

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;
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 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

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 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

<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!

