

A Life of Resilience

Joseph

Unit 3

Mega Theme: God's People

OVERVIEW

Children sometimes encounter difficult situations that are beyond their control. The story of Joseph can help them cope as they hear how he endured traumatic changes honourably, and fulfilled his part in God's plan. The Bible account of Joseph's life is action-packed, dramatic and exciting. It will be told as a serial story over 4 lessons. There is a revision lesson on the Power Tools that gives the big picture and what we learn from it.

Joseph was the first son of Jacob, one of the Old Testament patriarchs, and his second wife, Rachel. He had ten older half-brothers, one half-sister and a younger brother Benjamin. They lived in Canaan, an ancient term for a region encompassing present-day Israel, the Palestinian Territories, Lebanon, plus adjoining coastal lands and parts of Jordan, Egypt and Syria. The challenges Joseph faced first in his family, in which he felt different and misunderstood, and then in a foreign country where life had its ups and downs, culminated in him being given a position of responsibility that saved not only his own family, but nations.

From Canaan to Egypt, from prisoner to governor, Joseph shows great resilience and perseverance as he trusts God to look after him, learning that God can bring good out of difficult and unfair situations. We can assure the children that God was there with Joseph, and he will be with them too as they face ongoing difficulties, helping them to keep on doing what's right and trusting God to work things out.

This Unit will make reference to a big section of Genesis 37-47, 50, so summaries of the chapters have been prepared and are available on the Power Tools.

UNIT VERSE

Short The Lord will not leave us.
Hebrews 13:5

Long The Lord has promised he will not leave or desert us.
Hebrews 13:5

AIMS

- To tell the story of Joseph who experienced tough times but worked with God to save his people.
- To introduce Joseph as an example of a person who trusted God.
- To assure children that God is always with them.

LESSON OUTLINES

Lesson 8	Life Isn't Easy	Genesis 37
Lesson 9	Trusting God in Tough Times	Genesis 39-40
Lesson 10	Perseverance Pays	Genesis 41
Lesson 11	God Brings Good Out of Tough Times	Genesis 42-47, 50



UNIT SONGS

Song 14 Day and Night
Explorers
Simone Richardson
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Song 15 Always Around
Adventurers
Kevin Fitzgerald and Peter Barnett
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Song 16 God Is There
Navigators
Kevin Fitzgerald and Peter Barnett
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Song 17 Our God Is Here
Voyagers
Michael Frye
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