



## Week 3: Joseph of Arimathea - Daring in Devotion

### Lesson Overview

**Bible Story:** Matthew 27:57-60

**Additional Scripture:** John 19:38-42, Mark 15:42-46

**Main Idea:** Joseph's bold act of burying Jesus teaches kids the lengths one might go to when they truly know and love Jesus.

**Today's Point:** Be bold and kind, even when it is risky.

**Memory Verse:** John 11:25 Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying."

### Bible Story Video:

[▶ The Burial of Jesus: A Story of Love and Faith | Kids Bible Story](#)

### March Worship Songs:

[▶ Yancy & Little Praise Party - It's A Happy Day- \[OFFICIAL MUSIC VID...](#)

[▶ "He Rose" with Actions](#)

## Schedule:

### **Warm Up Question (3 min.):**

Have you ever been scared to show you liked something because others might not?

### **Review Classroom Rules (3 min.)**

### **Review giving and collect offerings (2 min.)**

### **Review point and Key verse: (5 min.)**

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### **Play Songs (6 Min.)**

### **Introduction & Group Game: Brave Builders (6 min.)**

**TEACHER:** Good morning, everyone! I'm so excited to have you all here today. We will dive into a fascinating story about a very brave man named Joseph of Arimathea. **Joseph did something incredibly bold and kind, even when it was risky.** He teaches us about the courage it takes to stand up for what we believe in, especially when it comes to showing love and respect for Jesus. Are you ready to learn how we can be brave like Joseph? Great! Let's start with a fun game to get us thinking about bravery and making bold choices.

### **How to Play:**

1. Divide into two teams.
2. Challenge: Each team has to build the tallest structure they can within a set time limit (let's say, 3 minutes).
3. **Twist:** Halfway through, announce a "challenge" — the builders must **close their eyes for 10 seconds** while continuing to build, symbolizing the uncertainty Joseph faced.

4. **Reflect:** After the timer goes off, discuss how it felt to build, especially with the challenge.
- Was it scary not seeing?
  - Did anyone worry their structure would fall?

**TEACHER:** Just like in our game, Joseph of Arimathea had to make a bold choice without knowing what would happen next. He decided to care for Jesus' body, showing us what it means to be brave and stand up for our faith. Now, let's dive deeper into Joseph's story and see what we can learn about bravery and compassion.

### **Bible Story: Joseph of Arimathea - Daring in Devotion (15 min.)**

**TEACHER:** Joseph did something very brave after Jesus died, and his story teaches us about the courage to stand up for what we believe in. Let's find out what happened.

### **Show Bible Story Video**

**READ: John 19:38a**

Joseph was a secret follower of Jesus because he was afraid of what others would think. But after Jesus died, he made a brave decision.

- Why do you think Joseph was scared at first? What changed his mind? (Pause for responses.)

**READ: John 19:38b-40**

Joseph took a big risk by asking for Jesus' body. He wanted to make sure Jesus was treated with respect.

- How do you think Joseph felt doing this for Jesus? (Pause for responses.)

**READ: Mark 15:46**

This was a special tomb because it had never been used before. It showed how much Joseph cared for Jesus.

- What does Joseph's action tell us about his feelings for Jesus? (Pause for responses.)

## **READ: Matthew 27:59-60**

Joseph's bold move was a big statement of his faith and love for Jesus.

- How can we show our love for Jesus like Joseph did? It doesn't have to be something big; even small acts of kindness show our love for Him and others. (Pause for responses.)

Joseph of Arimathea teaches us that it's never too late to be brave and show our love for Jesus. He took a stand, even when it was hard. We can take small steps in our lives to be brave and show our love too.

### **Discussion Questions & Prayer**

**LEADER:** I saw how well you all paid attention during our story about Joseph of Arimathea. It's not always easy to listen closely, but you did it! Joseph's story teaches us a lot about bravery and doing the right thing, even when it's hard.

#### **Discussion Questions:**

- How do you think Joseph felt when he asked for Jesus' body?
- Would you have the courage to do what Joseph did? Can you imagine a time when you must be brave, like Joseph?
- Why is it important to do the right thing, even if we're scared?
- How can we be brave and kind in our daily lives, like Joseph was?

This week, I want you to remember Joseph of Arimathea and his brave choice. Think about how you can be brave in your own life. Maybe it's standing up for a friend or speaking the truth even when it's not popular.

### **Review the ABC's of Salvation**

Now, is there anything special you want to talk to God about? Maybe you're feeling a little nervous about something and need extra bravery, or perhaps you want to thank Him for a time He helped you be brave. Whatever it is, you can share it with us, and we can talk to God about it together.

**Crosstown: Review Memory Verse before beginning craft and coloring sheet.**

**KONNECT ONLY: Memory Verse Activity: Pathway to Remember**

**Setup:** Before the children arrive, write each word of John 11:25 on a separate sheet of paper or cardboard.

Lay the sheets on the floor in a path, leading from one side of the room to the other, but mix up the order. Ensure there's enough space between each word for children to step from one to another.

Tape the sheets down to prevent slipping.

### **Activity Instructions:**

1. **Introduce the Verse:** Start by telling the children that today, they'll walk a special path to help them remember our memory verse. Explain that this verse tells us Who Jesus is and what He has done for us.

2. **Walk the Path:** Have the children line up at the start of the path. One at a time, each child walks the path, stepping on each word as they attempt to say the verse in order. If they're unsure of the next word, they can ask for a "hint" from the group.

3. **Group Effort:** Once everyone has had a turn, invite the children to work together as a group to rearrange the words into the correct order. After the path is correctly arranged, have the children walk the path again, this time saying the verse together as a group.

4. **Reflect:** After completing the path, gather the children and discuss the verse's meaning. Ask how they feel knowing Jesus wants to share His life with them.

**Memory Challenge:** For an added challenge, see if any child wants to try to recite the verse from memory without walking the path.

**KONNECT ONLY: Teaching Skit: The Brave Gardener (5 min.)**

**Setting:** A community garden

**Characters:**

- ALEX: A young, enthusiastic gardener
- JORDAN: Alex's skeptical friend
- SAM: The community garden leader
- TAYLOR: A new kid, unsure about joining the gardening club

**Suggested Props:**

Gardening tools (shovels, watering cans)  
Vegetables and plants (can be real or fake)  
A sign-up sheet for the gardening club

(ALEX is excitedly showing JORDAN around the community garden. SAM is organizing tools, and TAYLOR stands off to the side, looking curious but hesitant.)

ALEX: (Waving a carrot) And that's how you know the carrots are ready! Isn't this garden awesome?

JORDAN: (Looking doubtful) It's just a bunch of dirt and plants. What's so exciting about that?

ALEX: (Laughing) It's not just dirt! These plants help feed people. Plus, it's fun!

(SAM overhears and walks over.)

SAM: That's right, Alex. And it takes courage to start something from just a seed and grow it into something amazing.

(TAYLOR edges closer, listening.)

ALEX: (Noticing TAYLOR) Hey, you're new here, right? Want to join our gardening club? We meet every week.

TAYLOR: (Shrugging) I don't know... I've never gardened before. What if I mess up? JORDAN: (Smirking) Yeah, what if you plant a carrot and grow a

tree?

ALEX: (Giggling) That's not how it works! But seriously, it's okay to make mistakes. That's how we learn.

SAM: Alex is right. It's like Joseph of Arimathea. He was scared too but made a brave choice to care for Jesus' garden, in a way.

TAYLOR: Joseph of who?

ALEX: Joseph of Arimathea! He did something really brave when Jesus needed him. He was a secret follower of Jesus and asked for Jesus' body to give Him a proper place to rest.

JORDAN: (Impressed) Wow, that does take guts.

TAYLOR: (Nodding) I guess if he could do that, I can try gardening.

ALEX: (Excitedly) Awesome! Let's get you signed up.

(TAYLOR writes their name on the sign-up sheet.)

SAM: Welcome to the team, Taylor! Here, you can start by watering these plants.

(TAYLOR takes the watering can and starts watering. ALEX, JORDAN, and SAM cheer.)

ALEX: See, Jordan? It's not just about the plants. It's about being brave enough to try new things and help others.

JORDAN: (Smiling) Maybe I'll give it a shot too. Who knows? Maybe I have a green thumb.

ALEX: (Laughing) Or at least a carrot-colored one!

End of Skit

**March 15 Crafts (10 min.):**

## **Konnect**

### **He Lives Easter Glitter Snow Globe Craft Kit**

<https://www.orientaltrading.com/he-lives-easter-glitter-snow-globe-craft-kit-makes-12-a2-14097261.fltr?keyword=he%20lives%20easter%20glitter%20snow%20globe&directSearch=true>

## **Crosstown**

### **He Has Risen Handprint Craft Kit**

<https://www.orientaltrading.com/he-has-risen-handprint-craft-kit-makes-12-a2-13720562.fltr?keyword=he%20has%20risen%20handprint%20craft&directSearch=true>

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**Questions to Discuss with Your Children:**

- How do you think Joseph felt when he asked for Jesus' body?
- Would you have the courage to do what Joseph did? Can you imagine a time when you must be brave, like Joseph?
- Why is it important to do the right thing, even if we're scared?
- How can we be brave and kind in our daily lives, like Joseph was?

