

VICTORY KIDS ELEMENTARY

UNDER CONSTRUCTION: GOD AT WORK

"BROTHERS, CONTINUE TO THINK ABOUT THE THINGS THAT ARE GOOD AND WORTHY OF PRAISE. THINK ABOUT THE THINGS THAT ARE TRUE AND HONORABLE AND RIGHT AND PURE AND BEAUTIFUL AND RESPECTED." PHILIPPIANS 4:8 (ICB)

AFTER WORSHIP:

BIBLE PRESENTATION:

Live Host:

"Alright Victory Kids — now I need everyone's attention, because this moment is super special!" *(Pauses for effect)* "Here at Victory Kids, we love when friends come to visit... but we REALLY love when they come back again... and again... and again!" *(Smiles big)*

"So today, if this is your **third time** hanging out with us here at Victory Kids, we've got something AWESOME just for you!" "If that's you — go ahead and **raise your hand nice and high** so our team can spot you. Come to the stage because we want to celebrate you BIG TIME!" We have something really special that we want to give you..." *(Team members hand out Bibles)* "A brand-new **Bible** just for YOU! Because we believe God's Word is the best gift ever — it's full of hope, adventure, truth, and it reminds us every day who we are and how much God loves us!"

Can we clap it up and make some noise for our third-time friends getting their Bibles today?!" *(Claps hands, and waits for applause, celebrates big)*. And if you're sitting there thinking, 'Hey, I want a Bible like that!' — no worries! Keep coming, keep learning, and we'll have something for you too!"

CONNECT: CHECK IN / PRE SERVICE GAMES

10 MINS

THIS IS OPTIONAL, IF IT ISN'T NEEDED. PLEASE FEEL FREE NOT TO USE IT!

Pre Service Game Stations: As students are being checked in, use this time to get to know each student. Help them get comfortable in the classroom and find a friend or group to play games with. If you have enough volunteers in the room, get involved with the games. Fun builds trust with kids, so don't be afraid to have fun with them! Make sure everyone helps put away preservice games before large groups start.

GAME STATIONS

20 MINS

Live Host: Let's have our leaders come down to the front to get ready for games!

Are you ready for a game? Shout YES! I can't hear you! Let's get ready to play GUESS THE TOOL!

(Note for Live Host: make sure to give commentary during the game, and encourage the audience to cheer throughout the game).

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GUESS THE TOOL

- **Supplies:** Kids' construction tools and blindfolds
- **Live Host:** I need 2 contestants to join me on stage. While the contestants are blindfolded, I will place a tool in each contestant's hand. Each contestant gets 5 seconds to touch the tool and guess what it is. The contestant with the most correct guesses receives 2 Bible Bucks.

WRECKING BALL DEMOLITION

- **Supplies:** Plastic cups for large plastic cup wall and soft balls
- **Live Host:** Alright, Victory Kids, I need 3 contestants to join me on stage! It's time for Wrecking Ball Demolition! Today, we're going to become construction workers with our very own wrecking balls! In this game, you'll take turns throwing a soft ball at our demolition wall and try to knock down as many cups as possible. The contestant who knocks down the most cups wins 1 Bible Buck! (have the contestants to help rebuild the wall after each turn)

Are you ready?! 3....2...1...Let's Demo!

FLOW: WELCOME, FIRST-TIME VISITORS, WORSHIP & OFFERING

25 MINS

Live Host: (Note: invite a child up to pray for offering and today's service). We want to welcome our first-time visitors in a big way! If this is your first time visiting with us, we are so excited that you are here!

INTRO: MEMORY VERSE

5 MINS

Live Host: Victory Kids, welcome back to our theme **Under Construction: God at Work!** Just like a builder carefully works on a building, God is at work in our lives, helping us grow to become more like Him. Our memory verse this month reminds us to think about things that are true, honorable, right, pure, beautiful, and worthy of praise. When we fill our minds with God's truth, He helps build strong character in our hearts. (Pick a student to come and say the MV.)

Now, if you're ready to start building God's Word into your heart, shout, **"Under Construction!"** ...Cue the memory verse video!

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LESSON RECAP VIDEO

1 MIN

LIVE HOST'S INTRO TO LESSON

5-7 MINS

Live Host: Victory Kids, welcome back to our series, **Under Construction: God at Work!**

Have you ever driven past a construction site? You might see giant machines, workers wearing hard hats, and lots of activity. It may look messy or unfinished, but the builder knows exactly what he is creating. The Bible tells us that when we choose to follow Jesus, God begins a good work in us. We become His construction project! Day by day, God is building something amazing in our hearts, helping us grow to become more like Him.

We'll follow the life of Joseph and discover how God builds our character. Through dreams, difficult times, waiting, and forgiveness, Joseph learned that God was working even when he couldn't see it. His story reminds us that God uses every part of our lives to shape us into the people He created us to be.

So, grab your hard hat, get ready to build, and let's discover how **God Builds Character Through Forgiveness!**

Key Scripture: Today's key scripture is Ephesians 4:32, "Be kind and loving to each other. Forgive each other just as God forgave you in Christ.."

LESSON VIDEO

2-3 MINS

(Found in the media file)

MINISTRY LESSON

10 MINS

Supplies: A backpack and several heavy books.

Live Host Hook: I need one volunteer to join me. Before we start, let's see how strong our volunteer is! I'm going to have them put on this backpack. *(Help the volunteer put on the backpack filled with books.)*

How does that backpack feel? Is it light or heavy? *(Allow the volunteer to respond.)* I bet it's not very easy to carry around! Let's see if it gets any easier. *(Take one book out of the backpack.)*

Does it feel a little lighter now? *(Wait for response.)* Let's take out the rest. *(Remove the remaining books.)* How does it feel now? *(Wait for response.)* Isn't that a big difference?

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Thank you for helping! Let's give our volunteer a big hand! (*Volunteer returns to their seat.*)

Sometimes our hearts can carry heavy things too. When someone hurts us, we can hold onto anger, bitterness, or a desire to get even. The longer we carry those feelings, the heavier they become. But forgiveness is choosing to give our hurt to God instead of carrying it ourselves.

Today, we'll discover how Joseph let go of years of hurt, chose mercy instead of revenge, and allowed God to continue building his character through forgiveness.

- **Forgiveness Lets Go of the Past**

Last week, we learned that Joseph chose integrity by honoring God even when no one else was watching. Even though he did the right thing, he was falsely accused and thrown into prison. It may have seemed like Joseph's story was over, but God was still at work. While Joseph was in prison, two servants of Pharaoh (the king of Egypt) were placed there with him. One was the chief cupbearer, and the other was the chief baker. One night, both men had dreams that troubled them because they did not know what they meant. Joseph noticed they were discouraged, and they told him about their dreams. Remember, in the first lesson about Joseph, we told you how Joseph had two dreams. In the first dream, his brothers' bundles of grain bowed down to his bundle. In the second dream, the sun, the moon, and eleven stars bowed down to him. Joseph could not interpret his dreams at the time, but now, as he has been growing in his relationship with God, Joseph told them, "Only God can explain dreams." Then God gave Joseph the wisdom to tell each man exactly what his dream meant.

Before the cupbearer was released from prison, Joseph asked him to tell Pharaoh. But the cupbearer forgot all about Joseph, and Joseph remained in prison for two more years. It seemed like Joseph's waiting would never end. Then Pharaoh had two unusual dreams that no one in Egypt could explain. Suddenly, the cupbearer remembered Joseph and told Pharaoh about the man in prison who could interpret dreams. Joseph was brought before Pharaoh and once again God gave Joseph the wisdom to interpret the dream. Joseph told Pharaoh that Egypt would have seven years of great harvest, followed by seven years of famine when there would not be enough food. He also gave wise advice to store extra grains during the good years so people would have food during the hard years. Pharaoh saw that God had given Joseph wisdom, so he put Joseph in charge of storing food and leading the entire plan for Egypt.

- **Forgiveness Chooses Mercy Over Revenge**

This famine spread throughout the land. When it reached Canaan, where Joseph's family lived, there was no food left. Jacob, Joseph's father, sent Joseph's brothers to Egypt to buy grain because Egypt was the only place with food. When they arrived, they bowed down to Joseph, but they did not recognize him. Joseph knew who they were right away. He remembered the pit, the betrayal, and the years away from his family. Joseph could have stayed angry, but God had been changing his heart over time. Instead of holding on to hurt, Joseph chose to let it go.

Then Joseph could not hold back his emotions. He sent everyone out of the room and cried so loudly that people could hear him in Pharaoh's palace. Then he said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" (Genesis 45:3). His brothers were afraid because they thought he would punish them. But Joseph told them not to be afraid. He said that God had used everything that happened to save many lives during the famine. Joseph chose forgiveness instead of revenge. What his brothers did was wrong, but Joseph did not let anger control him. God had been shaping Joseph's heart, and now he showed mercy and forgiveness.

- **Forgiveness Restores Relationships**

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Joseph's forgiveness was more than something he said, it was something he showed. After telling his brothers who he was, Joseph didn't push them away or punish them. Instead, he hugged his younger brother Benjamin and began to cry. Then he hugged each of his brothers one by one, and they all cried together. What had once been a family filled with jealousy and separation was now beginning to heal. Joseph even invited his father and the rest of his family to come live safely in Egypt, where there was food during the famine. God was bringing their family back together through forgiveness. When we hear a story like Joseph's, it makes us think about our own lives. Have you ever had someone hurt your feelings or say something that made you sad? (Wait for responses.)

Forgiving others can be really hard. Sometimes we want to stay mad or make the other person feel what we feel. But God teaches us a better way. In Ephesians 4:32, it reminds us, Be kind and loving to each other. Forgive each other just as God forgave you in Christ. He calls us to forgive others the same way He forgives us. Forgiveness doesn't change what happened, but it can change what happens next in your life, just like it did in Joseph's story. Joseph's life shows us that God is always at work. We learn this through Joseph's dreams, his waiting, his hard times, and even his integrity in the face of doing what is right. By the end, we see what God had been building all along: a heart that would forgive and love.

MINISTRY MOMENT

10 MINS

Raise your hand and tell me something you learned today. I am giving away Bible bucks!

Today, we learned how **God Builds Our Character Through Forgiveness!**

- **Forgiveness Lets Go of The Past**
- **Forgiveness Chooses Mercy Over Revenge**
- **Forgiveness Restores Relationships**

Today we learned about forgiveness, and through Joseph's story, it shows how God was at work through every part of his life. Even when Joseph had the chance to stay angry, he chose forgiveness instead of revenge, trusting that God had a greater plan. In the end, Joseph's forgiveness helped restore his family and showed that God can turn painful situations into healing and new beginnings, and God wants to do the same in us.

Call to Action

Pray for Someone Who Hurt You

For your call to action this week: Think of someone who has disappointed or hurt you. Instead of talking badly about them, spend one minute praying that God would bless them and help both of you grow closer to Him.

Don't forget we will share next week and receive Bible Bucks!

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WRAP-UP & CLOSING PRAYER

5 MINS

(If your campus begins with small groups, please ask review questions before closing prayer. If your campus ends with small group, move directly to closing prayer (these questions will be asked and answered in small group))

1. Which two of Pharaoh's servants were put into prison with Joseph? **The chief cupbearer and the chief baker**
2. What happened to the cupbearer and the baker one night? **They each had a dream they could not understand.**
3. What did Joseph tell Pharaoh his dreams meant? **There would be seven years of plenty followed by seven years of famine.**
4. What important job did Pharaoh give Joseph? **Pharaoh put Joseph in charge of storing food and preparing Egypt for the famine**
5. Why did Joseph's brothers travel to Egypt? **They came to buy grain because there was a famine and their family had no food.**

Before we move to small group, let us take a moment to pray.

Closing Prayer

(Please feel free to encourage the children to lead)

Dear Jesus, thank You for giving us examples in the Bible of how to forgive. Help us to let go of anger, choose mercy, and forgive others just as You have forgiven us. When it is hard to forgive, remind us that you can help us and that you are still building our character each day. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



ELEMENTARY SMALL GROUP LESSON

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SMALL GROUP OPTION ONE - (There are **TWO** options provided for small group the second one is for the campuses that does small group first)

INTRO

Live Host: Good morning, everyone! I hope you enjoyed today's lesson. Can anyone tell me what you learned today? *(wait for students' responses)*

Lesson Recap: Today, we learned that God built a heart of forgiveness in Joseph through many years of waiting, hard times, and faithful obedience. Joseph chose mercy instead of revenge and showed that God's love had changed his heart. God wants to help us forgive others and reflect His love in our own lives.

Let's see who remembers! What book of the Bible tells the story of Joseph forgiving his brothers during the famine? (Pause for responses.) That's right, **Genesis**! Great job, Victory Kids! Grab your Bible and see who can find it first for a Bible Buck!

Everyone, turn to **Genesis 45**. Today, share with your family what you learned about forgiveness through Joseph's story.

ICEBREAKER

(this icebreaker has two parts: questions from today's lesson and the call to action from last week)

1. Which two of Pharaoh's servants were put into prison with Joseph? **The chief cupbearer and the chief baker**
2. What happened to the cupbearer and the baker one night? **They each had a dream they could not understand.**
3. What did Joseph tell Pharaoh his dreams meant? **There would be seven years of plenty followed by seven years of famine.**
4. What important job did Pharaoh give Joseph? **Pharaoh put Joseph in charge of storing food and preparing Egypt for the famine**
5. Why did Joseph's brothers travel to Egypt? **They came to buy grain because there was a famine and their family had no food.**

Great job answering the questions. Does anybody remember what we were supposed to do last week for our call to action? *(Wait for responses)*

Our Call to action for last week:

Choose one area where you want to grow in integrity this week, being truthful, responsible, kind, or obedient. At the end of each day, ask yourself, "Did my choices honor God today?" Thank Him for helping you grow and ask Him to keep building your character.

Share and receive some Bible Bucks!



ELEMENTARY SMALL GROUP LESSON

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PRAYER REQUESTS

Tell students we're starting prayer, remain with eyes closed, and focus attention on God. Ask for any prayer requests they would like to share. If your small group needs a little encouragement, give them categories like **family, school, or friends** to get them thinking about areas they need prayer in. After students share, lead the group in prayer, covering each prayer request, using the name of each student that asks for prayer.

RECAP CALL TO ACTION

5 MINS

Today, we learned that **God Builds Our Character Through Forgiveness.**

Pray for Someone Who Hurt You

For your call to action this week:

Think of someone who has disappointed or hurt you. Instead of talking badly about them, spend one minute praying that God would bless them and help both of you grow closer to Him.

Don't forget we will share next week and receive Bible Bucks!

S.O.A.P

10 MINS

Please use the S.O.A.P sheet.

ACTIVITY: (OPTIONAL)

This activity can be taken from the game station section if needed.

CLOSING PRAYER

(Optional - you can invite a child to pray)

Dear Jesus, thank You for giving us examples in the Bible of how to forgive. Help us to let go of anger, choose mercy, and forgive others just as You have forgiven us. When it is hard to forgive, remind us that you can help us and that you are still building our character each day. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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S.O.A.P

S.O.A.P is a simple but helpful way to study the Bible and apply it to our own lives.

S.O.A.P stands for, **SCRIPTURE, OBSERVATION, APPLICATION AND PRAYER** and involves four simple steps.

S: SCRIPTURE

You physically write out the scripture. You'll be amazed what God will reveal to you just by taking the time to slow down and actually write out what you are reading!

O: OBSERVATION

What do you notice about the verses? What do you think the main message is? What verses, words or ideas jump out to you? Who is the audience? Is there a repetition of words?

A: APPLICATION

Ask God how He wants you to apply the verse to your own life. This is when God's Word becomes personal. What is God saying to me today? How can I apply what I just read to my own personal life? What changes do I need to make? Is there an action that I need to take?

P: PRAYER

Pray God's Word back to Him. If He has revealed something to you during this time in His Word, pray about it. Confess if He has revealed some sin that is in your life.

LET'S S.O.A.P TOGETHER

"Be kind and loving to each other. Forgive each other just as God forgave you in Christ."

EPHESIANS 4:32

Name:

Grade:

Date:

S.O.A.P

“Be kind and loving to each other.
Forgive each other just as God forgave
you in Christ.” Ephesians 4:32

SCRIPTURE

What did you read?

OBSERVATION

What is God saying?

What does this look like
in my life?

APPLICATION

PRAYER

Dear God...

Check out this month's Memory Verse Song!

“Brothers, continue to think about the things that are good and worthy
of praise. Think about the things that are true and honorable and right
and pure and beautiful and respected.” Philippians 4:8 (ICB)

SCAN ME

