

# Joseph and His Brothers

**Bible Story: Joseph and His Brothers** (The Life of Joseph) • *Genesis 37, 39-45, 50:19-20*

**Memory Verse:** "I have come so they may have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way." *John 10:10b, NIV*

**Bottom Line:** Live like you know God is with you.

## **Story Review:**

"Since this is AMPED week and we are making everything *EXTREME!* Lets imagine as we sit here that we are on dirt bikes! Position your hands like they are on handle bars and twist your hand to rev your engines. How would you put on the breaks? How would you steer? Close your eyes and picture a dirt bike course"(describe a course with jumps and curves).

"Joseph's life looked like a giant race track! There were some ups, like \_\_\_\_\_ (*allow kids to fill in the blank...list as many as possible*), and there were some downs, especially when \_\_\_\_\_ (*allow kids to fill in the blank...list as many as possible*). It would have been really easy for Joseph to lose hope when he felt alone.

Is there a time when you've felt alone this month? Summer can mean time away from your school friends and regular routines. How does that feel? (*Allow for answers*) Yeah, it feels lonely sometimes, but summer also means lots of great times. What's been your favorite so far? (*Allow for answers.*) Our lives have ups and downs like Joseph's, and just like he did, you can **live like you know God is with you.**

In motocross races, riders race through all kinds of obstacles. But whether it's a jump that sends them high into the air (imagine yourself soaring) or a bump or turn that slows them down (steer around that corner), the racers keep going because they know the finish line is coming!"

"Just like a motocross racer keeps going no matter what, you can keep going no matter what, too. You can keep going because God is always with you. He's with you when things are sad or hard, and He's with you when things are happy or good."

God was with Joseph no matter what, and you can trust that no matter what God is always with you!"

## **Memory Verse:**

"This is a great verse to remember when the track gets tough! "Life in the fullest possible way" means living without fear. It means that even though I know life can have ups and downs, I can trust God no matter what. I'm never alone even when I feel lonely, and I can always be thankful. I don't have to worry about what happens later on in the course, and I don't have to control everything in order to be happy. I can trust that God has my back no matter what lies ahead, and just like that, you too can **live like you know God is with you.**"

***[Make It Personal] (Briefly tell a child-appropriate story or time when you knew God was with you. Tell the kids how knowing He was with you made a difference in how you lived.)***

***Ask kids if they have a story about a time they knew God was with them. If no one can think of a time, pray together and ask God to remind them of a time...allow 15-30 seconds of silence and then ask again.***

## **CLOSING PRAYER:**

"Dear God, thank You so much for our time here at Amped! We're so excited that You want to give us life in the fullest possible way. Please help us to trust You and to live like we know You're always with us, even in the ups and downs of our lives. Amen."

# Esther

**Bible Story:** Esther • *The Book of Esther*

**Memory Verse:** "I have come so they may have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way." *John 10:10b, NIV*

**Bottom Line:** Live like God has a plan for you.

## Story Review:

There were a lot of people making plans in our Bible story today - Do you remember the names of the characters today? (allow kids to remember...give clues if necessary. *Haman, Mordecai, Esther, and the King*). Only God's plan was perfect. He planned that even though there would be hard times, His people would be saved! Who was a super important part of God's plan? (*Esther*) When the future seemed really big and uncertain, she had to remember that God had a plan for her and for her people.

When is a time that we might be worried about the future? (*Allow for answers.*) What about excited? Is there anything you're really looking forward to later this summer or this school year? (*Allow for answers.*) We don't know a lot about the future, but God does, and He has a good plan. We don't always know how it will look. Queen Esther, as a little girl, definitely couldn't have imagined herself as royalty!

**[Make it Personal]** (*Share something that God is doing or has done in your life that was unexpected but according to His plan, like making friends with someone unlikely who encourages your faith, or getting to influence 2nd and 3rd graders to follow Jesus.*)

I didn't think that I'd be doing that, but it goes to show that you can **live like God has a plan for you**. And that plan will always be ultimately good, a way to show how much God loves people."

"God knows everything about you – all the things you're good at, and your dreams of the future. God is the one who is best qualified to make the plan for your life. You never have to worry that you're not enough – tall enough, smart enough, old enough, cool enough – for God's plan. He has given you everything you need to live out His plan. Even right now, at your age, you can **live like God has a plan for you** by using the awesome way God made you to show His love to those around you.

Let's ask God what he loves about us. (Lead the kids to close their eyes in a posture of prayer and then you, small group leader, say...) "God thank you that you love us so much! What is one thing you especially love about me?" (Allow for 15-30 seconds of listening time and then ask the kids what they heard or what God showed them in their minds)

Awesome! He loves us so much! Now let's ask Him what is one thing you like doing with me? (Again have kids close their eyes and say) "Thank you God that you have great plans for me and thank you that you are always with me. What is one thing that you love doing with me or want to do with me?" (Allow for 15-30 seconds of listening time and ask kids to share if they want, sometimes if you share first it will encourage them to share too)

**Memory Verse:**

“When this verse talks about "giving life," it means that Jesus wants us to have lives that don't stop when things get tough, but that trust in God's plan and keep going. Because God has a plan, we don't have to give up; we can keep going. What are some times when things seem too tough to get through? (*Allow for answers; you could suggest mastering a new skill, faithfully doing their chores even when they don't want to, going to a school or class where they don't know anyone, etc.*) Those are the kinds of times when you need to keep going and remember to **live like God has a plan for you.**”

### Closing Prayer

#### What You Say:

"Dear God, when I'm not sure of the future, *I will live like You have a plan for me.*  
When life seems tough and I want to give up, *I will live like You have a plan for me.*  
When I'm not sure I'm good enough, *I will live like You have a plan for me.*  
When I have to do big jobs, *I will live like You have a plan for me.*  
When I feel afraid or alone, *I will live like You have a plan for me.*  
Thank You that I can *live like You have a plan for me.*  
Because You are good. Amen.

## The Road to Emmaus – DAY 3

**Bible Story: The Road to Emmaus** (The Life of Jesus) • *Luke 24:13-35*

**Memory Verse:** “I have come so they may have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way.” *John 10:10b, NIV*

**Bottom Line:** Live like Jesus is alive.

### Story Review

“How did the two disciples feel at the start of today’s story? (*Pause.*) Yes, they were sad. Why did they feel sad? (Jesus had died) How do you think they felt after they knew that Jesus is alive? (*Happy, excited.*) Yes! The two disciples were *so* happy, who did they run and tell? (*the other disciples*) Knowing that Jesus is alive made a difference!”

“Jesus said, ‘I have come so they may have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way.’ When Jesus rose from the dead, He made a way for us to have life forever with Him. And life with Jesus is the BEST possible life! Because with Jesus we can have hope; with Jesus we can have peace; and with Jesus we can have joy! **Live like Jesus is alive!**”

“So when you’re sad, remember that Jesus is alive. When you’re confused, remember that Jesus is alive. When you’re lonely, remember that Jesus is alive. Even when you’re happy, remember that Jesus is alive. No matter what’s happening or how you feel, remember to **live like Jesus is alive!**”

“Knowing that Jesus is alive made a difference in the two disciples’ lives, and knowing that Jesus is alive can make a difference in our lives, too.”

“The most important way that knowing Jesus is alive makes a difference in our lives is when we choose to follow Him. Following Jesus means you believe that Jesus is God’s Son and that God sent Jesus to show you how to live, to die on the cross for your sins, and to come back to life so that if you truly believe in Him, you can live *forever* with God.”

***[Make It Personal] (Share the moment when you first believed in Jesus and then how that decision affects your life today. If there's time, share how Jesus is still working in you to transform your life. Use specific language like Jesus helps me love others or Jesus gives me strength to make wise choices,***

“Here at Sage Hills Church we believe that Jesus is alive and also at work in the people who follow Him. When we act the way that Jesus told His followers by showing love and forgiveness, we're proving that we **live like Jesus is alive**. For those of you who have already made the decision to believe in Jesus, when was the last time you changed your mind about how you acted or treated someone? How did you change what you were doing in order to follow Jesus better? (*Allow for answers.*) When we let Jesus influence how we think and act, that's how we **live like Jesus is alive.**”

"The two disciples celebrated knowing that Jesus is alive by running to tell the other disciples. How can you celebrate knowing that Jesus is alive? *(Pause.)* Can you sing songs to Him? Can you dance for Him? Can you thank Him? Can you tell others about Him? ***[Make It Personal] (Tell a way you'll celebrate knowing that Jesus is alive.)*** So remember: you can **live like Jesus is alive!**"

### **Memory Verse:**

Jesus' friends were so thrilled to tell others that Jesus is alive! And no wonder! Think about this verse if Jesus hadn't come back to life. He couldn't possibly give anyone full, vibrant, eternal, and abundant life if He was dead, could He? No! So every time that you live the life that Jesus gives you, that "fullest possible" life stuffed with courage and compassion and adventure, you're showing the world that you choose to **live like Jesus is alive."**

### **Closing Prayer**

"Dear God, we are so thankful that Jesus is alive! We believe that He can change how we act and feel so that we can follow You better. Please help us to look for ways that we can **live like Jesus is alive** all the time and not just here at Sage Hills Kids, Amen."

## The Early Church – Day 4

**Bible Story: The Early Church** • *John 13:34-35; Acts 2:42-47, 3:32-37*

**Memory Verse:** “I have come so they may have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way.”

*John 10:10b, NIV*

**Bottom Line:** Live like people matter.

### Story Review

Today during our story time how did the “old way” act? (allow for answers...*selfish, angry, grumpy*) How did “the old way” change? (allow for answers...*Mr. Lex’s “new way” consistent kindness, gentleness, inviting, being inclusive.*

When Jesus told us to **live like people matter**, He was opening up the whole world to us. Often, people are kind just to those who are kind back; people share with those who have enough to return the favor someday. But this new rule says to be kind to people who are not kind, to share without looking for a reward, and to stick up for those in need even if you don't know them. This new way to love others caused the church to grow like crazy because everyone wants to be part of a group that is willing to **[Bottom Line] live like people matter.**

Read the scenarios below or add your own.

- Direct kids strike a skate boarding pose. If the scenario talks about someone loving others and crash to down to the floor if the scenario tells about someone not loving others.
- Scenarios:
- Jose notices that the boy sitting next to him doesn't have enough to eat at lunch, so Jose shares his sandwich and chips with him.
- When the teacher passes out construction paper, Mary grabs her favorite color, even though it's the last piece and she knows the girl beside her really wants it, too.
- Laquita lets her little sister play with her toys, even though it's hard.
- Sherome notices that his mom is tired after work, so he volunteers to do the dishes.
- Lily sends an “I love you” card to her grandma just because.
- Even though Hank snatched up a whole bag of candy when the piñata broke, he didn't share with others who only got a few pieces.
- Mark's brother accidentally breaks one of his toys. Mark yells at him and calls him names.
- Austin takes time to play with his little brother, even when he'd rather be playing with his friends.
- When the church collects money for people who need help, Felicity gives half of her birthday money.

“Jesus told His followers to love one another just like He loved them. What are some ways that you can show Jesus' love to others? (*I can share my toys, I can share my food at lunch, I can spend time with my little brother, I can send a card to my grandma, I can give my mom a hug, I can tell my sister that I love her, etc.*) Great ideas! Jesus said that when you show His love to others, people will notice! So remember, **live like people matter** and show them Jesus' love!”

**[Make It Personal]** (*Share about a time in your life when you were impacted by this Bottom Line; it could be how you chose your current church because of the welcoming atmosphere, the way your small group responded to a crisis for someone outside the church, or a mission trip/disaster relief program you took part in.*) Instead of doing something else with this week, you came here to discover how to live Amped! And, as we heard today, a big part of that is learning how to **live like people matter.**”

### Memory Verse

When we are careful how we treat others, we're showing them that we live differently, like this verse says. People with **full, abundant lives** don't need to tear others down to build themselves up. They are free to be generous with their words and kind in their actions. What is a way you could use your words or actions to **live like people matter**?" (*Allow for answers.*)

### Closing Prayer

"Dear God, we know that all people matter to You and that You love all of us. Thank You for showing us how to **live like people matter** through Jesus. Please give us the strength, wisdom, and patience to follow His example. Amen."