

Explore It

FOR LEADERS



A TRICK IS PLAYED ON JACOB

📖 Genesis 29:1-27 Jacob arrives in northwest Mesopotamia

🎯 Aim: To see how Jacob felt when a trick was played on him

After tricking his own family members, Jacob gets a taste of his own medicine. In today's session we continue with Jacob as he escapes from his brother's anger. Things don't quite turn out as Jacob expects when he goes to stay with his Uncle Laban. Despite the way that others may trick us or let us down, our memory verse for this month reminds us that God can be trusted.

Each child will need:

- Props for a magic trick – see Start It section
- Bible verse wristband
- Pencils and possibly pens, poster paint, access to a tray for the paint, paper, facilities to clean their hands
- Trust Prayers handout

Start It

💬 Say: In today's story, Jacob is deeply disappointed when his father-in-law tricks him. For our starter today, we are going to learn a trick that will hopefully amaze people, rather than disappoint them.

The clip shows five simple magic tricks that the children could learn. These are about deceiving the eye of your crowd. Choose one or two tricks, depending on your group and resources, and see if your group can learn how to do the trick. They all have simple explanations. You do not necessarily need to show them the clip. You could learn how to perform your chosen tricks and teach them to the group.

Video

5 Magic Tricks Kids can do! by WhatsUpMoms (3 mins 29 secs)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=V2tDK9wfcYs

Sing It

Memory verse

💬 Say: Our memory verse for this month reminds us that God can be trusted.

Give out the Bible verse wristbands and share the memory verse together.

**'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)

💬 Say: Our song for today will help us to remember our memory verse.

'Proverbs 3:5-6 (Trust in the Lord)' by The Rizers (3 mins 25 secs)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=FUR1ufexry0&t=104s

Tell It

Say: In our *Explore It* sessions last month, we started to discover the story of Esau and Jacob, two brothers who struggled to get along.

Ask: What can you remember about their story?

Recap the main points of Esau and Jacob's story. Emphasise the moments where Jacob tricked both his brother and his father.

Say: Let's find out what happens next in the story.

Video

Jacob Works for Laban by My First Bible (3 mins 59 secs)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=DDeKGUNd9cQ

Stop the clip at 2 mins 40 secs.

Discuss:

- How did Laban react when he saw Jacob?
- Why do you think he was so pleased to see him?
- How did Laban build trust with Jacob?
- What deal did Laban make with Jacob so that he could marry Rachel?
- How long did Jacob have to work for Laban?
- What do you think happened next?

Watch the rest of the clip.

Discuss

- Did you guess the next part of the story correctly? How did it surprise you?
- How do you think Jacob felt when he discovered he had been tricked? How would you have felt?
- Jacob went to complain to Laban. What happened?
- Why do you think Jacob decided to trust Laban again?
- Would you have trusted Laban when he had already tricked you once?
- What does it feel like when someone tricks you? Have you ever been in that situation?
- Have you ever tricked anyone else? How do you feel about it?

Say: Jacob had tricked others in his life and caused a great deal of upset and hurt.

Ask: How do you think his experience with Laban made him feel about the way he had tricked Isaac and Esau?

Say: Sometimes people can let us down by not doing what they said they were going to do.

Ask: How does our memory verse remind us that God doesn't act this way?

Action It

The children are going to create their own version of this month's memory verse. Before painting, ask them to lightly draw a large heart in the centre of their paper. Then they can creatively write the memory verse around the edge. Next, they use poster paint to fill in the heart with their fingerprints. (You may wish to pour a range of paint colours on to a paint tray for this.)

When the artwork is completed, remind the children that God calls us to trust him with our whole hearts. When we are tempted to trick others to get our own way, or seek revenge when we are tricked ourselves, we are to lean on God's understanding, just like Jacob did.

Pray It

💬 Say: In today's story, Jacob put his trust in someone who could not be trusted. Jacob finally understood what it felt like to be deceived.

Give each child a copy of the Trust Prayer handout. In a time of quiet prayer together, ask for volunteers to read each prayer aloud. After the children have shared together, then bring the time of prayer to a close. The children will need to take the Trust Prayer handout home for use as part of the *Explore It For Me* activity.

Explore It

Remember to send home the *Explore It Ideas* for children and families.

Explore It

IDEAS

Here are some ideas for you to explore at home.

JUNE
SESSION 01

A TRICK IS PLAYED ON JACOB

 **Genesis 29:1-27** Jacob arrives in northwest Mesopotamia

© **Aim:** To see how Jacob felt when a trick was played on him

FOR ME



Pray

Using the Trust Prayer handout from your *Explore It* session, choose a prayer to focus on each day of this week.

TOGETHER



Explore

In this week's story, Laban tricked Jacob, leaving him feeling very disappointed.

In contrast, magicians trick people to amaze and surprise them. Watch the clip with your family at home and see if they can do any magic tricks. If not, you could learn one together.

Kids Meet a Magician! by HiHo Kids

www.youtube.com/watch?v=gbL9sN_QD7Q



Song for the week

'Proverbs 3:5-6 (Trust in the Lord)' by The Rizers

www.youtube.com/watch?v=FUR1ufexry0&t=104s



Memory verse

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and lean not on your own understanding;
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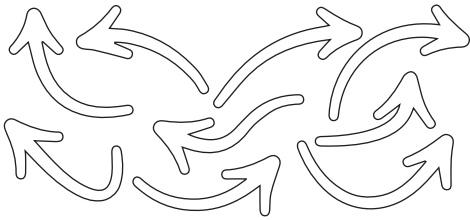
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KIDS ALIVE! ONLINE

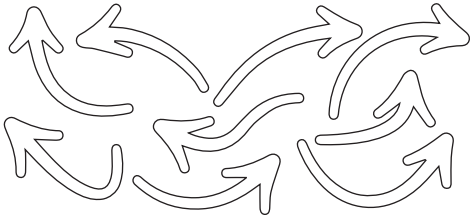
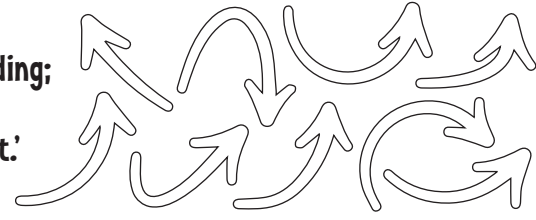
<https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/kidsalive>

Kids Alive! The UK's only weekly Christian comic – is filled with jokes, competitions, Bible-based cartoons and much more... and is now available to read online!

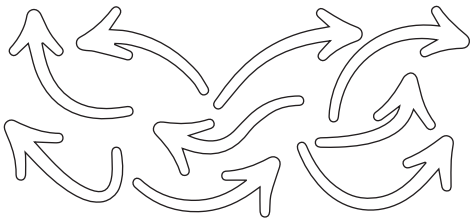
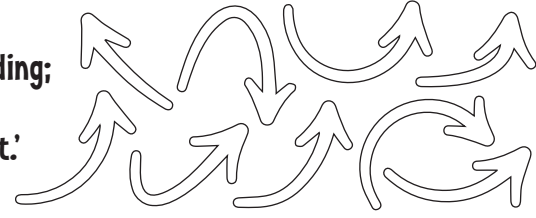




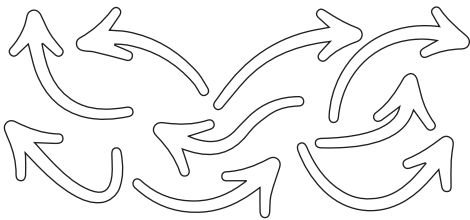
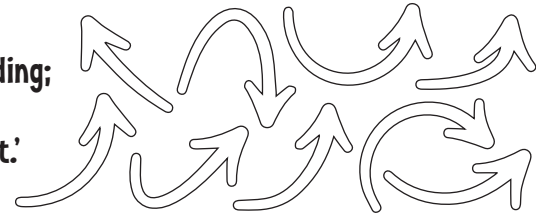
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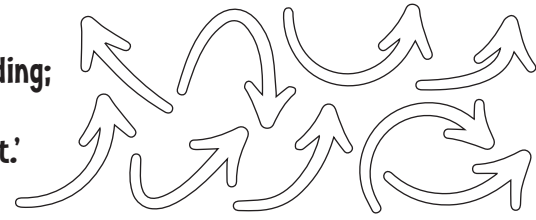
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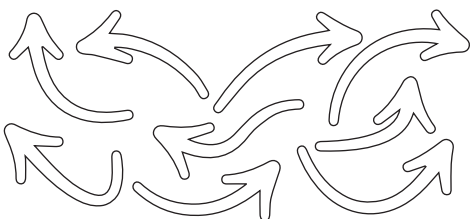
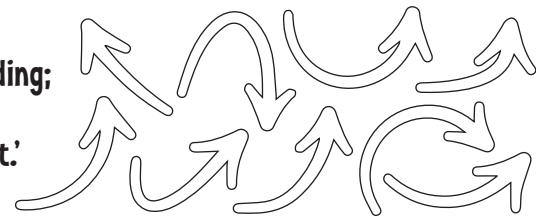
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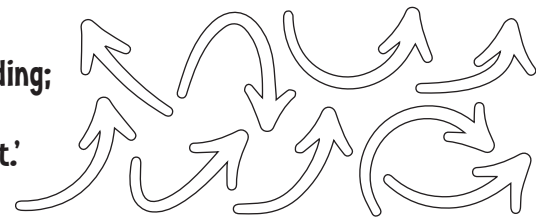
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Dear God,

Sometimes I find it difficult to know who to trust. I ask for your guidance and wisdom so that I can make wise choices about who can be trusted. Help me to lean on your understanding when I find it difficult to trust others.

Amen.

Dear God,

A school friend I thought I could trust has let me down. Help me to forgive the person and try to understand why they thought it was OK to deceive me. Help me to show kindness to this person, while also protecting myself from it happening again by letting a trusted adult know. Thank you that you are a God who can be trusted and that you will never let me down.

Amen.

Dear God,

Forgive me for the times I have tricked others, either for fun or to get my own way. Help me to have the courage to say sorry to the person that I hurt and give me the wisdom to not make the same choice again.

Amen.

Dear God,

You have called me as a Christian to stand out in this world as someone who can be trusted. Help me to be a good friend who does not deceive others and does not try to trick them. I ask for your strength to do the right thing and courage to admit when I have let others down.

Amen.

Explore It

FOR LEADERS



JACOB'S STRUGGLES ARE OVER

Genesis 32:4-13,20-28; Genesis 33:3-4 Jacob meets Esau

Aim: To see the struggles of Jacob

In today's session we see Jacob finally facing the moment he was dreading. It was time to return home and see his big brother Esau. Often in life we go through challenging circumstances, either of our own making or the making of others. Jacob's story is one where God is with him through his journey of forgiveness and reconciliation.

Each child will need:

- Access to a range of resources to plan out a story – see Action It section
- Pens/pencils

You will need:

- A ball (or more than one if you have a large group)
- A flip chart highlighting key plot points (optional) – see Action It section
- A large sheet of paper – see Pray It section

Start It

Say: In today's story, Jacob is worried about how his brother Esau will react when he sees him. Our starter today will see how quickly you can react to what is happening around you.

Gather the children together in a circle and place a ball in the centre. If you have a large group, you may want to divide them into smaller circles. Call out instructions for the children to follow – for example: hop on one leg, tap your head, touch your toes ... In between these instructions, shout 'ball'. The first child in each group to pick up the ball from the middle of the circle gets a point.

Sing It

Memory verse

Say: Let's share our memory verse together.

**'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)

Say: Today we're going to sing a song that will help us to learn our memory verse.

'Proverbs 3:5-6 – Trust' (hand motions) by Seeds Family Worship (2 mins 56 secs)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=teCBUFF7zvA

Tell It

Say: In today's story we find out what happened when Jacob decided to return to his homeland and see his brother Esau for the first time.

Ask: Why do you think Jacob was nervous about seeing Esau again? What had he done?

Say: Let's turn to the Bible to find out what happened next.

Read:

'Jacob told the messengers, "Give this message to my master Esau: 'This is what Jacob, your servant, says: I have lived with Laban and have remained there until now. I have cattle, donkeys, flocks, and male and female servants. I send this message to you and ask you to accept us.'"

'The messengers returned to Jacob and said, "We went to your brother Esau. He is coming to meet you. And he has 400 men with him."

'Then Jacob was very afraid and worried. He divided the people who were with him into two camps. He also divided all the flocks, herds and camels into two camps. Jacob thought, "Esau might come and destroy one camp. But the other camp can run away and be saved."

— (Genesis 32:4-8 ICB)

Discuss:

- Why do you think Jacob called Esau his 'master'? What message was he trying to give Esau?
- What does Jacob ask Esau to do?
- How does the Bible describe Jacob's reaction when he discovered that Esau was on his way with 400 men?
- What does he do to protect the people and animals?
- Do you think Jacob is right to feel this afraid? If so, why?

Read:

'Jacob said, "God of my father Abraham! God of my father Isaac! Lord, you told me to return to my country and my family. You said that you would do good to me. I am not worthy of the kindness and continual goodness you have shown me. The first time I travelled across the Jordan River, I had only my walking stick. But now I own enough to have two camps. Please save me from my brother Esau. I am afraid he will come and kill all of us, even the mothers with the children. You said to me, 'I will do good to you. I will make your children as many as the sand of the seashore. There will be too many to count.'"

'Jacob stayed there for the night. He prepared a gift for Esau from what he had with him.'

— (Genesis 32:9-13 ICB)

'[Jacob sent servants to meet Esau and told each of them to] say, "Your servant Jacob is coming behind us." Jacob thought, "If I send this gift ahead of me, maybe Esau will forgive me. Then when I see him, perhaps he will accept me." So Jacob sent the gift to Esau. But Jacob stayed that night in the camp.'

— (Genesis 32:20-21 ICB)

Discuss:

- What prayer did Jacob pray to God?
- How did Jacob live out our memory verse for this month?
- Say:** Jacob stayed in the camp overnight, and a very strange thing happened. Watch the clip to recap the story and find out more.

Video

God's Story: Jacob Wrestles by Crossroads Kids' Club (3 mins 49 secs)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=0zIbU866z6A&t=2s

💬 **Say:** Jacob wrestled with God all night as he was determined to have God's blessing. Having to face how much he let down his big brother, Jacob turned to God for forgiveness and guidance. God gave Jacob a new name – Israel. Jacob was no longer afraid and turned to be with his brother.

Action It

💬 **Say:** Your task is to create a modern-day version of the story of Jacob and Esau. It needs to:

- describe how the two family members or friends let each other down,
- what happened while they were away, and
- how they became friends again.

💬 **Say:** In your story it is essential that you show your main character talking to God about what they are facing. You can choose to create your story however you like. It could be a storyboard or film plot, or you could even act it out. Make sure your story has a clear message of the importance of forgiveness.

Give the children time and resources to create their story, reminding them what it needs to include. You may want to jot down the main points on a flip chart for them to refer to. When they have completed their stories, they can share them together and discuss how each one tackles the topic of forgiveness.

Pray It

💬 **Say:** We have been following Jacob's story over the past few months and we have seen him overcome many difficult circumstances. Some of these situations were caused by his own mistakes, but others were as a result of people he thought he could trust letting him down.

💬 **Say:** In today's story Jacob finally finds some peace and restores his relationship with his brother. There are lots of people in our world who face challenging circumstances, and today we are going to take some time to pray for them.

Using a large sheet of paper, ask the children to write down (or draw) people and situations that need prayer. You can play the song 'My Prayer for You' as the children jot down their prayers. Bring this time to a close by praying through the children's suggestions.

Listen

'My Prayer for You' (official lyric video) by Alisa Turner (4 mins 4 secs)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=hj_OpviGkks

You may want to use the lyrics of the chorus from the song as a final prayer.

**'May God give you eyes to see he's still greater,
Courage to rise and believe he's able.
May God be your peace in the fire you're walking through.
This is my prayer now,
This is my prayer for you.'**

— Michael Farren/Jessica Campbell

Explore It

Remember to send home the *Explore It Ideas* for children and families.

Explore It

IDEAS

Here are some ideas for you to explore at home.

JUNE
SESSION 02

JACOB'S STRUGGLES ARE OVER

📖 Genesis 32:4-13,20-28; Genesis 33:3-4 Jacob meets Esau

🎯 Aim: To see the struggles of Jacob

FOR ME

TOGETHER



Pray

Think of the people you know who are facing a difficult time. Create a prayer sheet to remind you to pray for them regularly. As you pray, listen to the song we used in our Explore It session this week.

'My Prayer for You' (official lyric video) by Alisa Turner

www.youtube.com/watch?v=hj_0pvlGkks



Bake

Share the memory verse for this month with the people at home.

Ask the people at home to help you to make some funfetti heart biscuits to remind you to trust in God with all your heart.

realfood.tesco.com/recipes/funfetti-heart-biscuits.html



Song for the week

'Proverbs 3:5-6 – Trust' (hand motions)
by Seeds Family Worship

www.youtube.com/watch?v=teCBUFF7zvA



Memory verse

**'Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
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KIDS ALIVE! ONLINE

<https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/kidsalive>

Kids Alive! The UK's only weekly Christian comic – is filled with jokes, competitions, Bible-based cartoons and much more... and is now available to read online!



Explore It

FOR LEADERS



JACOB IS TRICKED AGAIN

Genesis 37:3-11,18-34 Joseph the dreamer

Aim: To learn about Joseph's dreams

As we move through Jacob's story, we are introduced to his 12 sons. Jacob finds himself in the position where he is tricked again. His favourite son is betrayed by his brothers and sold into slavery. In today's session we will explore Joseph's story and consider what it is like to be a refugee far away from home.

Each child will need:

- Many Colours handout
- Pens/pencils and paper

You will need:

- To be prepared to explain what certain colour names mean – see Start It section
- A small prize for the winner – see Start It section
- To select and resource an activity for World Refugee Day or share how The Salvation Army is acknowledging this day – see Action It section

Start It

Say: In today's story we meet Jacob's favourite son, Joseph. As a special gift, Jacob gave his son an 'amazing technicolored coat' – actually a 'robe with long sleeves'.

Give the children a copy of the Many Colours handout. Listed on the sheet are all the colours mentioned in Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's famous song, 'Joseph's Coat'. Read through the list together and check that the children know what each colour word means.

Play the song and challenge the children to think of at least one item for each of the colours. At the end of the song the person with **the most colours** filled in wins a prize. If your group will struggle with the harder words, if they are really young or English is a second language, cut the bottom of the sheet off and focus on the simpler words.

Listen

'Joseph's Coat' *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice (4 mins 2 secs)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=xp4Fym1KImY

Sing It

Memory verse

Say: Let's share our memory verse together.

**'Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
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— (Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV)

Say: Our song for today will help you to learn our memory verse and will also get you up and dancing.

'Proverbs 3:5-6' official lyric video by JumpStart13 (2 mins 2 secs)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=1AdrFosx3qw

Tell It

Say: In today's session our journey with Jacob involves his many children. Jacob had 12 sons but made the mistake of choosing a favourite.

Ask:

- Why was it a bad idea for Jacob to have a favourite son?
- How do you think it made the other sons feel?

Say: Jacob's favourite son was his 11th boy, Joseph. He made no secret of the fact that Joseph was the one he loved the most and it drove his other sons up the wall. Watch the clip to find out what happened.

Video

Joseph and his Coat (Genesis 37) by Saddleback Kids (3 mins 17 secs)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=VnlqKPIZQzI

Give each child a piece of paper and ask them to divide it into four. In each section, ask them to create their own retelling of the story.

1. Jacob gave Joseph a multicoloured coat (or most likely a 'robe with long sleeves')
2. Joseph woke up the brothers and told them about his dreams
3. The brothers got rid of Joseph
4. The brothers returned to Jacob and told him Joseph had died

When they have completed their retelling, discuss with the children how each character/s might have been feeling.

Discuss:

- Why do you think Joseph's brothers acted the way they did?
- What do you think of Reuben's rescue attempt? How did it go wrong?
- What do you think of the brother's idea to tell Jacob that his favourite son was dead?
- What really happened to Joseph?

Say: Taken away from his family, Joseph was sold into slavery. It must have been a very scary time for him. He was betrayed by his own brothers, his brothers who were meant to look out for him.

Action It

Say: Many people today face a similar situation to Joseph. Tricked by people they thought they could trust, they end up being sold into a life of slavery. Others are facing such difficult circumstances in their own country that they have no option but to leave. They make treacherous journeys to find safety and start their lives again. Watch the clip to find one corps of The Salvation Army that decided to support refugees in their area.

Video

Work with Refugees by The Salvation Army UK and Ireland Territory (1 min 53 secs)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=_PfvWwH3VS4

Discuss:

- What do you think it was like for the family to have to leave their own country?

- How would you feel in that situation?
 - How do you think the family felt when they arrived at their new home?
 - How would you want to be treated by the people you met in your new country?
- 💬 **Say:** There may be children in your school who are refugees. They may have escaped war or left countries where it was unsafe for them to stay. It is important that we treat everyone with respect and care for those who are going through such difficult circumstances.

World Refugee Day

This month there is an important day that you might like to highlight to the children: World Refugee Day – Tuesday 20 June. www.unhcr.org/uk/world-refugee-day

At the time of writing, the resources for World Refugee Day 2023 were not launched yet. Use the link provided to access the resources and choose an activity for your group. For example, last year the UNHRC launched a 'Youth with Refugees Art Contest' – <https://www.unhcr.org/uk/get-involved/take-action/youth-refugees-art-contest> – that the children could take part in.

Alternatively, you may like to see if The Salvation Army is doing something specific on this day. The aim is for the children to spend time considering how it feels to be a refugee and practical ways we can care for those who are fleeing unsafe situations in their own country.

Pray It

- 💬 **Say:** We are going to watch a clip that helps us to understand what it must be like to be a refugee. As you watch, think of all the prayers you could say for children who have had to flee their homes.

Video

Kids, refugees, questions: 'What is it like to have no home?' by *The Guardian* 2016 (3 mins 11 secs) www.youtube.com/watch?v=ctCaKH-2Wm8

Give each child a piece of paper and a pencil. Give them time to write their own prayer for refugee children living in the UK and Ireland. You may want to use the song link below as the children write their prayers. When the song finishes, give the children an opportunity to share their prayers.

Listen

'God of Mercy' (Prayer Song) by Lou Fellingham (3 mins 50 secs) www.youtube.com/watch?v=yIxOGCXYZWU

Full lyrics are in *Songs of Fellowship* 1246

Explore It

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Explore It

IDEAS

Here are some ideas for you to explore at home.

JUNE
SESSION 03

JACOB IS TRICKED AGAIN

📖 **Genesis 37:3-11,18-34** Joseph the dreamer

🎯 **Aim:** To learn about Joseph's dreams

FOR ME



Pray

In this week's *Explore It* we found out more about children who have left their country to find safety in the UK and Ireland. Each day this week, take time to pray for them and ask God to keep them safe.

TOGETHER



Discover

As well as World Refugee Day, there is another important day taking place on 21 June. Show us Your Stripes Day highlights how the world's climate is changing.

Follow the link below to read a *Newsround* article that explains what the day is all about.

Show Your Stripes Day: What it tells us about climate change by *CBBC Newsround*

www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/57555513

With the people at home, use different coloured pencils to track the change in climate over the summer. You could choose a colour to represent the temperature outside, recording it at the same time every day.



Song for the week

'Proverbs 3:5-6' official lyric video by JumpStart13 (2 mins 2 secs)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=1AdrFosx3qw



Memory verse

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KIDS ALIVE! ONLINE

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Red	Brown	White
.....
Yellow	Black	Pink
.....
Green	Grey	Orange
.....
Blue	Purple	Chocolate
.....

Gold	Rose	Ruby
.....
Cream	Peach	Olive
.....
Silver	Lemon	Violet
.....

Scarlet	Mauve	Russet
.....
Fawn	Crimson	Ochre
.....
Lilac	Azure	
.....	

Explore It

FOR LEADERS



JOSEPH IS TRICKED AS A SLAVE

- 📖 **Genesis 39:3-6,11-20; Genesis 40:1-8,20,23** Joseph is sold to Potiphar
- 🎯 **Aim: To begin to see good come from a bad situation**

In today's session Joseph continues his rollercoaster ride through life. Having faced the lows of his brothers' betrayal, he climbed the heights to the head of Potiphar's household. Then it all went wrong. Through it all Joseph trusted in God and gave us an example of how we can do the same.

Each child will need:

- Pens/pencils and paper
- A heart-shaped piece of paper, large enough to write a prayer on

You will need:

- A timer
- A large sheet of paper – see Action It section

Start It

💬 **Say:** In today's session we see Joseph's life continue its rollercoaster of ups and downs.

Ask:

- Do you like riding on rollercoasters? If so, why?
- Would you like to ride these rollercoasters?

Video

The World's Most Terrifying Rollercoasters by Beano

www.beano.com/posts/the-worlds-most-terrifying-rollercoasters (1 min 38 secs)

Divide the group into pairs and give each pair a sheet of paper. The aim is to create their dream rollercoaster. Give them one minute to talk about their ideas and two minutes to draw their rollercoaster. Time each stage of the activity. Then ask each pair to share their rollercoaster ideas.

Ask: Would you like your life to be like this rollercoaster? If not, why not?

Sing It

Memory verse

💬 **Say:** Let's share our memory verse together.

**'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)

💬 **Say:** Here's another song to help us remember to trust in the Lord and not rely on our own understanding.

'Motions (Proverbs 3:5-6)' by Saddleback Kids (2 mins 19 secs)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=uiaLsHZU3nl

Tell It

Ask: In last week's session we started the story of Joseph. What had just happened?

Say: Joseph was sold into slavery by his own brothers. The brothers then returned to their father Jacob and tricked him into believing that his favourite son had been killed. As Jacob mourned his son, Joseph continued his journey to Egypt.

Say: Let's turn to Genesis 39 to find out what happened to Joseph next.

Read:

'Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. An Egyptian named Potiphar was an officer to the king of Egypt. He was the captain of the palace guard. He bought Joseph from the Ishmaelites who had brought him down there. The Lord was with Joseph, and he became a successful man. He lived in the house of his master, Potiphar the Egyptian.'

'Potiphar saw that the Lord was with Joseph. He saw that the Lord made Joseph successful in everything he did. So Potiphar was very happy with Joseph. He allowed Joseph to be his personal servant. He put Joseph in charge of the house. Joseph was trusted with everything Potiphar owned. So Joseph was put in charge of the house. He was put in charge of everything Potiphar owned. Then the Lord blessed the people in Potiphar's house because of Joseph. And the Lord blessed everything that belonged to Potiphar, both in the house and in the field. So Potiphar put Joseph in charge of everything he owned. Potiphar was not concerned about anything, except the food he ate.'

— (Genesis 39:1-6 ICB)

Video

Joseph and the wife of Potiphar by My First Bible (4 mins 47 secs)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=IoX3tBaLZa8

Watch the clip to 2 mins 19 secs.

Discuss:

- What did Joseph realise about his own behaviour as he went on his journey with the Ishmaelites?
- What did he pray would happen in the future?
- Who was Potiphar and what was he like?
- What did Joseph do in Potiphar's house?
- What happened when Potiphar put Joseph in charge of everything?
- On a scale of one (absolutely terrible) to ten (absolutely wonderful) how do you think things were going for Joseph in this point of the story?

Watch the rest of the clip.

Say: Joseph refused to betray his master, and because of Potiphar's wife's lies, he ended up in prison.

Ask: On a scale of one (absolutely terrible) to ten (absolutely wonderful), how do you think things were going for Joseph in this point of the story?

Say: Joseph's life really was a rollercoaster of a journey. Things were going so well at Potiphar's house, but now Joseph has hit rock bottom again. Let's see what happened next in the story.

Video

The Dream of Pharaoh by My First Bible (8 mins 11 secs)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8YKmjwqf15U>

Stop the clip at 2 mins 55 secs.

Discuss:

- What did the Pharaoh's cupbearer promise to do if he was released from prison?
 - How do you think Joseph felt when he was let down yet again? How would you have felt in his situation?
 - Who did Joseph turn to when he was feeling down?
- Say:** In his darkest moment, Joseph turned to God as he knew he could always be trusted. Joseph knew that something good would come from the situation he faced.

Action It

For this activity you will need a large piece of paper that all the group can access. The aim is to create a rollercoaster of the highs and lows of Joseph's life so far. You can draw this as an actual rollercoaster and add in flags showing different events, or you can draw scenes from Joseph's story along the way. Recap the main points of the story from when Jacob gifted Joseph his special coat right through to his time in prison.

Discuss with the children how Joseph dealt with the ups and downs of life and how he always knew that God was with him.

Say: Throughout every circumstance Joseph faced, he continually trusted in God and looked to him for wisdom. He lived out the words of our memory verse. Let's share it together for the last time this month.

**'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)

Pray It

Give each child a heart-shaped piece of paper. Remind the children of the ups and downs Joseph faced in his life. If they feel comfortable, encourage the group to share the ups and downs they are facing at the moment.

Give the children time to write prayers in response to the discussions. They may want to thank God for the things that are going well or ask for guidance where they are struggling. Based on what the group has shared, they could also pray for each other. Give the group time to share their prayers together and bring the time of reflection to a close with a final prayer.

If you would like to use music while the children write their prayers, then a song is suggested below.

Listen

'Trust in you' (lyric video) by Lauren Daigle (3 mins 33 secs)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=qv-SXz_exKE

Explore It

Remember to send home the *Explore It Ideas* for children and families.

Explore It

IDEAS

Here are some ideas for you to explore at home.

JUNE
SESSION 04

JOSEPH IS TRICKED AS A SLAVE

 Genesis 39:3-6,11-20; Genesis 40:1-8,20,23 Joseph is sold to Potiphar

© Aim: To begin to see good come from a bad situation

FOR ME



Discover

Sometimes it can be difficult when we are waiting for God to answer our prayers. Watch the clip to discover more about how we can trust God's timing in every situation we face.

Trust God's Timing by The Superbook Show
www.youtube.com/watch?v=0AzmrBtDA8M

TOGETHER



Share

Have a chat with the people at home.

Have they ever found it difficult to trust God and wait for him to answer prayers?

Tell them all about the highs and lows of Joseph's story.

Are they experiencing any lows at the moment?

Is there anything they would like you to pray about?

Remind them of the memory verse for this month.



Song for the week

'Motions (Proverbs 3:5-6)' by
Saddleback Kids (2 mins 19 secs)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=uiaLsHZU3nl



Memory verse

**'Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
in all your ways submit to him,
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KIDS ALIVE! ONLINE

<https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/kidsalive>

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