



Joseph, A Hero's Journey- An 8-Week Series

Lesson 6: THE HERO'S TRIUMPH

The **it**



The **it** of the lesson is that ONE THING you say over and over so they understand it. If their parents ask, "What did you learn at church?", you want them to answer with the **it** of your lesson. If YOU ask the kids, "What am I trying to get you to learn/understand?" and they answer with this phrase, you can say, "That's **it**!"

THE **it** THIS WEEK IS: God rewards those who live for him.

Story: Joseph is freed and rises to power.
Scripture: Genesis 41:1-49



Things you might need for this lesson:

FIND/GATHER/BUY:

- Costume for Whyit (all 8 weeks)
- Screen and 4D Glasses for Tell it
- Joseph Costume for Tell it (First 7 weeks*)
- Cups for Teach it

FROM DOWNLOADS:

- Scarabs and Cats Signs for Play it
- Pyramid Verse Tool for Hide it
- Take home tool for parents
- IMAGES and VIDEO for projection

*NOTE: Week 8 drama will have a special appearance by the other Prince of Egypt, Moses.



Whyit (Pronounced Wyatt)

For this series, have Whyit dress up as if he's going to the movies. Have him wearing 3D (or 4D) glasses and carrying a large popcorn bucket and a giant soda (which he could intermittently sip loudly while talking with Leader). For added affect, he could have a large box of Milk Duds hanging out of his shirt or pants pocket.



Each week, Whyit introduces a "Super Star" of the Bible, but it's never Joseph. It is always someone who kinda, sorta, might relate to the story, but he repeatedly gets it wrong. It's a way to illustrate another Bible hero who went through something similar, but the leader always reminds him that in this series, we are learning about Joseph.

Whyit says this week we'll be learning about the rise to power of someone who you never would think would become a Prince of Egypt. Leader says, "Finally!" Whyit says, "Normally, Egyptians become rulers of Egypt, but God saw fit to have of his own rise to power in the land of Egypt! How did this happen? Well, it happened way back when he was a baby! The Pharaoh tried to kill all the baby Hebrews, but this baby's sister hid him in a basket and sent him down the river Nile. Then a princess found him and raised him as her own until he grew up to become a Hebrew Price of Egypt! Leader says, "Whyit! Ahhhh! So close! MOSES would become a Prince of Egypt, but not for many, many, years later. We are learning about JOSEPH. (Spells it out) J-O-S-E-P-H, Joseph!" Whyit says, "Still? But he got out of prison last week, right? Leader says, "Not quite yet. But he will today."



The Pyramid Games!

Each week some kids will compete to create a Pyramid! Some will be competitions for individuals, some for team, and a few will involve the entire audience!

PREPARATION: This week the kids compete to build a pyramid out of their own shoes! EVERY KID gets to participate in this game! It is the tallest and



best-looking pyramid that will win as determined by the leaders. (There will be no points deducted for the worst smelling pyramid!)

PLAYING: Choose two teams to compete. If you want, use your Cobras and Cats teams (Boys vs. Girls). Depending on the size of your group, you can have two teams or several teams. It will be a ton of fun if every kid can participate! Explain that they will be building a pyramid using their own shoes! On "GO" they will take off their shoes and build a pyramid! However, explain that this isn't just to be a messy pile of shoes, but needs to be shaped like a pyramid! They will need to work together to be creative!

THE POINT: You can joke about how smelly those pyramids were and that Joseph might have needed a good shower after all that time in prison. Then tell them that today they're going to learn about how he went from prison to the palace!

WATCH it A video that sets it up



PREPARATION: Video included in your Download
The screenshot to the right is also included in your Download to display on screen before playing video.



SUMMARY: Boot Camp!

The short video clip for this lesson features Karl, the Kidologist, doing a short object lesson featuring two shoes – a cowboy boot and a soldier's boot – who discuss the need to train at "boot camp" for spiritual battle! Show this short teaching video to the kids or train a leader to do the talk "live."

Featured Verses: 1 Corinthians 16:13; James 5:8; Psalm 119:101; Psalm 119:105; Psalm 56:13

THE POINT: When a soldier goes to boot camp, it is TOUGH TRAINING, but it is necessary to prepare them for the missions that they will be sent on. Joseph has been through some tough training of his own, but it has prepared him for the mission that God has been preparing him for. Today we'll finally find out what that is!



Story: Joseph is freed and rises to power.
Scripture: Genesis 41:1-49

4D Bible Story Experience!

*Experience the Bible like never before
in a fully immersive 4D Experience!*



See Lesson 1 for an overview of how the 4D concept works.

PRESENTATION: Joseph will wait behind the screen until the kids have been instructed to put on their 4D glasses. (There is a reminder slide in the Every Week folder to use on screen.) Joseph will come out from behind the 4D screen and tell a segment of his story in first-person.

THIS WEEK: Joseph comes out and tells the segment of his story from **Genesis 41:1-49**

Bible Story Summary: After his experience with the Baker and the Cup Bearer and hearing nothing for two years, Joseph tells how he had almost given up on ever getting out of prison. He was now ready to just accept his life in prison. Then one day word came to him that Pharaoh had some disturbing dreams, and no one could tell him the meaning of them. It was then that the Cup Bearer remembered how Joseph had helped him years ago, told the Pharaoh about Joseph, and Pharaoh sent for him. Describe getting cleaned up: the nice clothes he was given, the shave and haircut, the meal he was served, all so he could appear before the Pharaoh. He was then taken to the Throne Room... and what a contrast that was from prison! The Pharaoh said he had heard that Joseph could interpret dreams, but instead of taking credit, Joseph gives glory to God, saying only God can do that. Review the biblical account and know the dreams well so you can recount the dreams in detail and explain the interpretation just as Joseph did, about 7 years of excess followed by 7 years of famine. Then Pharaoh proclaimed that there is no one wiser than Joseph in all of Egypt and gave him a new name: Zaphnath-Paaneah, (Zaf-nath-Pa-nay-ah), plus a wife, wealth, and a home, and put Joseph in charge of all of Egypt to prepare for the coming. Be sure to share some emotion as Joseph describes the joy of seeing how God honored his patience and trust through being a prisoner, being a slave, being betrayed by his brothers... pause... then say, "I wonder how my brothers are. I wonder how my father is doing. I hope he is still alive. Will I ever get to see him again? If only he could see me now."

NOTE: Make sure you end on a cliff-hanger. "Everything went as God showed me – we gathered grain for seven years, so much that we finally stopped keeping track. Seven years went by, the sky stopped producing rain, and the famine hit hard. People were hungry, but we had food for our people. But not just for our people. People began to come to Egypt for food

from all over the world... even from my home country and Canaan. People would bow before me to thank me for food. It made me remember my childhood dream. And then... one day... you won't believe who showed up for food... can you guess? (Allow kids to answer.) "You will just have to come back next week to find out!" (Exit)

TEACH *it* The main points about *it*



The Hero's Triumph

The biggest and most successful movies feature a hero we can cheer for. If you pay close attention to these epic movies, you'll begin to notice a pattern to them. The hero doesn't just show up and "save the day." There is usually a journey that the hero must go on before they are ready to be the hero we long for in the story. While each story is different, there are some aspects of this journey that appear in almost every hero story.



What a journey Joseph has been on! A Hero's Journey! He has passed from the **Hero's Calling** through the **Hero's Plight**, **Test**, and **Trial** – to **Hope** and now is experiencing the most exciting stage of most blockbuster movies and animated films: **The Hero's Triumph**! All that hard work, all that character refinement that happens during the trials and tests is what makes the Triumph rewarding! The Hero's Triumph wouldn't be worth celebrating without the trails and tests. It's the fact that a hero passes through those hard times that gives us reason to cheer! And as we'll see in the next few weeks, it will get even better. But for now, let's focus on his Triumph!

Review of the Stages in the Hero's Journey and introduce this week's:

- **The Hero's Calling** – Some event or person that calls them to some higher purpose for their life.
- **The Hero's Plight** – Before our hero can save the day, they always have a setback. It can be a villain, but often it is something within them that holds them back that they need to overcome.
- **The Hero's Test** – Next, our hero usually must face some kind of test to determine whether he or she is worthy of being the hero we hope they will be. They must decide if they will be honorable and noble, or if they will cheat or lie or take a short-cut. We cheer when they make the right decision. It makes them worthy of rooting for.
- **The Hero's Trial** – After our hero passes the test, there is always a trial that causes them to second-guess whether they made the right choice. They have a chance to cheat up, turn around, or quit. If they are to be a hero, they must pass the trial.

- **The Hero's Hope** – Finally, things start to look up for the hero. They meet a mentor, or find a map, or make some friends who join them – something happens that shows them that they are on the right path. There may still be a battle ahead, but they know they will win if they press on!
- **The Hero's Triumph** – We jump out of our seats and cheer when the hero finally wins! Evil is defeated and the hero saves the day. The victory is sweet because of the tests and trials the hero has been through. Without the hard times, the victory wouldn't be as enjoyable. It is because of the difficulty that we celebrate the triumph.

Why is the Hero's Triumph so exciting? Because God offers us the same!

READ: Galatians 6:9 *Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.*

Notice that Joseph gave the glory to God, even when he interpreted the dreams. When Pharaoh said that he heard Joseph could give the meaning of dreams, he answered, "I cannot do it," Joseph replied to Pharaoh, "but God will give Pharaoh the answer he desires." (Verse 16) He pointed others to God. God shines brighter in the darkness and others see God more when they are in a hard place.

When people are scared, or hurt or struggling, WE HAVE WHAT THEY NEED: **Jesus**.

What are some of the things people need?

- Money?
- Peace?
- Purpose?
- Help?
- Friends?
- Forgiveness?
- Etc.

Jesus can provide those things. People often aren't interested in God or Jesus until they have a need. Then, and only then, will they turn to us, who know God, and ask us for help. Then, we have an opportunity to point them to the answer: God!

Remember when Joseph was a slave? What did he do? He had a good attitude and worked hard and rose to be the head of Potiphar's house. Then, when he was a prisoner – falsely accused – he again had a good attitude and worked hard, and what happened? He rose to be in charge of the entire prison.

READ: *Matthew 25:21 His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'*

Joseph lived out this verse! He showed God that whatever he was given – a slave position or a prisoner position, he would do his best. God saw that and elevated him to being in charge of an entire country!

OBJECT LESSON: A Pyramid's Secret

PREPARATION: You'll need a table and some paper/plastic cups. (Speed Stacks cups work great if you have access to those.)

PRESENTATION: Build a pyramid on a table in front of the kids as you talk. If you'd like, you can have one or two older kids help you, but prep them ahead of time on what you want it to look like. As you build it, share some of the facts below about Egyptian pyramids. Then, as you get toward the end, ask the kids what determines the size and height of a pyramid. Most kids will answer, the number of bricks/cups you have. They might say how much money or help you have. You might get some other creative answers. The answer you are looking for, and eventually want, and may need to give is: the size of the foundation.

THE POINT: The height and size of the pyramid is determined by the size of the base. It doesn't matter how much money you have, how many workers you have, how long you work, or any other factor. It is only the size of the base that determines how high a pyramid can go. Why does this matter? When you are a kid, you are laying the foundation of your life. The more you learn, the more you walk with God, the more Scripture you memorize, the more you pray, go to church, trust God and obey, the wider and stronger your foundation gets so that God can build UP the rest of your life. It's important NOW, while you are young, to be building the widest, strongest foundation you can. Take this time seriously to make your foundation as wide and strong as possible. It might not look big or tall or stand out, but if your base is getting wider and wider... God will have something He can really build upon in the years ahead!

READ: *1 Corinthians 3:12-15 Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is to be revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work. If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward.*

YOU ARE ON A HERO'S JOURNEY! We want to skip to the Hero's Triumph, but it doesn't work that way. I don't know what stage you are in. You might just be at the Calling stage. You might be facing a Plight, or Trial, or Test! You might have gone through something this year and are seeing signs of Hope. Maybe you have gone through some tough times and are

experiencing Triumph. If so, that's great. But all Hero's will go through this whole process over and over.

That's why we need to always keep our focus on God – because no matter where we are, He is with us and will help us get to the next place on our Journey!

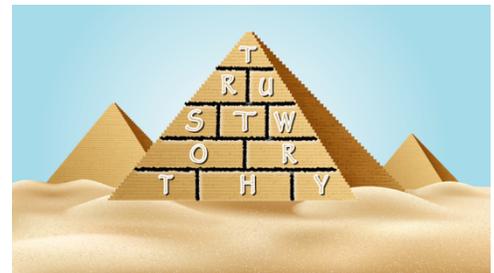
READ: Ephesians 5:15-17 *Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.*



SHOW it An object lesson or activity that illustrates it

ACTIVITY: The Pyramid Puzzle

PREPARATION: Print out the Pyramid Puzzle from your lesson downloads. There is also an image you can put on screen at the end to show the solution. Tape is optional.



PRESENTATION: The Egyptians were known for their pyramids. Each week, your kids will be challenged with a Pyramid Word Scramble that reveals a character quality of Joseph that we can learn from and work to add to our own lives.

For large groups, you can print it extra-large and have two teams compete to complete the puzzle. If you have a small group, you can let all the kids participate by getting into groups of 3-4 kids and providing the puzzles in a zip lock bag, or you may give one to each child if you'd like. It's up to you on how many puzzles you want to prep. Consider printing on card stock so that they are firmer for working with. Optionally, you can print the blank pyramid with the sand and sky for them to do the puzzle on. It's already fairly easy and that would make it even easier, but you can have them tape the pieces to the pyramid before they are done to add some time to the challenge, and if there's a tie you can judge by who did it the neatest.

This week's puzzle reveals the word: **TRUSTWORTHY**

Bible Verse to look up and read together: **Luke 16:10**

NOTE: There is no slide with the verse. The intent is for the kids to look up the verse in their own Bibles and read it.



Have the children get their Bibles out and race to find these verses.

Encourage all the kids to look up the verses. After a student reads it, put it up on the screen and read it together. Briefly discuss the passage and explain it as it relates to the lesson.



Esther 4:14b

“And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?”

Romans 2:6

God “will repay each person according to what they have done.”

1 Corinthians 15:58

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.



This is the THEME VERSE

Challenge the kids to memorize this verse during this series. You may want to have a fun prize or treat for the kids who memorize it!

Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Pyramid Verse Tool

This is a longer passage so learning by repetition during your service will be more challenging than most. Therefore, a Pyramid Verse Tool is provided in your downloads that the kids can take home to keep on their desk, kitchen table, or anywhere that will remind them to be working on the verse throughout the series.



LIVE *it* The practical life application challenge so the kids can live *it* this week!



Each week, conclude the lesson with a prayer and practical challenge for the kids. Encourage them to be like Joseph in a way that relates to this week's lesson.

LIVE IT: This week, ask God to help you be more patient. We always want things right away, but the best things in life take time. As you grow in patience, you will grow in character too. So, ask God to make you into a more patient person.



(If you used the Show it segment)

Ask God to help you to known as a **TRUSTWORTHY** person by keeping your word, working hard, and being a blessing to others. Then you'll be Living Like Joseph.

TAKE *it* Take home tool to help parents review *it* with their kids



PREPARATION: Included in your download.

The TAKE IT for this series is formatted two per page. Print on regular paper or cardstock. Cut the printed sheets in half diagonally to create triangles/pyramids.

INCLUDED FOR PARENTS:

- **READ IT** - Bible verse of the week
- **LEARN IT** - the it for the week
- **HIDE IT** - theme verse in full to review
- **DISCUSS IT** - discussion questions for parents
- **FIND IT** - verses they can look up
- **LIVE IT** - application from the lesson



LOOKING AHEAD

Here is next week's lesson topic:

Lesson 7: The Hero's Return
God helps us forgive others.



BONUS IDEAS!



it is always growing and adding NEW IDEAS!

Be sure you are a member of the **Kidology.org Facebook Group** so you don't miss out on BONUS IDEAS or COACHING VIDEOS that Pastor Karl or Doug often post to help make your Sunday Experience the best it can be! If they get new ideas, they will share them! AND if YOU come up with a great idea for this lesson, you can share it too!

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