

CLIFFHANGER

THE STORY
ISN'T OVER

WEEK
TWO
OCTOBER 2022

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- When has something turned out better than you expected?
- How does it make you feel to know that God is writing a bigger story in your life, just like God did for Joseph?
- Even though we know there's a bigger story, why is it so hard to believe that sometimes?

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Big Picture

Joseph Forgives His Brothers
Genesis 41–45

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

When has something turned out better than you expected?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Hold on because there's a bigger story.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up."

Galatians 6:9, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Grit—Refusing to give up when life gets hard

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

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MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment



VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Cloud of Witnesses" Activity Page, Bibles, pens or pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

- Ask for a volunteer to use a Bible or their Bible App on their phone or device and look up Hebrews 12:1-2.
- Invite them to read it out loud for the group.
- Explain that the "Cloud of witnesses" mentioned in the passage is referring to real people who lived long ago, and saw God do amazing things.
- Give each kid a copy of the "Cloud of Witnesses" Activity Page and ask if anyone can name people from today's story who could be in that cloud. (Answers may include: Joseph, Jacob, Joseph's brothers)
- Ask kids to think of other people they have read about in the Bible who experienced God's power. (ie: Abraham, Moses, Peter, etc.)
- Instruct them to write these names on other lines in the cloud.
- Discuss how Jesus had ultimate grit when He died on the cross for us. That IS the bigger story that we can hold on to for hope, no matter what we're going through.
- Read Galatians 6:9 to your group and point out how the stories we hear about God working in others' lives can encourage us to not grow weary in following Jesus and doing good.

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MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application



MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Grit Prayer journals from Week 1, pens or pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

- Ask kids to name some of the people with whom Joseph had relationships (his father, his brothers, the other prisoners, Pharaoh, etc.)
- Lead kids in a quick discussion about the importance of the relationships we have in our lives.
- Ask:
 - Why are the relationships in our lives so important?
 - How would things have been different for Joseph if he had not cared about the relationships in his life?
 - Do you think it was always easy for Joseph to maintain relationships with these people?
- Remind kids that all month long, you're using these journals to pray about things that fall under these categories, and "relationships" is the category for this week.
 - **G**ratITUDE-give thanks to God
 - **R**ELATIONSHIPS-pray for the people in your life
 - **I**DNITY-ask God to help you grow in specific ways when it comes to who you are becoming
 - **T**RUTH-pray the truth of God's Word. Choose a verse to pray and focus on.
- Explain that one way we can care for the people we have relationships with is by praying for them.
- Encourage kids to consider if they are currently navigating any particularly tricky relationships (i.e., a step-parent, a bully at school, an older or younger sibling, etc.).
- Assure them that God already knows everything about their situation and will be with them as they navigate it.
- Hand out the Grit Prayer Journals kids started last week. (Be sure to provide a journal for any kids who were not here for Week 1.)
- Give kids some time to write quietly about specific relationships in their lives.
- After everyone is finished writing, ask kids to sit in a circle.
- Explain that God has given them this group so they can grow in their faith together. One way they can grow closer to each other is by praying for each other.
- Lead the group in a prayer where each person prays a short prayer out loud for the person sitting to their left.
 - If kids are reluctant to pray aloud, let them pray something simple, such as: "God, thank You for [name] and that they're in this group."
- Close in prayer.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Thank you, God, for this group. Help us grow closer to each other. Be with us throughout the week as we continue to trust You with the bigger story. In Jesus' name, Amen."