



WEEK FIVE – AUGUST 2025 – SECOND/THIRD

Bible Story: *Joseph | Genesis 37, 39-45*

Bottom Line: *You can trust God when things get tough.*

Memory Verse: *“Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see.”- Hebrews 11:1 (NIRV)*

Insight: *Faith in God’s Son – I believe in Jesus and will continue to trust Him even when life doesn’t make sense*

Application: *Faith – Trusting in what you can’t see because of what you can see*

Series Overview: Every story has a beginning. As we explore Creation, the Fall and other pivotal moments in the origin of our faith, kids will discover that not only did God create everything, but even after people chose to go their own way, God had a plan to restore us. We can see how God faithfully began to fulfill that plan in Abram’s call and in the lives of Jacob and Joseph—and we look forward to the fulfillment of that plan in Jesus. When kids see how God has worked in the past, they can grow in faith that our faithful God continues to work in and through each person who chooses to follow Jesus.

8:45 - 9:00 | 10:45 – 11:00 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY

Connection Centers

Connect: a time that invites kids to share with others and leaders

What You Need: Activity Bins + Coloring Sheets (find on your shelves in space)

What You Do:

- *PRE-CONNECTION TIME*
 - **Before kids arrive, pray for your group before they arrive. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Thank God for the true story of Joseph, a reminder that even when life feels tough or confusing, God is still at work! Reflect on a time you went through something tough and couldn't see how God was using it until later. Thank God for being faithful. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you communicate to kids they can trust God no matter what! Pray that your group would trust God with their big and small struggles. Pray that they would learn to look for how He is working even when life doesn't go as planned.**
- *DURING CONNECTION TIME*
 - Greet each child by name and with a high five or fist bump!
 - **Make sure to grab second sticker from the child + place it on your sticker sheet**
 - Invite kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
 - Pull out your activity bins + set aside some coloring sheets for kids to partake in your small group space
 - Ask questions in order to connect with + get to know your few as you partake in activities alongside them...you can use these :
 - ***“What's one thing you're excited to learn or do now that summer is almost over and school is starting soon?”***
 - ***“If you could have any superpower for just one day, what would it be and why?”***

- *“What’s the best thing you did this summer? (Could be big or small!)”*
- *“What’s something super cool or interesting you know how to do? (Like tie your shoes, draw a great picture, or tell a funny joke!)”*
- *“If you could invent a new ice cream flavor, what would it be called and what would be in it?”*
- *AFTER CONNECTION TIME*
 - *Use this time to review over how to be successful in small group time as well as Flatirons Kids by using the SG Structure 101 sheet featured on your activity shelf*
 - Go over each rule to create a great small group experience
 - Transition into the Opening Small Group Activity

9:00 - 9:15 | 11:00 – 11:15 | OPENING SMALL GROUP

OPENING ACTIVITY

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a high-five, fist bump, or a wave.
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Say, “We’re going to play Secret Message Telephone! It’s like the regular telephone game, but instead of whispering a message, we’ll act it out!”
- Instruct the kids to line up, all facing forward.
- Explain the game:
 - The last kid in line is to receive a secret message (acted out silently, not spoken) from you.
 - The last kid in line is to tap the shoulder of the kid in front of them, who turns around to watch and learn the action.
 - Each kid is to act out what they saw for the next kid.

- This will continue until the action makes it to the front of the line.
- Examples for you to demonstrate for the kids to act out:
 - Playing soccer
 - Taking care of a baby
 - Eating pancakes
 - Getting new sneakers
 - Taking care of a dog
- After the last kid acts out the message, challenge the kids to see if they can guess what the original message was.
- Share the original messages as the kids guess.
- Continue to play as time and interest allow.

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- Consider the needs of your group. If you think some of your kids could get overwhelmed, play in smaller groups.
- If any kids are hesitant to act out the scenario, invite another kid to join them or let them observe the game.

What You Say:

“It was so much fun playing the Secret Message Telephone game with everyone!

It’s always interesting to see how messages can change as they get passed along.

***[Transition]* Today, we’re going to hear a true story from the Bible about someone who God sometimes gave ‘secret messages’ to through dreams. Let’s go hear more!”**

9:15 - 9:50 | 11:20 – 11:50 | LARGE GROUP

Though Jacob had twelve sons, he chose a favorite: Joseph. When Joseph’s dreams got him into hot water with his brothers, they sold him to be enslaved in Egypt. There, Jacob gained the respect of Potiphar and was put in charge of his household—until he was lied about and thrown in prison. Still, Joseph trusted God. He worked hard and put in charge of the other prisoners. At last, Joseph was called

to interpret a dream for Pharaoh, who was so impressed that he elevated Joseph to second in the kingdom. Years later when Joseph's brother came to Egypt for food during a famine, Joseph forgave them and invited the whole family to Egypt.

9:50 – 10:10 | 11:50 – 12:10 | SMALL GROUP

JOSEPH'S LIFE MEMORY MATCH

[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

What You Need: “Joseph’s Memory Match” Activity Page

What You Do:

- Divide kids into three groups.
- Shuffle each set of “Joseph’s Memory Match” Activity Page cards.
- Give each group a set of cards.
- Instruct each group to spread the cards out face down.
- Explain how to play:
 - The kids will take turns flipping over two cards at a time, trying to find matching pairs.
 - The goal is to match a “bad” event in Joseph’s life with the “good” God brought out of it.
 - Kids can use the colored borders to confirm they have a match.
 - Keep playing until all the cards are matched!
- Once all the cards have been matched, gather the group and discuss.

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- Be patient and allow kids time to process as they match the cards. Walk around and help the any kids who are stuck.

What You Say:

“That was so much fun, and you all did a great job matching up the tough things that happened to Joseph with the good things God brought out of them. Joseph went through some really hard times in his life. But did Joseph ever give up? *(Invite responses.)* No, he didn’t! He kept trusting that God was in control. And God took Joseph from prison all the way to the palace, where he helped save thousands of people, including his own family.

“That’s why faith is SO important. Faith is trusting in what you *can’t* see because of what you *can* see. We can’t always see how things will turn out, but we have seen that God is good—in Joseph’s story, and in Bible story after Bible story. We’ve also seen Him be good in our own lives. And when we look at what we know about God, that He is good and He is always working for good, we can trust Him. So ***[Bottom Line]*** you can trust God when things get tough.”

[Make It Personal] *(Share an age-appropriate example of a tough time in your own life when God brought something good out of it. Maybe you felt like nothing was going right, only for God to step in at the last minute to turn it all around. Create a safe space to share, allowing kids to share more about their lives too.)*

VERSE MASTER

[Hear From God | Memory Verse Activity]

What You Need: Bible marked at Hebrews 11:1; “Verse Master” Activity Page; Floor Tape

What You Do:

- Before you begin, tape the “Verse Master” Activity Page cards around your group space (either on the walls or on the floor).
- Open the Bible marked at Hebrews 11:1.
- Call on a kid to read the verse aloud for the group.
- Repeat the verse several times, and discuss any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.

- Before you begin, point to the words of the verse in order that are taped on the wall.
- Encourage the kids to follow along.
 - *NOTE: This gives visual learners a reference of the verse words.*
- Instruct the kids to separate and choose to stand near one of the words in the Memory Verse.
- Select a kid to be the “Verse Master.”
- Explain the rules:
 - The “Verse Master” is to attempt to take away parts of the Bible verse.
 - The “Verse Master” is to close their eyes, count to ten, and call out one word from the verse.
 - Any kids standing near that word are to be out for that round.
 - *NOTE: Some words are listed multiple times, so there are multiple ways to get out!*
 - Each kid has a chance to stay in the game if they run to the center and recite the Memory Verse.
- Once all the kids are out, play another round if time allows.
- Recite the verse together one last time!

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- Consider the needs of your group. Some kids might be overwhelmed by a fast pace game. Offer a slower version of the game, where kids can quietly read the verse and not have to rush to the words.

What You Say:

“That was intense! Now that we’ve had some fun, let’s think about the verse we just practiced. Can you say it with me one more time? (*Recite Hebrews 11:1 together.*)

“This verse is all about *faith*—the kind of faith Joseph had when he was facing tough times! Even when he was in prison, separated from his family, and sold by his brothers, Joseph still trusted that God was good and had a good plan for his life. He couldn’t see how things would work out, but he trusted God.

“Keep this verse in your memory so you can be reminded at any time that faith in God doesn’t require seeing—we can have faith, trust in God, even when we can’t see what’s next! We can always have faith because God is good and He has always been good. That’s why *[Bottom Line]* **you can trust God when things get tough.**”

PRAYER TIME

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

What You Need: Index cards; coloring supplies; pencils

What You Do:

- Give each kid an index card.
- Set out the pencils and coloring supplies.
- Encourage the kids to write or draw about a difficult situation or bad day they’ve experienced in the past.
- If a kid struggles to think of something, offer examples like:
 - *“Think of a day you felt sad or frustrated, or think of a time when something didn’t go as planned, or you felt like giving up.”*
- Once they’re finished, encourage the kids to think about how God might have used the situation for good.
- Lead the kids in prayer to ask God for help, understanding, and peace in their situation.
- For the situations that haven’t been resolved, encourage them to revisit their situation later and see how God answer their prayers.

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- Consider offering fidget toys during prayer time to assist kids with focus.

What You Say:

“God, thank You for always being with us, no matter what. When we are going through hard times, please help us to trust You, like Joseph did! Please help us to

know that You will never leave us and You will always help us through. We want to learn to trust and rest in You. Thank You for always being there for us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, ask kids to share this month's Memory Verse with them and what it means for them, personally!