

WEEK 5

PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE



TEACHING TIME

SCRIPTURE | Genesis 40:1-41:40, 45:1-8

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid two paper plates, a yellow plate with a smiley face on it and a blue plate with a sad face. Tell them to hold up their plates at the appropriate times in the story, saying, "yay" when they hold up the happy face and "aww" when they hold up the sad face. You or a volunteer can do it along with them.
- Last time, we learned about a guy named Joseph. His brothers had been mean to him and then sent him away with traders to work for others in Egypt. It was very sad. [Aww.]
 - So, Joseph went to Egypt and began working for a very important man named Potiphar. Joseph was a good and trustworthy servant for Potiphar. Potiphar trusted Joseph and put him in charge of everything in his home. [Yay!]
 - But Potiphar's wife made up a story about Joseph that wasn't true and he got put in prison. [Aww.]
- God was with Joseph, even in prison. Joseph was given a position of trust by the prison guard, and even helped interpret the dreams of some of the prisoners. [Yay!]
- After awhile, Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, had two dreams that he could not understand. Neither could any of his magicians. [Aww.]
 - One of the guys who worked for Pharaoh remembered Joseph because they had met each other in prison years ago. "I know someone who can help," he told the Pharaoh. So, Pharaoh sent for Joseph. [Yay!]
 - Joseph told Pharaoh his dreams meant that they were going to have seven good years and seven very bad years. There would be no food in the land during the bad years. [Aww.]
 - So, Joseph told Pharaoh to save up extra food during the seven good years so they have enough for the seven bad years that would follow. Pharaoh did just that, and he got Joseph out of prison and gave him an important job to do! [Yay!]
- During the seven bad years, Joseph's family back home was hungry. They didn't have enough food to eat. [Aww.]

- So, Joseph's brothers came to Egypt to buy food. When they got there, they bowed to the man in charge . . . Joseph! Joseph recognized them and forgave them for being mean to him a long time ago. *[Yay!]*
 - After that, the whole family moved to Egypt where Joseph could make sure they were well fed and healthy. *[Yay!]*
- It took some time, but God's promises came true. Joseph became someone his whole family and everyone in Egypt admired and looked up to — just like he had dreamt a long time ago!

THE BIG IDEA | God keeps promises.

- We heard a lot about promises this month. We talked about how God promises to fix what was broken, God promised us mercy, God's promises are for now and for later, and God's promises might take time. And all of these things are true because do you want to know why? **God keeps promises!**

VIDEO | Promise, Episode 5

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play this week's preschool [teaching video](#).*

ACTIVITY | Gathering Grain

- After Joseph told Pharaoh what his dreams meant, he was put in charge of gathering and storing food for the years of famine. Joseph knew that **God keeps promises!** Help us gather the grain like they had to do in Egypt.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Spread a lot of balls or balloons throughout the room and place a few "silos" in strategic places — these may be empty, tall trash cans or tall boxes. Instruct the kids to gather the balls and put them in the boxes. To make it more fun, include a countdown of years and months.*
 - **TODDLER HACK:** *Carefully collect all popped balloon pieces to prevent choking. You can substitute balloons for other objects the kids can collect, such as ball pit balls.*

PRAYER

- Dear God, thank You for keeping the promises You made. Help us to remember even when things seem difficult, You will keep Your promises. Teach us how to keep the promises we make, too, so we can be more like You.