

Leah



Bible verses:

Genesis 29:31–35



Aim:

To discover who Leah was, how God saw her, and why she became an important part of God's story



Today's fruit:

Love



Memory verse

'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.'

(Proverbs 3:5–6 *NIV*)



Sing it

'Big Family of God' (Remix with Actions & Lyrics by Nick & Becky Drake) by Tangy Crayfish (3:46)

'My God Is So Big' (Introducing Grayson the Elephant) by Listener Kids (1:48)



Start it

Play a game of 'Would you rather ...' Stand in the middle of the room, give options such as 'Would you rather go to the beach or go to the park?'. Encourage the group to choose and run to the relevant side of the room. Explain that today's story is all about a person people never chose, but God did. God chose her to be part of his special family.



Share it

Use the video below of the story, or re-create it in a similar way for your group:

Watch:

The Story of Leah (Kids Bible Story) by Hope Discovery Kids (3:48)

Ask:

How did Jacob feel about Leah? How did God feel about Leah? How was Leah an important part of God's special family?



Action it

Games and activities to reinforce the Bible passage:

- **Make:** A family tree using yourselves as part of God's special family. Talk about how important your relationship with one another is, and that God invites us to be part of his family.
- **Play:** If possible, have some toys available which represent different families – different people groups or even animals.
- **Pray:** Sit together and ask the group to think of someone they know who feels left out. As they use their imaginations to picture the person in their head, ask them to think of a big heart around that person. Pray that that person would feel loved and seen by God and by others.

- **Try:** If possible, invite some people from your congregation to come and share with the group. (If you happen to have three generations from one family who are able to share stories about their faith, that would be fantastic!) If it's helpful, you could ask each one a few of the questions below:
 1. When do you feel close to God?
 2. How do you feel knowing you're part of God's special family?
 3. How do you help each other in following Jesus?

Joseph is Betrayed



Bible verses:

Genesis 37:3–11, 18–34



Aim:

To learn about Joseph and how he ended up so far from home



Today's fruit:

Love



Memory verse

'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.'

(Proverbs 3:5–6 NIV)



Sing it

'Big Family of God' (Remix with Actions & Lyrics by Nick & Becky Drake) by Tangy Crayfish (3:46)

'My God Is So Big' (introducing Grayson the Elephant) by Listener Kids (1:48)



Start it

Ask if anyone remembers the very important person we thought about last week (Leah). Use the printable family tree to help your discussion (or draw your own).



Share it

Using Jacob's family tree, draw or stick a star next to Joseph's name. Explain that Joseph was Jacob's favourite son. Ask what they think about that. How might it have made the others feel? Joseph got a beautiful coloured coat as a special gift (add another star by his name). Joseph told his brothers that in his dreams he was better than them (add another star by his name).

Draw sad faces next to the other brothers, explaining that they became very jealous of Joseph, and so they came up with a plan to get rid of him, and sold him as a slave. What do they think about what happened?



Action it

Games and activities to reinforce the Bible passage:

- **Make:** Draw a coat shape on a large piece of paper. Provide different-coloured tissue paper / card / material that the group can stick on.
- **Play:** Use blocks or recycled cardboard boxes to build pyramids.
- **Pray:** If you have access to a globe, map or picture of the world, have it ready as you sit together. Say that just like Joseph there are lots of children around the world who are far away from home, often because of scary things that are happening in their country. Spend some time asking God to be close to each of them. Pray that God would help us make the world a better place with love and kindness.

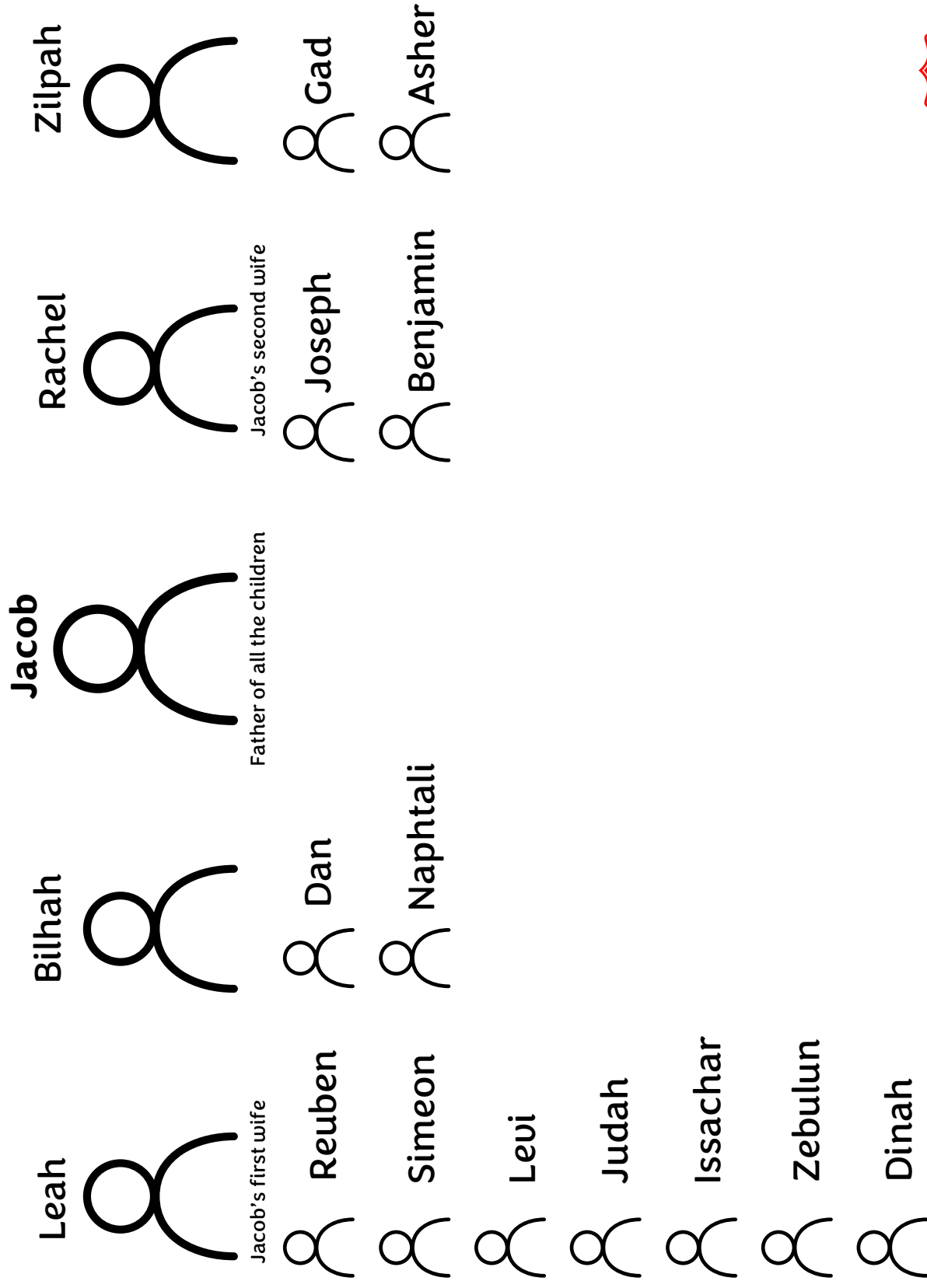
- **Try:** Why not use this video (or your own actions) to try to learn your memory verse.

‘Proverbs 3:5 – Trust in the Lord with All Your Heart’ by Miss Kelly – Children's Ministry (1:19)



Explore it Light

Family Tree



Joseph in Egypt



Bible verses:

Genesis 39:1-5,19-23;
41:1-8,14-16,39-40



Aim:

To know that God is with us
through everything we face



Today's fruit:

Goodness



Memory verse

'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.'

(Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV)



Sing it

'Big Family of God' (Remix with Actions & Lyrics by Nick & Becky Drake) by Tangy Crayfish (3:46)

'My God Is So Big' (introducing Grayson the Elephant) by Listener Kids (1:48)



Start it

Play a game together. The leader randomly shouts instructions such as 'Up', 'Down', 'Left' (point), 'Right' (point) and 'Freeze'. Play for a few minutes, starting the instructions slowly and then getting quicker. Explain that lots of things happened in Joseph's life – ups and downs, he was here and there – but God stayed with him whatever was happening.

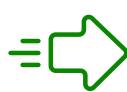


Share it

Watch:

God's Story: Joseph by Crossroads Kids (3:48)

Ask if the group can remember some of the different things that happened to Joseph. What were the ups/downs?



Action it

Games and activities to reinforce the Bible passage:

- **Make:** Draw a coat shape on a large piece of paper. Provide different coloured tissue paper / card / material that the group can stick on.
- **Play:** Build something together like a train track, road or marble run. Talk about how life has lots of twists and turns.
- **Pray:** As you sit in a circle together, ask the children to say their name one at a time as the leader says 'Thank you, God, for ...' (include the adults in the room). After everyone has been part of the prayer, ask God to be with you all, in all the ups and downs, the good things and the bad things.
- **Try:** Try playing the game together again, but use different actions – add some in, like 'Jump'. If you're feeling very brave you could see if they can keep the same instructions but do the opposite action!

Moses



Bible verses:

Selected verses from
Exodus 13 and 14



Aim:

To reflect on how
we follow God



Today's fruit:

Patience



Memory verse

'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.'

(Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV)



Start it

Refer back to Leah and Joseph from the previous weeks. You may wish to use a family tree. Explain that Joseph's brothers (who were part of God's special family) all moved to Egypt to where Joseph and the food was. Ask if anyone has moved house before. What was it like? Say that after lots of years of living in Egypt, the Pharaoh felt like God's special family was getting too big, and he was worried they would try to take over Egypt. So he forced them all to be slaves and work very hard. Do you think that's a fair thing to happen? God saw that his special family were being treated very badly, so he had a plan to help them be free again – and it all started with a little baby who was called Moses.



Share it

Watch:

Baby Moses (Stories of the Bible) by Saddleback Kids (2:39)

Say that when Moses grew up, God asked him to help set his special family free from slavery. Moses had to trust God, and God helped Moses to be brave in front of the Pharaoh (the King). How do you think Moses felt knowing that he was really an Israelite but that he had grown up as an Egyptian prince?



Sing it

'Big Family of God' (Remix with Actions & Lyrics by Nick & Becky Drake) by Tangy Crayfish (3:46)

'My God Is So Big' (introducing Grayson the Elephant) by Listener Kids (1:48)



Action it

Games and activities to reinforce the Bible passage:

- **Make:** Use half a paper plate or a small oval of brown card as the basket. Children can colour woven lines on it to make it look like a basket. Draw a simple baby on paper, or use a peg person wrapped in a small piece of fabric or tissue paper to create Moses in a basket.*
- **Play:** Have some bowls/trays of water, and play with different floating objects. If you have a small plastic figurine that could represent baby Moses, why not test which floaty things would work best to hide him.

- **Pray:** Speak out a simple prayer with actions:
Dear God,
Help us to look for you (point to eyes) just like Moses did.
Help us to listen to your voice (point to ears) just like Moses did.
Help us to stand up for people (use two fingers on palm to show standing) just like Moses did. Amen.
- **Try:** Can anyone remember the memory verse? Use this video (or your own actions) to try to remember it.
'Trust in the Lord with All your Heart'
(Bible Memory Verse Song) by Miss Kelly
– Children's Ministry (1:19)

*more detailed ideas can be found on Pinterest