical-looking costume for Host to play Joseph
- Pre-drawn “Joseph’s brothers” banner (see “What You Do”)

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- **Egyptian music (suggestion: “The Nile River” by Brandon Fiechter)**

Large Group Visuals:

- Blank Bottom Line Slide
- Bottom Line Slide
- Joseph’s Brothers Illustration
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What You Do:

Use the provided illustration of Joseph’s brothers for reference. Draw the artwork on a large butcher paper banner.

3. Worship

What You Need:

- Never Gonna Stop
- Who You Say I Am

God's Plan

Bible Story: God's Plan (Joseph Forgives His Brothers) • *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.

Story: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 35 minutes)

Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

SFX: Play high-energy music as kids enter.

CG: Theme Slide

Optional Video (Media Package): Theme Loop

Host enters, wearing camping/hiking gear.

Optional Video (Media Package): Countdown (30- or 60-second version)

Optional Video (Media Package): Theme

Opener

HOST: "Hi, everyone! My name is [your name], and I'm so glad you're here today! Here at [your environment's name], we love to have fun and learn about God and what it means to follow Him.

"All month we've been taking a trek, a journey, an adventure in trust.

CG: Trust Slide

Optional Video (Media Package): Theme Transition to Life App

"Trust is putting your confidence in someone you can depend on.

CG: Theme Slide

Optional Video (Media Package): Life App Transition to Theme

"It's so good to know we can trust the people who take care of us. Best of all, we can trust God and know that He'll never let us down! After all, God loves us. He's always with us. [*Basic Truth*] We can trust Him no matter what.

"Today's game is a lot of fun. It's called 'I'm Going on a Trek.' I've asked [adult volunteer's name] to help us out with her great drawing skills!

“The game is pretty simple. I’ll say, ‘I’m going on a trek, and I’m taking . . .’ and then we’ll choose something that starts with the letter a, like an apple. It should be something you’d take on a trek through the woods. [Adult volunteer’s name] will draw that item on her chart and flip to the next page. Then we’ll choose something that starts with the letter b, and so on. Do you think we can get through the entire alphabet in three minutes? You do? All 26 letters? All right—let’s try it! Three minutes on the clock . . . and go!

Set a timer on your phone for three minutes.

SFX: Bluegrass music (instrumental)

“I’m going on a trek, and I’m taking . . .

Go through the whole alphabet, taking answers from the kids, with the volunteer drawing one item on each page of the flip chart.

“That was so fun! Thanks for playing that game with me. Some of those letters were really difficult, but you did an awesome job coming up with all those outdoorsy ideas. Let’s give [volunteer’s name] a big hand!

Volunteer exits.

(Looking through the flip chart) “You definitely need a lot of these things when you’re going on a trek. But one thing is the most important of all. You need trust! Why don’t we sing some songs to the One we can ALWAYS trust? Let’s sing and dance and worship God together!”

Announcements

Use this as an example of what to say. Make it your own and help the kids feel welcomed. Then take a moment to share any/all announcements.

HOST: “I’m so excited to be here with all of you today and get a little crazy! If it’s your first time here, I want to welcome you and I would love to have a chance to meet you and get a high-five! Your group leaders are here almost every week... they’re pretty amazing. Here at Mission, we believe that this is a place for you and you belong here no matter who you are or what you believe. At the core of who we are as a church, we believe that **JESUS CHANGES EVERYTHING FOR EVERYONE!** “I have just a few announcements for you all today... Share any/all announcements.

“One of the things we do each week to help us focus on God is to sing... some of you will know the words to the songs, so we want you to shout and sing them out really loud. If you don’t know the words... they’ll be on the screen for you. Feel free to clap, jump, sing and shout along with us! The best part about this is the message of the song and how good God is! Let’s all stand up and sing together!”

Worship Leaders enter. Host exits

Worship

WORSHIP LEADER: “Yes, indeed! Everybody get up on your feet and get ready to sing.

Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.

VIDEO: One Big Story Intro
CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “Hi, everyone! We’ve spent a lot of time this month talking about Joseph. *(Hold up Bible.)* That’s because Joseph’s story is completely epic in every way. Not only that, but Joseph also gave us a great example of what it means to trust God. I can’t wait to wrap up his story with you here today!

“Let’s recap really quick. Joseph was the great-grandson of Abraham. He was his dad’s favorite son. His brothers were so jealous of him that they sold him to some traders who were headed toward Egypt. Once he got to Egypt, Joseph had to work as a servant, and then he was thrown into prison for something he didn’t even do. It looked like he might have had a way to get OUT of prison because he was able to tell the meaning of some other prisoners’ strange dreams . . . but the guy who could have helped him totally forgot.

“Still, God was with Joseph. And Joseph trusted God. At the right time, God brought Joseph out of prison and gave him a very important job in Egypt! In fact, Joseph was second in command after Pharaoh and in charge of all the food supplies in the land. He worked hard to store up grain for the whole country during the seven years when lots of food was growing. That way, when the land stopped producing food, they had enough stored up so the people could survive.

“I thought, just for fun today, maybe we could invite [Host’s name] out here with us to pretend to be Joseph. It might help us imagine what this part of the story was like for him. Please welcome . . . Joseph!”

SFX: Egyptian music (suggestion: “The Nile River” by Brandon Fiechter)

Lead the audience in a round of applause. Host enters, wearing a royal, biblical-looking costume.

HOST: *(Deep voice)* “Thank you! Thank you. It’s great to be here!”

STORYTELLER: “Joseph, I thought I could tell our audience a little bit about what happened in your life, and then you could tell us how you were feeling about it. Sound good?”

HOST: “Sounds perfect.”

SFX: Fade out music

THE BROTHERS BOW

STORYTELLER: *(To audience)* “Remember how I said Joseph stored up enough food for the Egyptians to survive? Well, it wasn’t just the people in Egypt who needed that food. People in nearby lands were hungry, too. In fact, Joseph’s father and brothers back in the land of Canaan were also very hungry.

Hold up the “Joseph’s Brothers” banner.

“Look at all of these guys. Joseph hadn’t seen them in years and years. And they didn’t have any idea what had happened to him, either! Can I get two of you to be my helpers and hold up these brothers?”

Bring up two kids to hold the banner.

“Perfect. Now, like I was saying, the brothers and their dad, Jacob, couldn’t grow any food either. They heard there was grain in Egypt. Jacob sent 10 of his sons, but told his youngest son, Benjamin, to stay home.

“The brothers arrived in Egypt and bowed to Joseph.

Get the kids to make the banner “bow” to Host.

“Joseph recognized his brothers, but they didn’t know who he was. He pretended not to know their language and spoke to them through an interpreter. He asked where they came from. They said they came from Canaan to buy food.

“Joseph remembered long ago, when he had dreams about his brothers bowing down to him. He wanted to test his brothers, so he didn’t reveal who he was. He said they were spies. They said that they just came for food, and that their father and youngest brother were back home. So Joseph said he would only believe them if one of them stayed there in prison while the rest went home to bring back their other brother.

(To Host) “Joseph, tell us—how you were feeling when all this was happening? Were you surprised to see your brothers after all that time?”

SFX: Egyptian music

Note: You may want to have Host read his lines from a printed script.

HOST: *(Deep voice)* “Yes, of course! I couldn’t believe my eyes. I really wanted to see my little brother Benjamin. So I told them they had to leave my brother Simeon here in Egypt while they went back to get him.”

SFX: Fade out music

GO GET BEN!

STORYTELLER: “Wow. *(To audience)* So, Joseph had Simeon tied up. He gave orders to have the brothers' bags filled with grain, and he had each man's money put back in his sack. The brothers started their long journey home.

Get the kid helpers to carry the banner across to the other side of the stage.

“Along the way, one of the brothers saw that his money had been put back in his sack. When the brothers arrived at home, they saw the money in ALL of their bags and realized Joseph had given it back to them. They were scared to death!

“Jacob didn’t want them to take Benjamin back to Egypt, but they had to do it to go back for Simeon. Besides that, the grain they had brought from Egypt was gone and they needed more. One of the brothers, Judah, promised his dad that he would keep Benjamin safe. So Jacob agreed. He told them to take gifts, and they took twice the amount of money as before.

Storyteller only: move back across the stage to Host.

(To Host) “So, Joseph, tell us how you were feeling when all this was happening.”

SFX: Egyptian music

HOST: *(Deep voice)* “I was just so excited to see my little brother Benjamin. I loved him so much, and it had been forever since I had seen him!”

SFX: Fade out music

REUNITED AND IT FEELS SO GOOD

STORYTELLER: “Once more, the brothers traveled the long road to Egypt.

Get the kid helpers to carry the banner back across to Host.

“This time, Joseph invited his brothers to a meal at his own home. He released Simeon to join them. When Joseph arrived, they all bowed low again.

Get the kid helpers to make the banner “bow” to Host.

“Joseph was happy AND sad when he saw his youngest brother Benjamin. In fact, he had to leave the room for a few minutes because he was crying.

SFX: Egyptian music

Host exits and then comes back out on stage.

SFX: Fade out music

“When Joseph returned, he ordered his servants to give Benjamin five times as much food as the others. But he wasn’t finished testing his brothers.

“Joseph told his manager to fill the brothers’ sacks with grain and to give back all their money again. But this time, he told the manager to hide his own special silver cup in Benjamin’s sack.

Get the kid helpers to carry the banner halfway across the stage.

“The brothers were only a few miles down the road when Joseph sent his manager after them, saying one of them had stolen Joseph’s cup. He said that if one of them had the cup, that person would become his servant.

“Joseph’s manager pulled the silver cup from Benjamin’s sack! The brothers were so upset. They returned to the city to appear before Joseph.

Get the kid helpers to carry the banner back toward Host.

“Remember Judah, the brother who promised he would keep Benjamin safe? Well, Judah told Joseph that after everything that had happened, all of the brothers should become his servants. But Joseph said just the one who stole the cup would become his servant. Judah said there was no way that could happen; his father would die if Benjamin did not return home. So then Judah offered to take Benjamin’s place as Joseph’s servant.

“Joseph couldn’t hide the truth any longer. He ordered everyone but his brothers to leave the room and told them that he was their brother, Joseph! Joseph’s brothers were amazed but also sad because they knew they had treated Joseph so badly. But listen to what Joseph said to them.

Open the Bible to Genesis 45:5 (NirV) and read.

“Don’t be upset. And don’t be angry with yourselves because you sold me here. God sent me ahead of you to save many lives.”

(To Host) “So, Joseph, how were you feeling? Weren’t you upset when you saw your brothers and remembered what they did to you?”

SFX: Egyptian music

HOST: (Deep voice) “You know, it seems like I should have been, but I just wasn’t mad at them anymore. I really just decided to trust God and believe that He had a plan for me. After all, he brought me to Egypt so I could save all those people by storing up food. The fact that he brought me and my family back together in the end was just . . . WHOA!”

STORYTELLER: “Thanks so much, Joseph, for being here with us today. Thank you to our helpers, too. (To audience) Let’s all give them a hand!”

SFX: Fade out music

Host exits. Dismiss the two helpers to their seats.

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “From the very beginning, God had always been with Joseph. Even when Joseph was kidnapped, lied about, and left in prison, God was still working out His amazing plan for Joseph’s life.

“Joseph offered to his brothers to bring their families and come and live in Egypt. The brothers returned home and told their father that Joseph was still alive. Jacob and all of Joseph’s family traveled to Egypt to live.

“Because God had raised Joseph to a position of power, his entire family had enough to eat. And over the years, God grew Joseph’s family from a single family into an entire nation of people.

“Joseph could have gotten hopeless or angry and given up along the way, but instead, he trusted God. He knew God was with him. He knew that God could see the bigger picture.

“You and I can trust God like Joseph did. All we need to do is believe that He has a plan.

“Remember:

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “You can trust God has a plan.

“Let’s pray.”

CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide

Pray

STORYTELLER: “Dear God, You always have a plan. You’re always in control. Thank You for having a plan for Joseph’s life, and thank You for having a plan for each of our lives, too. Please help us to trust You and remember that You’re always with us—no matter what! We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

Closer

HOST: “Wow—talk about a big finish to Joseph’s story!

“Joseph trusted his brothers, but they threw him into a well, sold him to some traders, and then told their father he was killed by a wild animal. And they thought they got away with it! But God had a much bigger plan in mind.

CG: Today’s Story Image

Optional: Place Today’s Story Image on your timeline.

“Think about it. Joseph would never have been in charge of Egypt if God hadn’t helped him interpret Pharaoh’s dreams, which he never would have done if he hadn’t met Pharaoh’s drink taster, who he never would have met if he hadn’t been thrown into jail, which only happened because he had been taken to Egypt. And the only reason he was in Egypt was because his brothers had sold him into slavery in the first place!

“When Joseph met his brothers years later, he said this.

Open the Bible to Genesis 50:20 (NirV) and read.

“You planned to harm me. But God planned it for good. He planned to do what is now being done. He wanted to save many lives.

CG: Timeline

“You see, God always had a plan. The bad stuff happened to Joseph because eventually, God wanted to use him to save his family and so many others. God had a plan with His own Son, too. Bad stuff happened to Jesus, but it was all part of God’s plan to save the whole world!

CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide

“Here’s what we need to remember from Joseph’s story.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “You can trust God has a plan.

“It’s true. He does! No matter what’s going on in your life, and no matter how out-of-control you might feel, you can always trust God and believe that He’s in control.

“It’s time for you to head to Small Group now. I know it’ll be great! See you later!”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

SFX: Play high-energy music as the kids exit.

CG: Theme Slide

Optional Video (Media Package): Theme Loop