

Lesson Plan

August 17th, 2025

This Month's Truth: I am Designed for a Purpose

Bible Story: Joseph interpreted dreams (Genesis 39–41)

Theme Verse: We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do. (Ephesians 2:10)

Teachers rally with your team a few minutes before kids start to arrive: Rally is a pre-service time for you to be expectant and equipped before the kids start arriving. Go over the lesson and any ideas for the day! Pray over your space and for the kids that will be coming that they will be connected to the person of Jesus!

Celebrate: Share a story of seeing God work in the life of a child or through a volunteer.

Connect: What difficult circumstances have you faced that helped you grow in your faith and relationship with God? (Share your own story, or invite volunteers to share.)

Read: Genesis 41:37-40

Share: This week's Bible story is from Genesis 39–41, where Joseph interpreted the dreams of Pharaoh. (Read Genesis 41:37-40.) Joseph trusted God to work through him, and God did. Kids will learn that, even when we cannot see God's whole plan, we can trust Him every step of the way.

Pray: Lead the group in prayer, thanking God for the way He is leading and guiding your team as they serve.

Pre Service

Arrival time, please use either one of these options as kids arrive for the morning to build relationships with kids and encourage them to build relationships with one another.

Option # 1: Connection Questions

Use these questions to help you get to know kids as they arrive. Ministry happens best through relationships. By spending this time with kids at the beginning, you will be able to make stronger connections as you begin teaching about how God knows them!

- What was the best part of your week?
- Who is someone you look up to? Why do you look up to them?

- What are some movies or shows you enjoy watching and why do you like them?
- Animals are all over the world. If you could travel to any place and have any animal that lived there as a pet, where would you go and why?
- If you could live in a city in the clouds or an underwater city, which would you choose and what do you think it would be like?

Service

What To Do:

- **Teacher** Start 5-minute countdown **5 minutes prior to service start time**. The Countdown Video is meant to be played as a signal to transition to Large Group. The video is fun and interactive with opportunities for the kids to respond and cheer. Help kids engage and interact with the video by calling out what's happening, asking for their guesses, and cheering with them.

Teacher Opener: Hello, adventurers! My name is ____ (your name), and I am so glad you are here with us today. I can't wait to see what adventure awaits us! On the count of three, shout, "Adventure Awaits"! 1-2-3! (Adventure Awaits!)

Don't Drop the S'mores

Leader Prep: Set out supplies. Place the marshmallows and spoons on a table on one end of the stage, and the cups on the other table at the opposite end of the stage.

Game Rules:

1. Invite two kids up front with you.
2. Distribute one spoon to each player.
3. Instruct kids to balance the marshmallow on the spoon from one side of the stage to their designated cup on the opposite side of the space.
4. Guide kids to go back to the beginning and try again if their marshmallows drop.
5. Congratulate the first person with five marshmallows in its cup as the winner.

What You Say: Everyone, say, "Don't drop the s'mores!" (Don't drop the s'mores!) In today's game, two people will join me on the stage. These players will need to get five of these marshmallows from this side into their cup on the other end, but they can't just use their hands. Everyone, say, "Use the spoon!" (Use the spoon!) Team members must use the spoons to scoop up one marshmallow at a time and walk it to their cups without dropping it. If their

marshmallow drops, they must come back and try again. Are you ready to see which team doesn't drop the s'mores? (Invite two kids to the front to play, and give each child a spoon.)

Keep it Going: Play again with new players, but this round, guide players to hold the spoons in their mouths!

Leader Tip: Help kids know which cup is theirs. Ensure safety as kids are moving around with spoons in their mouths.

What You Say: All right, adventurers, are you ready? Team members in the audience, are you ready to cheer on your team? This game begins in 3-2-1, Go! Look at them scooping up the marshmallows! Careful! Don't drop the s'more! Get it into your cup! It is going to be close! ____ is in the lead! Let me hear you cheer for your friends! Keep up the good work! ____ only needs one more marshmallow! And ____ won! Everyone, say, "Good job, ____!" (Good job, ____!) Thank you, adventurers, you can head back to your seat.

Our friends did a great job of getting the marshmallows from one side of the stage to the other. You can't make s'mores without marshmallows. Creating s'mores is one of my favorite things about camping. I love designing my perfect s'more with graham crackers, chocolate, and marshmallows together. Today we are going to learn about another amazing design—God's design. God designed us for a purpose. Let me hear you say, "I am designed for a purpose." (I am designed for a purpose.)

Transition Script to go into the Intro Video: Today is going to be an amazing day, adventurers! We are going to learn about how we can pay attention the incredibly good things God has designed for us to do. Let's say, "Adventure Awaits!" in 3-2-1! (Adventure Awaits!)

Play Intro Video

What You Say: Wow! Launching a rocket looks like so much fun. This month we are learning the Simple truth that we are designed for a purpose. And part of how we live out our purpose is by looking up—to God. When we are unsure about which way to go or what choice to make, we can pray and ask God for help. We can look to Him and trust in His plan for us. Everyone say, "I can look up!" (I can look up!)

Worship

What You Say: I'm so excited to worship with you all this morning! Come on up front and let's worship together!

What To Do:

- Turn lights off
- 2-3 songs of worship
- **Teachers and Small Group Leaders worship with the kids, modeling what it looks like to give God our praise. Stand in the front of the room, or next to the kids- but not in the back.**
- Dismiss the kids back to their seats when the songs are over

Bible Story Video

Transition script Teachers please use this to set-up the Bible Story and to encourage the use of Bibles in the classroom with the Kids: (Open the Bible to Genesis 39–41.) Let's learn more about God's plan for us from the Bible. The Bible is God's true message to us about Himself. Today, our Bible story comes from the book of Genesis. Say, "Genesis!" (Genesis) Genesis is the first book of the Bible, in the Old Testament. Our story today is about a man named Joseph. God had a special plan for Joseph's life, but it didn't turn out exactly the way we would expect. Joseph's life was a crazy adventure. Let's adventure onward and learn more about God's plan for Joseph.

What To Do:

- Play the Bible Story
- When it's over, turn lights back on and ask what the Bible story was about (as well as the questions below), have kids respond, take some answers from the **small group leaders** and share some yours as well, use the script below to help make the connection for the kids.

Questions to consider asking after the video:

- What is something that you learned about God from the video?
- What is something that you learned about people?
- What can you take away from the video?
 - How can you apply the lesson from today into your life?

Making The Connection Script: Joseph is a great example of someone who didn't know everything about God's plan for him, but Joseph trusted in God anyway! Even with all the distractions, everyone around Joseph saw that God was with him and working through him. Joseph was able to trust in God's plan. Because of that trust, Joseph rose to a position of great authority and was able to help many people. We can have that kind of faith and trust in God too!

Offering

What To Do:

- Play video explaining offering to kids
- Play offering time video while kids pass the bucket
- Ask a student(s) to come up and pray over the offering

Theme Verse Review:

Choose between the Video-Led Theme Verse option or the Host-Led Theme Verse option.

Theme Verse Motions: We are his workmanship, (Make both your hands into fists. Hit one fist on top of the other, and then switch and hit the other fist.)

created in Christ Jesus for good works (Clasp your hands together in front of your body.)

which God prepared ahead of time (Place your arms at a 90-degree angle with your right arm pointing up, then lower and lay your right arm on your left.)

for us to do. (Point your thumbs toward your chest.)

Ephesians 2:10 (Hold your hands out like a book.)

Option #1: Put the memory verse slide on the screen.

What You Say: Hello, adventurers! Repeat after me: "I am designed for a purpose!" (I am designed for a purpose!) Let's continue our adventure toward learning more about our purpose today by standing and saying the Theme verse together!

Repeat after me: (Use the motions above.)

We are his workmanship, (We are his workmanship,)

created in Christ Jesus for good works, (created in Christ Jesus for good works,)

which God prepared ahead of time (which God prepared ahead of time)

for us to do. (for us to do.)

Ephesians 2:10 (Ephesians 2:10)

Great job! Let's say it again, starting super quiet at the beginning and getting a little bit louder with each word, almost like we are walking from the front of a cave to the back. Ready?

We are his workmanship, (We are his workmanship,
created in Christ Jesus for good works, (created in Christ Jesus for good works,)
which God prepared ahead of time (which God prepared ahead of time)
for us to do. (for us to do.)
Ephesians 2:10 (Ephesians 2:10)

Way to go! This verse tells us that we are God's workmanship. This means we were created and designed by God! It also tells us that God has prepared good works for us. We are designed with a purpose!

Option #2: Play Memory verse video

What You Say: Hello, adventurers! Repeat after me: "I am designed for a purpose!" (I am designed for a purpose!) Let's continue our adventure toward learning more about our purpose today by standing and saying the Theme verse together!

Play Memory Verse Video

What You Say: This verse tells us that we are God's workmanship. This means we were created and designed by God! It also tells us that God has prepared good works for us. We are designed with a purpose!

Large Group Closing:

What You Say: What an amazing adventure we have been on today! I loved seeing us all learn and grow together. As we continue our adventure, remember to look up and keep your focus on God. Everyone, say, "I can look up!" (I can look up!) God has designed us all with a purpose. When we trust in Him, even when we only know part of His plan, He will always be with us! Like Joseph, we can trust and follow God's plan for our lives! Let's pray together and talk with God in 3-2-1.

Closing Prayer: God, thank You so much for this amazing day to come and worship You. Help us trust in Your plans for us. Let us help others to know You with our words, thoughts, and actions. Help us love You and love others more. You are incredible, and we love You. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

Transition to Small Group Time: Split the kids into small groups. This can be done either by age, grade, or gender.

Small Group Time:

Option #1: Connection Questions

What You Say: Hey, friends! It's time for our next adventure: discovery questions!

1. If you could design a plan for a one-day trip, what would it be? (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)
2. How is having enough light for one step at a time better than no light at all? In a similar way, how is knowing that God has a plan better than trying to do it all by yourself? (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)
3. The Bible tells us to look up and trust in God and His plan. Even if we don't see everything, we can know that God designed us for a purpose. Let's open our Bibles to Genesis 41:39-40 and read about it together. (Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the passage aloud, or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.) How can we live in a way that people see God's spirit in us like they did in Joseph? (Answers may include by doing the right thing, even when it is hard; being kind to others; following directions; trusting in God's plan; praying; coming to church; and so forth.)
4. God had plans to send Jesus to die on the cross for your sins before you were even born. How does that make you feel knowing that you are part of God's plan? What questions do you have about God's plan for you? (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)
5. God designed us for a purpose. The Bible tells us to look up and trust in God and His plan, even if we don't understand everything all at once. Our life is one big adventure, and that adventure was designed by the one true God! What is something you learned today? Is there anything you have questions about? (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)

Option #2: Theme Verse Word Search

What To Do: We are going to create a word search using words from our Theme verse!

Our Theme verse is written at the top of your paper. The underlined words on your paper are words already in the puzzle. Fill in the rest of the squares with different letters. Then you will have your own word search with words from the Theme verse! You can circle the words from the Theme verse yourself, or take it home and give your puzzle to a family member or friend to complete.

Leader Tip: Monitor closely to ensure kids place letters in an order around their puzzles that do not spell inappropriate words.

Loud And Clear: Our Theme verse says that we are created for a purpose. Even when things are not going the way we want, this Bible verse can remind us that God designed us for a purpose, and we can do good works which point others to Him!

Option #3: Activity Page

What To Do: This activity page helps us remember some big things we've learned about today. As you color and work on activities, talk to a friend about some of your favorite parts of our time together.

Leader Tip: Get to know the kids better. Ask them what they remember about the Bible story, or remind them that like Joseph, we can't see everything God is doing. But we can trust God and know that He designed us with a purpose. We are all on an adventure together, and we can look around and trust God.

What You Say: Know and remember that God designed you for a purpose. He loves you, created you, and sent Jesus so you can have a relationship with Him. Loving, trusting, and following God is an incredible adventure that starts when you look around and see what all God has done for you!

Close out in prayer:

What To Do:

- Ask for any specific prayer requests
- Pray with the group
- Lead the group in the prayer below.

What You Say: God, You are a great, mighty, and powerful Creator and Designer of all things. You made each of us with a specific purpose. Help us to see Your path for us and to follow You one step at a time. Help us trust that You have a plan that is bigger and greater than anything we could ever dream. Let us be so full of You that others see You working in us! Thank You for the ability to get to know You better today. We love You. Amen.

Dismissal:

Leader Tip: Work with your team to dismiss the kids in a fun, manageable, and safe way. As kids leave, make sure they have all of the crafts and papers. Share with the person picking them up something positive you observed today. Invite them back next week.