

Week 4 - Joseph:
Steadfast Obedience in the Midst of Uncertainty

Lesson Overview:

Memory Verse:

Luke 2:10 But the angel said to them, “Don’t be afraid, for look, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people:

Today’s Point: God supports those who obey Him, even when it's hard.

Overview: Joseph's story shows us that God supports those who obey Him, even when it's challenging or doesn't make sense. Joseph trusted God's plan and followed His instructions, making him a crucial part of Jesus' story. Similarly, when we obey God, we're saying we trust Him. Through this trust, we can experience the love of Jesus and find joy, even in uncertain times.

Scriptures: Matthew 1:18-24, Matthew 2:13-15

Lesson Video: Angel Visits Joseph

<https://youtu.be/gSBMkKxE-s?si=AURLVlw7aaDa5N00>

December Songs:

Birthday Party for Jesus

https://youtu.be/7lrbeWmK0P0?si=tl_0wtgnwPK4ZIG-

Go Tell It On the Mountain

<https://youtu.be/UVX6to3OZsM?si=VaelkgpDeEUQKQxh>

Welcome Script: "Good morning, everyone! I'm so excited to see you all here today. I hope you're ready for another exciting lesson. Today, we will talk about someone very special from the Bible, someone who had to make tough decisions and trust God's guidance. Do you know who that might be?

Yes, you guessed right! It's Joseph, the earthly father of Jesus. Can you imagine being in his shoes, hearing from an angel, and then deciding to follow God's plan even when it's hard? That's some serious faith, isn't it? And that's exactly what we'll be exploring today - the idea that God supports those who obey Him, even when it's hard.

Let's kick things off with a fun game called '**Angel Messenger.**' We'll sit in a circle, and one person will be the 'angel.' The angel will think of a good deed or act of kindness and whisper it to the person on their right, who will then whisper it to the next person, and so on. When the message returns to the 'angel,' they'll say it out loud, and we'll see if it stayed the same.

This game reminds us of how God sent messages to Joseph through His angels and how Joseph listened and obeyed. Ready? Let's get started!"

(Note: This game is a fun twist on 'Telephone,' a popular group game for children. It helps illustrate the idea of receiving and correctly interpreting God's messages, much like Joseph did.)

Materials: Several objects to serve as obstacles (chairs, cones, cushions, etc.), and a blindfold.

Teacher Script: "Today, we will discuss following instructions, even when we can't see the whole path. This will help us better understand Joseph's story in the Bible. I need a volunteer to help me with an activity. Who wants to give it a try?"

(Pick a volunteer) "Great! Now, what I need you to do is put on this blindfold. With this on, you won't be able to see what's in front of you. Now, don't worry, I won't let you wander off. I'm going to guide you. But there's a catch. I've set up an obstacle course here, and your job is to navigate through it, following my instructions."

(Lead the volunteer through the obstacle course, giving clear

instructions.)

"Now, that was hard, wasn't it? You had to trust my voice and follow my instructions even though you couldn't see where you were going. But you did it! You reached the end of the obstacle course."

"Similarly, in our Bible story today, Joseph had to trust God and follow His instructions, even when things seemed challenging or confusing. Just like you trusted me in our game, Joseph trusted God, and God led him through the obstacles of his life."

"In our lives, too, when we trust and obey God even when things are difficult or unclear, He will guide us and support us, just like He did with Joseph."

Bible Story: Joseph (15 min.)

Teacher Script: "Alright, boys and girls, I hope you're ready for an exciting journey in the Bible today. We're going to learn about Joseph, Jesus' earthly father. He faced some big challenges but he stayed strong because of his faith in God. Let's dive in!

READ: Matthew 1:18-19

Can you imagine what Joseph must have been feeling? He just found out that Mary, his future wife, would have a baby. And it wasn't his! He must have been very confused. What would you do if you were in Joseph's shoes?"

(Allow for responses)

"Joseph was a righteous man. He didn't want to disgrace Mary, so he ended their engagement quietly. But then, something unexpected happened.

READ: Matthew 1:20-21

Wow! An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream. The angel told Joseph that Mary's baby was from the Holy Spirit, and He would save His people from their sins. The angel also said that they should name Him Jesus. How would you feel if an angel appeared in your dream and told

you such things?"

(Allow for responses)

"That's right! It would be surprising, scary, and probably confusing. But Joseph made a decision.

READ: Matthew 1:24

Joseph woke up and did what the angel commanded. He married Mary and named the baby Jesus. He obeyed God's instructions, even though it was hard and confusing. Isn't that amazing?"

(Allow for responses)

"Now, let's look at another part of Joseph's story. This time, after Jesus was born.

READ: Matthew 2:13-14

Again, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream. The angel told Joseph to take Mary and Jesus to Egypt this time because King Herod wanted to hurt Jesus. Can you imagine having to leave your home and everything you know because of a dream? It would be very hard. But what did Joseph do?"

(Allow for responses)

"That's right! He obeyed God's instructions again and took his family to Egypt. He trusted God to guide him through this difficult time.

So, boys and girls, Joseph's story teaches us a lot about trusting and obeying God, even when it's hard. Remember, God is always with us, guiding us through life just like with Joseph. Can anyone tell me what they've learned from Joseph's story?"

(Allow for responses)

Memory Verse Game: (5 min.)

Materials: Pieces of paper with each word of the memory verse written on them (including the reference, Luke 2:10-11)

Teacher Script: "Today, we are going to learn our memory verse in a

fun way. We're going to play the 'Memory Verse Relay'. I have written each word of our memory verse on these pieces of paper. I will divide you into two teams, and we will spread these words out on the other side of the room."

"Each team will have to race one at a time to the other side of the room, pick up one word, and bring it back. The next person in line can't go until the previous person has returned. Once all the words are collected, your team has to arrange them correctly to form our memory verse, Luke 2:10-11."

"This will help you remember the verse and understand it better because you'll need to know what it says to put it in the right order! Are you ready? Let's begin!"

(Run the relay, then spend a few minutes discussing the verse once both teams have finished. Talk about what it means and how it relates to the story of Joseph's obedience.)

Discussion and Lesson Review: (5 min.)

Say: "Hello, everyone! You've all done a great job today paying attention to our Bible lesson. You are awesome learners! Now, we will have a chance to talk about what we've learned and share our thoughts. I'll ask a few questions, and we can take turns answering.

1. Can you remember when you had to trust and obey, even when you didn't understand what was happening? How did you feel?
2. Joseph showed faith by obeying God's instructions. What are some ways we can show our faith in God?
3. How did Joseph's obedience change his life and the world?
4. How can we apply the lesson of Joseph's obedience in our own lives?

Great! Now, does anyone have any prayer requests? Remember, we can pray for our friends, family, or even any personal challenges we might be facing.

[Allow time for prayer requests]



Joseph: Steadfast Obedience in the Midst of Uncertainty

Memory Verse: God supports those who obey Him, even when it's hard.

Luke 2:10 But the angel said to them, “Don’t be afraid, for look, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people:

Today’s Point: God supports those who obey Him, even when it's hard.

Scriptures: Matthew 1:18-24, Matthew 2:13-15

Questions to Discuss with Your Child:

1. Can you remember when you had to trust and obey, even when you didn't understand what was happening? How did you feel?
2. Joseph showed faith by obeying God's instructions. What are some ways we can show our faith in God?
3. How did Joseph's obedience change his life and the world?
4. How can we apply the lesson of Joseph's obedience in our own lives?

