

DAY 1

Read: Genesis 39:20-23 NIRV

“So he put Joseph in prison. It was the place where the king’s prisoners were kept. While Joseph was there in the prison, the Lord was with him. He was kind to him. So the man running the prison was pleased with Joseph. He put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners. He made him responsible for everything done there. The man who ran the prison didn’t pay attention to anything in Joseph’s care. That’s because the Lord was with Joseph. He gave Joseph success in everything he did.”

The story of Joseph is kind of unbelievable. Here’s a guy who was thrown into a pit, sold into slavery, falsely accused, sentenced to years in prison, and then ends up becoming second in command behind Pharaoh himself. And in what might possibly be the biggest plot twist ever, Joseph saves the very brothers who started this whole crazy chain of events in the first place.

Through all of it, Joseph believed to his core that God hadn’t forgotten about him. Joseph knew that God was with him. So the question is, do you live like Joseph did? How would your life, today, change if you truly believed that God was with you? Would you be bolder in your faith? Would you be more generous? Would you be more patient or more forgiving?

What if you could convince the kids in your group at AMPED this week of this big truth? What if they could start believing at 5 and 8 and 10 that God is with them, no matter what? This truth, evidenced through the life of Joseph, has the potential to change how they view their futures.

Ask God to help you live in a way that shows others, including the kids you lead this week, that God is with you.

DAY 2

Read: Jeremiah 29:11 NIV

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

When you read your Bible, do you ever try to put yourself in the shoes of the people you read about? If you were Esther and God showed you his whole plan, including Haman’s evil plot, the scary scepter thing, and the whole “saving your entire nation of people” part, what would you have done? Honestly, I would have said, “Sorry, God. But this plan isn’t what I had in mind. Is there a Plan B?”

But God doesn’t work that way. He doesn’t map out the whole plan and give you the choice to pick and choose what lies ahead. If he DID let you pick, chances are you would choose the sunny, easy, breezy days over the rainy, hard, and scary ones. But that’s not really a good thing. Because a life of ease would give you the false sense that this life is all there is. The hard stuff reminds that this world is NOT our home. Those “plans to give you a hope and a future” means that no matter what you face, as a believer in Jesus, you win. So while you might never walk in Esther’s shoes, the promise of heaven means you will meet her one day in heaven. How awesome is that?

As an adult, you have valuable life experience to share with the kids in your group this week because you have the gift of perspective. You can look back and see how God has worked out his plan in your own life through the good and bad. Be prepared to talk about how his plans for you have been better than any you could have dreamt up on your own.

Ask God to help you share why living like God has a plan is the BEST way to live.

DAY 3

Read: Romans 5:18 NIV

“So one man’s sin brought guilt to all people. In the same way, one right act made people right with God. That one right act gave life to all people.”

From his birth in Bethlehem to his death on the cross to the empty tomb, Jesus’ life is like no other. But still some say that Jesus was just a gifted teacher or miracle worker or a prophet. And while those things are true, Jesus’ life was more than that. Actually, His life on earth had one singular aim. He came to die. And through His death He brought life to all who choose to believe in Him.

So the big question is this: do you live that way? Do you live under the weight of your sin? Do you carry your sin with shame and let it rule over you? Or do you remember that the huge sacrifice made for you by Jesus paid the price for all that sin once and for all? You are alive and no longer separated from God because of the LIFE bought by the blood of Jesus. His one right act gave life to all people, including you! You can’t really share this truth until you believe it yourself.

Today, we’ll have the opportunity to share with your kids about how they can have a relationship with Jesus! What a privilege. Be prayerful and ask the Holy Spirit to give you His words as you share the life-changing truth that we can have a relationship with God forever because Jesus is alive.

Ask God to help you as you share with your precious kids that Jesus is alive.

DAY 4

Read: Philippians 2:4 NIRV

"None of you should look out just for your own good. Each of you should also look out for the good of others."

Those faithful first followers of Jesus showed us what it means to live in community. They didn't have much, but what they did have they shared with one another. They modeled lives of selflessness, the kind that Paul talks about in today's verse. But you already get this. You've proven it by showing up to hang out with a bunch of AMPED up kids all week long.

So thanks for living out this verse in real time this week. Thanks for putting the lives of some super-awesome and completely crazy kiddos in front of a million other things you could be doing with your time. Like those early believers, your Father in heaven sees your sacrifice, and He is so pleased.

Thanks for living your life like people (specifically children) matter.

DAY 5

Read: Ephesians 2:8-10 NIRV

"God's grace has saved you because of your faith in Christ. Your salvation doesn't come from anything you do. It is God's gift. 9 It is not based on anything you have done. No one can brag about earning it. 10 We are God's creation. He created us to belong to Christ Jesus. Now we can do good works. Long ago God prepared these works for us to do."

During worship this week, did you stop to just listen to the children around you singing praises to their heavenly Father? Isn't it overwhelming to think about how the seeds of faith planted this week will bloom and grow in the future? It's hard to wrap our minds around the fact that God chooses to use us to make a kingdom impact. But He does. He has.

At AMPED this week, you've joined a bigger story. You've signed on for something bigger. Something better. By choosing to show up, you've been a part of creating an environment for someone to hear the message of Jesus, maybe even for the first time. How amazing is that?

You aren't here leading by accident. Because God prepared this week of good works for you in advance, that means He already knew about that exhausting game of tag with those 2nd graders or those crazy questions thrown at you during your small group time or how you'd tackle that obstacle course like a boss. This week has been about showing kids how to join a bigger story. And you've been right there to usher them in.

Thank God for this week that He prepared in advance so you could help kids join a bigger story.