

Lesson Plan

August 3rd, 2025

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

Bible Story: Joseph sent to Egypt (Genesis 37)

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 celebrating a volunteer who is serving in an incredible way.

Connect: Why do you think it is challenging to see God at work through difficult circumstances? What can help you look around and recognize what He is doing? (Share your own story, or invite volunteers to share.)

Read: Genesis 37:9-11

Share: This August, we are teaching kids they are designed for a purpose. God has a divine and inspired plan for their lives. We will teach this truth with stories from the life of Joseph, starting this week with the story of Joseph being sent to Egypt. Things may have felt out of control for Jacob, but he clung to the truth of God and His amazing plans. (Read Genesis 37:9-11.) Kids will learn that, no matter what is happening, they can look around and know that nothing can stop God's plans.

Pray: Lead the group in prayer, asking God to help the kids in your ministry see the amazing ways He is at work around them.

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?
- What is one of your favorite games to play?
- Would you rather have pancakes or waffles for breakfast? What toppings would you put on it?
- If you had all the money in the world, who would you buy a present for and what would you buy?
- If you could only smell one thing for the rest of your life, what would it be?

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: When I say, "Adventure," you say, "Awaits." "Adventure!" (Awaits!) Adventure (Awaits!) "Adventure!" (Awaits!) My name is____, and I cannot wait to see what kind of adventures are waiting for us as we learn this month about how we are designed by God for a purpose. We are going to have so much fun together! If you are ready for adventure, say, "Let's go!" (Let's go!)

Head, Shoulders, Knees, Egypt!

What To Do: We are going to play a game called "Head, Shoulders, Knees, Egypt!" Head, shoulders, knees, what? (Egypt!) Egypt is the place we are going to be during our Bible story today. Find a friend, grab a cup, and then move around the room so you and your teammate have enough space to place the cup on the floor between you and you can both take a step back without bumping into anyone. (Allow time.)

Leader Tip: If space does not allow with how many kids you have you can do rounds. Only half or less go then the next group. Then have the winners play to get a winner over all.

Great job! I will call out different words, and you will follow the prompt. If I say, “Head,” you will put both your hands on your head. If I say, “Shoulders,” you will put both your hands on your shoulders. If I say, “Knees,” you will put both your hands on your knees. But when I say, “Egypt,” you will try to be the first person to grab the cup between you and your friend. Whoever grabs the cup the fastest will be the winner and will play the winner of another group.

Keep It Going: Consider playing where they stay in the same group and tally how many cups they get. Then announce a winner from tallies.

Leader Tip: Say the words quickly and slowly. For example, say, “Head, knees, shoulders, knees! (fast) Head, knees, Egypt!” (Slow)

Loud And Clear: You had some super-fast responses and reactions! You knew what to do and you did it. Today, we are going to learn about how God designed us for a purpose. Say, “Who, me?” (Who, me?) Yes, you! All of you! We were all created by God for His purpose. As we adventure on today, we are going to learn more about what it means to be designed 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: Let’s watch a video about today’s Simple Truth: I am designed for a purpose. Count down with me, and say, “Adventure Awaits” to get our video started. 3-2-1! (Adventure Awaits!)

Play Intro Video

What You Say: Wow! Kenzie really worked for that “Tether Ball Badge”! Let me hear you say, “Super-Mega-Power-Spike!” (Super-Mega-Power-Spike!) We also heard about today’s Main Idea: I can look around. We can look around at what God is doing all around us and know that God designed us for a purpose. Repeat after me: “I can look around!” (I can look around!) “I am designed for a purpose!” (I am designed for a purpose!)

Worship

What You Say: Let’s all come up front and worship together this morning!

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: Point to your eyes, and say, “I’m looking!” (I’m looking!) Point to your ears, and say, “I’m listening!” (I’m listening!) Keep looking and listening because it is time for today’s Bible story! (Open the Bible to Genesis 37.) The Bible is God’s true message to us about Himself. Today, our Bible story comes from the book of Genesis, which is in the first part of the Bible called the Old Testament. Everyone, say, “Old Testament!” (Old Testament) We are going to hear about a man named Joseph. If you are ready to hear about Joseph’s adventure, say, “I’m ready!” (I’m ready!)

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: Wow, Joseph had quite the adventure. He had some amazing dreams from God, but then some hard and unexpected things happened in his life. Do you think Joseph might have felt confused or unsure at that moment? (Allow response.) Joseph may not have known why things were happening the way they were, but God knew the big picture. Joseph’s story reminds us that we can look around and trust that God has a purpose for our lives. Say, “I can look around!” (I can look around!)

Even when we trust and follow God, we can still run into trouble, like Joseph did. No matter what is happening, we can look around and remember that God has a purpose for us. Say, “I can look around!” (I can look around!) No matter what happens, we can know the truth that God designed us for a purpose. He designed us to love and follow Him and share His love with others as we point them to Him. Nothing can stop God’s purpose, plans, or His love for us! Say, “I am designed for a purpose!” (I am designed for a purpose!)

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: It is so exciting to know that God designed each of us for a purpose! Let’s continue our adventure by learning our Theme verse together. Stand up, and learn the Theme verse with me!

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 the Theme verse again but with our best low-down voices!

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)

Awesome! How about one more time but with our best high-up voices?

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)

Fantastic! Turn to your neighbor, and say, "Look around!" (Look around) Now point to yourself, and say, "I can look around!" (I can look around!) Like our Theme verse says, you can look around and know that you are designed by God for a purpose—for good works that He has prepared for you to do!

Option #2: Play Memory verse video

What You Say: It is so exciting to know that God designed each of us for a purpose! Let's continue our adventure by learning our Theme verse together. Get ready to learn the Theme verse with me!

Play Memory Verse Video

What You Say: Fantastic! Turn to your neighbor, and say, "Look around!" (Look around) Now point at yourself and say, "I can look around!" (I can look around!) Like our Theme verse says, you can look around and know that you are designed by God for a purpose—for good works that He has prepared for you to do!

Large Group Closing:

What You Say: What an amazing adventure we have been on today! We have learned that God designed Joseph for a purpose, even when things around him did not look so good. God designed us for a purpose too! Say, “I am designed for a purpose!” (I am designed for a purpose!) Sometimes, like Joseph, things happen that are out of our control, and we might struggle to see God’s plan for us. But we can look around and remember that God sees everything, and He is always at work. Say, “I can look around!” (I can look around!) Let’s pray and talk to God, thanking Him for designing our lives for an amazing purpose.

Closing Prayer: God, thank You for making us on purpose for a purpose. Thank You for loving us so much, You sent Jesus to make the way for us to have a relationship with You and follow You. Help us to look around and recognize where You are working and trust that nothing can stop Your plan and purpose for our lives. 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, let’s continue our adventure by talking together about how God designed us for a purpose!

1. What is a fun adventure you would want to take, and how would you plan for it? (Allow answers, and share your own answer.)
2. How is the way we see the world different from the way that God sees the world? (Answers may include how we can only see some things, but God sees and knows everything.)
3. The Bible tells us that when we look around, we can remember that God designed us for a purpose. Let’s open our Bibles to Genesis 37:9-11 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.) God gave Joseph amazing dreams about what would happen, but then later, terrible things happened in Joseph’s life. When bad things happen in our lives that we don’t understand, how can today’s Bible story encourage us? (Answers may include how we can remember that God designed us

for a purpose; we can know that God knows everything, so we can look around and remember that He is in control; and so forth.)

4. God was with Joseph, even when his brothers threw him in a pit. And God is with us too. God sent His Son, Jesus, so we can have a relationship with Him and follow Him. What can you say to Jesus when you need help to look around and remember that God made you for a purpose? (Answers may include I can ask Jesus for help; I can thank Jesus for being with me; I can ask Jesus to show me what God is doing in my life; and so forth.)
5. The Bible tells us that God sees and knows everything, and we can trust that nothing will get in the way of His purpose and plans. When we go through the adventure of life, we can look around for what God is doing and trust Him in everything. What is something you learned today? Is there anything you have questions about? (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)

Option #2: Dream Journal

Leader Prep: Set out supplies. Create an example ahead of time. YouTube video available to watch how to make the book.

1. Fold paper in half so the short ends touch. Crease.
2. Keeping the paper folded, fold it in half in the same direction again.
3. Keeping the paper folded, fold it in half so the new short ends touch. Crease all edges.
4. Open the paper, to reveal eight rectangles.
5. Fold paper in half so the short ends touch again, creasing the fold well.
6. Cut from the folded edge along the vertical (up and down) fold line in the middle of the page. Only cut the paper through the first rectangle section.
7. Open and lay out the paper on a flat surface.
8. Fold paper in half horizontally (long sides together) pressing on all the creases.
9. Pick up the ends of the paper using both hands, and push the ends together.
10. Squish and press on the folds, folding the paper into a book.
11. Decorate the book with “_____ (your name) is created for a purpose!”

What To Do: Everyone, say, “Dream Journal!” (Dream Journal!) In our Bible story, God gave Joseph actual dreams. God can also encourage us with dreams, or hopeful plans for our futures to love and follow Him. To help us remember that, we are going to make a dream journal out of one sheet of paper. Say, “One sheet of paper!” (One sheet of paper!)

(Walk the kids through each step by demonstrating as you talk.) The first thing we need to do to make our journal is fold our paper. Fold the short sides together three times and crease. Then unfold twice. From the folded side, cut the middle fold line to the center of the “cross.” Unfold

again and refold so the long sides are together. Reinforce the folds. Next, with the paper folded (long sides together), push the ends to the middle, making an X shape. Then fold and crease to reveal an eight-page book with pages that flip.

On the front, write your name, and then “is created for a purpose.” Take your journal home, and fill it with dreams about how you can trust and follow God and how you can live your life for Him and His purpose.

Leader Tip: Assist kids as needed.

Loud And Clear: You all made some cool dream journals! Joseph had dreams that his brothers would bow down to him. God used Joseph’s dreams to show him God’s purpose for Joseph’s life. But Joseph isn’t the only one created for a purpose. We are all designed with a purpose. We can look around for what adventure God has in store for us!

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, thank You that You see and know everything. Thank You that nothing can get in the way of Your purpose for our lives. Thank You for sending Jesus so we can know, love, and follow You. Help us to look around and see what You are doing and trust that You are working in our lives. Help us live our purpose to love and follow You and help others do the same. 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.