



TEACHING OUTLINE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Change the World Joseph and the Plan to Save Egypt Genesis 40-41

WEEK 3

Key Question: **How have you seen someone solve a problem?** One of the most exciting parts about creativity for preteens is that they can discover ways to use their creativity to help others and solve problems of their own. At this phase of development, kids may not realize that creativity can work that way. Through this question, as preteens remember how others have solved problems, we hope they'll be inspired to use their creativity to solve problems in the world around them.

In week three, we head to **Genesis 40-41**. We'll spend time looking more closely at an important creative moment in Joseph's life. While Joseph experienced many ups and downs throughout his time in Egypt, God cared for him and gave him what he needed to survive the impending famine. Joseph's creative problem-solving led to Pharaoh making him second in command of all of Egypt. The plan worked, and the people were saved!

Bottom Line: **You can use what God gave you to solve problems.** We often think about creativity only in terms of the creative arts. But creativity is so much more than that! When we use our God-given abilities to solve the problems we face, we are tapping into what it means to reflect the image of God. We pray that kids will see that no matter how they're gifted, God can use their creativity for good.

TEACHING GUIDE:

This message should be 15- 18 min. More time for small group is key. Remember the lead small model.

APPLICATION

"I love how Joseph was able to use how God created him to save lives! Now there's a solid chance you will not have to stand before a king in your lifetime—but all of us will face problems in our daily lives. Just because times are hard or things haven't gone the way you expected doesn't mean God hasn't given you a gift that you can use to solve the situation you face! In fact, God has given each one of us a gift that we can use creatively! And it's a great idea to figure out how to use them!

"It's important to remember creativity isn't always about doing something artistic like painting, singing, or building cliff dwellings out of paper mâché. Creativity is bigger than that! Being able to solve problems is creativity! God gave Joseph exactly what he needed to solve a massive problem. Likewise, God can give us ideas and tools to help us solve the problems around us. "Many times, we will be able to use our gifts to help others. However, there are moments we can receive help from others just like Pharaoh! This is a chance for you to benefit from the gifts God has given others around you!

LANDING

"We will continue to talk through this story in our Small Groups, but we want you to ponder this one question."

SLIDE: KEY QUESTION

"How have you seen someone solve a problem? It could have been a teacher working through an experiment gone wrong or a grandmother baking a cake without a key ingredient. When you think about these examples, you'll realize we ALL can use our God-given gifts to solve problems. Before we leave, let's pray together!"

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can use what God gave you to solve problems.

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

How have you seen someone solve a problem?

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"We are God's creation. He created us to belong to Christ Jesus. Now we can do good works. Long ago God prepared these works for us to do."
Ephesians 2:10, NIV



PRELUDE **SOCIAL** **STORY** **WORSHIP** **GROUPS** **HOME**

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Change the World
Joseph and the
Plan to Save Egypt
Genesis 40-41

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

How have you seen someone solve a problem?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can use what God gave you to solve problems.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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MONTHLY VIRTUE

Creativity—Using your imagination to do something new

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.

LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS STUDENTS ENTER.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

Host enters wearing clothing backwards with slides on the wrong feet or backwards, backwards hat, and sunglasses on the back of their head.

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

WELCOME

Host has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to [Name of Environment]. Host is relatable and inviting. Host can talk about something that happened culturally throughout the week like a big sports game, movie opening (Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Mutant Mayhem, Haunted Mansion), a viral video on YouTube, etc. Host tells them how excited he or she is that they're there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what's happening.

Host enters stage walking backwards, stands center stage, and faces the back of the stage.

OPENER

HOST: "Hello one and all (waving). It is so good to see so many smiling faces today in my favorite place, [Name of Environment]. In [Name of Environment], we try to have a bit of fun and learn a thing or two about God. However, today is different because we will be doing things in reverse or ESREVER.

"I realize there are many things that do not work in reverse. For example, desserts spelled in reverse is STRESSED, and NEVER have I ever been stressed eating deserts. Playing 'don't follow the leader' with a large group of kids sounds like a terrible idea. Wearing my socks on top of my shoes also sounds like a sure way to ruin a good pair of socks. Even talking to this audience with my back turned to them feels wrong.



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Host turns to face the crowd.

"This is so much better! However, there is one exception. There is a game that works really, really well in reverse. It's a little game we like to call 'Esrever Charades.'

SLIDE: "ESREVER CHARADES"

"Would anybody like to play a game? *(Allow response)* That's exactly what I thought! Because of this overwhelming response, let's all play this game together.

"To play, I need four Small Group Leaders to join me on stage. Does anybody have a small group leader they would like to see play 'Esrever Charades'? *(Allow response)*

Host selects four volunteers and directs them to the stage.

"Each leader will come to center stage one at a time. They will be handed a poster board with words written facing the crowd. Our small group leaders will not know what is written on the poster. Our audience will read the word on the poster and begin to silently act out the word. Our leader will attempt to guess what the audience is acting out. Each round will be timed, and the leader to guess the quickest will be given the title, 'Esrever Charades' champion. Any questions? *(Allow response)*

AUDIO: UPBEAT GAME MUSIC

Host starts the game with one of the leaders. Each leader should be handed a poster board with words written on it when it is their turn. The four secret words should be CROWN, JAILBIRD, BREAD, and CUP. (See "Getting Ready".) The words on the poster should allow the audience to read it but without the small group leader seeing the words. This is done by having the leaders hold the poster out from their body. Host encourages the entire audience to participate silently by acting out the word on each poster! Kids should not be speaking or mouthing the secret word to the Small Group Leader. Host or another leader times each round to identify the winner of the game. Write each leader's time on a whiteboard or phone.

(After the game) "That was an incredible display of corporate charades! Our audience did a phenomenal job! Everyone raise your right hand and pat yourself on the back for a job well done. As for our leaders, they had the difficult job of interpreting the audience. Although all tried their best, only one leader can don the title of 'Esrever Charades' champion. Let's see who won.

Host reveals the times for each leader with enthusiasm.

"Let's go crazy for our leaders, but yell extra loud for our 'Esrever Charades' champion! *(Allow rowdy response)* WAHOO! With that, let's all stand and sing together. Let's get loud and worship our great God!"

Host walks in reverse to exit as Worship Leader enters.



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10 MINUTES

WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

WORSHIP LEADER: "It's so good to see you, friends. This first song will get us moving. There's a whole world out there that needs your example of God's creativity and love. Let's jump in and sing 'Ready, Set, Move!'"

AUDIO: "READY, SET, MOVE!" / TRACK 1 FROM READY, SET, MOVE!

OPTIONAL VIDEO: "READY, SET, MOVE!" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

"That was so good! Do you ever see something God created and just marvel at it? The world God made is grand. It's detailed. There's variety. There are amazing colors and textures, and so much creativity from the mountains to the ocean. God made the feathers of a bird . . . and God made each one of us. We are made in the image of God, which means we can be creative. Let's celebrate all the amazing things God has made as we sing.

AUDIO: "BEAUTIFUL" / TRACK 1 FROM THIS LOVE

OPTIONAL VIDEO: "BEAUTIFUL" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

"Even when we face hard things, we can know that God is greater than those hard things. As Jesus said to His friends in John 16:33: '*In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world.*' (NIV) The God we serve is great and mighty . . . strong and faithful. Let's put our trust in God and remember that God is greater than anything. Lift this up in worship."

AUDIO: "OUR GOD" / TRACK 4 FROM KIDMIN WORSHIP VOL. 2

OPTIONAL VIDEO: "OUR GOD" LIVE LYRICS VIDEO



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COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT (STORY)

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit.

INTRODUCTION

COMMUNICATOR: “Hey, everybody! How fun was ‘Esrever Charades’?! One of the reasons I love the game is because we all can act out the action together! Everyone was creatively working together to direct the person on stage to say the key word! If one person in the crowd didn’t know how to act out the action, they could look to the others in the crowd to help them get unstuck. Because let’s be honest, being stuck is the absolute worst!

Communicator tells a personal story of a time they were stuck. Match the idea in the following example story.

“I remember this one time in fifth grade when I was stuck! We were studying indigenous people of the United States. Our assignment was to create a 3D model of the homes of specific tribes. Our teacher showed us examples of tepees, longhouses, wigwams, and grass houses. However, there was one home I really wanted to build—the pueblo cliff dwellings found in Mesa Verde National Park! These homes were built into natural cliff alcoves! As a fifth grader, the idea of living in a home built into a cliff was beyond cool!

“So I looked at pictures of the cliff dwellings, and the homes looked like they were made from dried mud. At home, I grabbed a bucket of water and dad’s shovel. In the backyard, I started digging a hole in the grass to get to the dirt beneath. Before long, I had a bucket of glorious mud. I had a box to serve as my base and generously started applying mud. Before long, the box collapsed and mud was oozing all over mom’s patio furniture. It was a hot mess and a complete failure. I was out of ideas and completely stuck! This idea was supposed to work!

“Then mom came to the rescue! She suggested making the cliff dwellings out of paper mâché, which combines glue, water, strips of newspaper, and a structure to drape it over! I’d never heard of such a technique. Mom helped me get unstuck! Plus, she helped me complete the project! The final product put my failed muddy disaster to shame!”

TENSION

COMMUNICATOR: “Is there anybody else in this room, besides me, who knows what it feels like to be stuck? (Allow response) That’s what I thought. I’m not alone! Many of you have faced situations in life where you ran into a problem but weren’t sure how to solve it!

“On the basketball court, you couldn’t stop this really tall girl from scoring whenever she got the ball in the low post! In theater class, you want a speaking role, but you freeze every time you’re given the chance because public speaking is terrifying! All these situations that seem impossible are incredibly frustrating!

“Sometimes we can’t see a way around the problem or come up with a creative solution to overcome an obstacle. But what if the solutions aren’t as difficult as we make them out to be? What if God made us with the ability to look at a problem and see a way out of it? What if we just need to change our perspective a little bit?

“This month we’ve talked about how God is SUPER creative! We are created in God’s image, so our creativity ultimately comes from God! What if we were able to tap into the creativity God gave us to solve problems? What would it look like to trust God with all of the tiny frustrations and the major headaches of life?



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“Great question! Thankfully, when we have questions like that, we have a great starting point with the Bible. The Bible is full of truth from people who experienced God and were inspired to write down what they learned about God from those moments. We can learn from them and gain all sorts of wisdom, even when it comes to this idea of creativity. Let’s jump in!”

TRUTH

COMMUNICATOR: “We’re headed to the first book in the Bible called Genesis. To help tell this story, I would like to have our ‘Esrever Charades’ participants to join me back on stage.

Communicator brings up the ‘Esrever Charades’ Small Group Leaders who helped with the earlier game. Communicator gives each volunteer the same poster board they used in the game. Communicator brings JAILBIRD (Joseph) poster/volunteer to center stage.

“Our story starts with a guy named Joseph, who was in prison. He didn’t spend his entire life behind bars. In fact, when Joseph was at home with his family, Joseph was the favorite son of a man named Jacob. Jacob gave Joseph special assignments to check on his older brothers as they shepherded the family flocks and even gifted him a fancy, multi-colored coat. Joseph’s brothers were jealous that their father gave Joseph special treatment.

“Joseph also had a special ability that God had given him—a gift for understanding dreams. The fact that Joseph could interpret dreams only made the situation with his brothers even worse!

“Long story short, the brothers sold Joseph to be enslaved in Egypt. Joseph worked for the captain of the Pharaoh’s guard. Sadly, Joseph was lied about and thrown into Pharaoh’s prison. But while Joseph was behind bars, God was with him! And the prison warden put Joseph in charge of all those being held in prison.

“Shortly after, two of the king’s most trusted officials offended Pharaoh. As a result,

Open the Bible to Genesis 40:3-4 (NirV) and read.

“‘He put them in prison in the house of the captain of the palace guard. It was the same prison where Joseph was kept. The captain put Joseph in charge of those men. So, Joseph took care of them.’

Communicator directs the two volunteers holding the BREAD and CUP posters to stand near the volunteer holding the JAILBIRD poster.

“One day, Joseph noticed both of Pharaoh’s officials were upset and checked on them. Both the chief baker and the chief drink taster had dreams they didn’t understand. Because of Joseph’s gift from God, Joseph was able to understand the meanings of their dreams. Unfortunately for the baker, Joseph did not have good news. But, for the drink taster, it was a different story.

Communicator prompts BREAD poster volunteer to step back and the CUP poster volunteer to stand with JAILBIRD poster volunteer.

“The chief cupbearer explained his dream.

Open the Bible to Genesis 40:9b-11 (NirV) and read.



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"In my dream I saw a vine in front of me. There were three branches on the vine. As soon as it budded, it flowered. And bunches of ripe grapes grew on it. Pharaoh's cup was in my hand. I took the grapes. I squeezed them into Pharaoh's cup. Then I put the cup in his hand."

Joseph explained within three days, Pharaoh would get the cupbearer out of prison and restore him to his previous position. Everything Joseph told the cupbearer came true.

After interpreting the dream, Joseph had one request for the cupbearer. He wanted the official to put in a request with Pharaoh to get him out of prison because Joseph had done nothing wrong to end up in prison. Unfortunately, the cupbearer forgot about Joseph.

Communicator prompts CUP and JAILBIRD poster volunteers to step back and directs CROWN poster volunteer to step forward.

Two very long years passed by while Joseph sat in prison. One day, Pharaoh had two dreams that he could not figure out. After asking the wise men and magicians of Egypt, Pharaoh still did not know the meaning of his dreams.

Communicator directs CUP poster volunteer to step up by CROWN poster volunteer.

This is when the cupbearer finally remembered Joseph in prison. The official explained how Joseph interpreted both his own and the chief baker's dreams, and both explanations came true! So, Pharaoh sent for Joseph.

Communicator directs CUP poster volunteer to step back and asks JAILBIRD poster volunteer to step forward by CROWN poster volunteer.

After a good shave and a change of clothing, Joseph came before Pharaoh. When asked by the ruler if he could interpret dreams, Joseph had a surprising answer.

Open the Bible to Genesis 41:16, (NirV) and read.

"I can't do it," Joseph replied to Pharaoh. "But God will give Pharaoh the answer he wants."

With that, Pharaoh explained his dreams.

Open the Bible to Genesis 41:17b-21 (NirV) and read.

"I was standing on the bank of the Nile River. Seven cows came up out of the river. They were fat and looked healthy. They were eating the tall grass growing along the river. After them, seven other cows came up. They were bony and very ugly and thin. I had never seen such ugly cows in the whole land of Egypt. The thin, ugly cows ate up the seven fat cows that came up first. But no one could tell that the thin cows had eaten the fat cows. That's because the thin cows looked just as ugly as they had before. Then I woke up."

Pharaoh continued with his second dream.

Open the Bible to 41:22-24 (NirV) and read.



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“In my dream, I also saw seven heads of grain. They were full and good. They were all growing on one stem. After them, seven other heads of grain came up. They were weak and thin and dried up by the east wind. The thin heads of grain swallowed up the seven good heads. I told my dream to the magicians. But none of them could explain it to me.”

“God had given Joseph the gift to understand and explain dreams. Joseph had used this gift before! Joseph took a deep breath. He proceeded to tell Pharaoh that both dreams had the same meaning. God was giving the ruler a glimpse into Egypt’s future.

“There would be seven years of abundant crops! Egypt would produce more food than the people would need. The years of plenty would be followed by a famine when there would be a shortage of food.

“Then God gave Joseph a creative idea. Joseph suggested Pharaoh should find a wise man and put him in charge of the food in Egypt. All the excess food during the seven years of abundance could be stored away to be used during the years of famine.

“Pharaoh responded,

Open the Bible to 41:39b-40 (NirV) and read.

“God has made all this known to you. No one is as wise and understanding as you are. You will be in charge of my palace. All my people must obey your orders. I will be greater than you only because I’m the one who sits on the throne.”

“And that’s exactly what happened!

“Joseph became Pharaoh’s top official. During the next seven years, Joseph stored excess grain in storehouses across Egypt. Once the famine hit, Joseph was in charge of distributing the food to all those who had need. Even Joseph’s family came to him seeking food. Ultimately, God used Joseph’s creativity and talents to save an entire country and even his own family from starvation.

“Let’s give a round of applause to our four volunteers as they head back to their seats!”

Communicator directs volunteers back to their seats.

APPLICATION

COMMUNICATOR: “This story is wild! Joseph was the favorite son of Jacob but was sold into slavery by his jealous brothers. All things considered, Joseph was doing well until someone lied about him and caused Joseph to be sent to prison. However, God gave Joseph the ability to interpret dreams. Using his ability, Joseph stood before Pharaoh to help the ruler creatively solve a huge problem!

“I love how Joseph was able to use how God created him to save lives! Now there’s a solid chance you will not have to stand before a king in your lifetime—but all of us will face problems in our daily lives. Just because times are hard or things haven’t gone the way you expected doesn’t mean God hasn’t given you a gift that you can use to solve the situation you face! In fact, God has given each one of us a gift that we can use creatively! And it’s a great idea to figure out how to use them!



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“For example, when your friends aren’t getting along, it can be an uncomfortable situation. But what if you used your sense of humor to creatively bring peace between your friends? This is using the creativity God has given you to help solve a problem.

“Creative problem-solving is just one way we reflect God. God has been solving problems from the very beginning. Even after sin entered the world and changed our relationship, God made a plan through Jesus to fix what was broken. Because of Jesus, we get to have a relationship with God forever!

“It’s important to remember creativity isn’t always about doing something artistic like painting, singing, or building cliff dwellings out of paper mâché. Creativity is bigger than that! Being able to solve problems is creativity! God gave Joseph exactly what he needed to solve a massive problem. Likewise, God can give us ideas and tools to help us solve the problems around us.

“Many times, we will be able to use our gifts to help others. However, there are moments we can receive help from others just like Pharaoh! This is a chance for you to benefit from the gifts God has given others around you!”

LANDING

COMMUNICATOR: “We will continue to talk through this story in our Small Groups, but we want you to ponder this one question.”

SLIDE: KEY QUESTION

“How have you seen someone solve a problem?” It could have been a teacher working through an experiment gone wrong or a grandmother baking a cake without a key ingredient. When you think about these examples, you’ll realize we ALL can use our God-given gifts to solve problems. Before we leave, let’s pray together!”

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Communicator leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard. After prayer, Communicator dismisses kids to Small Group.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP