3rd/4th

Small Group

August — Week 5

GROUPS 1/4

Joseph's Life Memory Match



Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

☐ "Joseph's Memory Match" Activity Page

Inclusive Pro-Tips

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

(1) What You Do

- 1. Divide kids into three groups.
- Shuffle each set of "Joseph's Memory Match" Activity Page cards.
- 3. Give each group a set of cards.
- 4. Instruct each group to spread the cards out face down.
- 5. Explain how to play:
- → The kids will take turns flipping over two cards at a time, trying to find matching
- 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!
- 6. Once all the cards have been matched, gather the group and discuss.

② 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.

August — Week 5

GROUPS 3/4

Verse Master

Memory Verse Activity



Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Bible Marked at Hebrews 11:1
- □ "Verse Master" Activity Page
- ☐ Floor Tape

Inclusive Pro-Tips

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

(1) 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).
- 2. Open the Bible marked at Hebrews 11:1.
- 3. Call on a kid to read the verse aloud for the group.
- 4. Repeat the verse several times, and discuss any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- 5. 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 learns 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."
- 9. 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.
- 10. Once all the kids are out, play another round if time allows.
- 11. Recite the verse together one last time!

② 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."

3rd/4th

Small Group

August — Week 5

GROUPS 4/4

Pray and Dismiss

Reflect

Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- □ Paper
- □ Coloring Supplies
- □ Pencils

Inclusive Pro-Tips

Consider allowing kids to work in pairs or smaller groups to support anyone who might find it hard to focus.

If some kids prefer not to speak their prayer out loud, let them know they can pray silently!

1) What You Do

- 1. Give each kid a piece of paper.
- 2. Set out the pencils and coloring supplies.
- 3. Encourage the kids to write or draw about a difficult situation or bad day they've experienced in the past.
- 4. 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.
- 6. Lead the kids in prayer to ask God for help, understanding, and peace in their situation.
- 7. For the situations that haven't been resolved, encourage them to revisit their situation later and see how God answer their prayers.

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."

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