



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

Lesson 8: THE HERO'S LEGACY

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 keeps his promises.

Story: Joseph fulfills the promise God made to Abraham.

Scripture: Genesis 17:2,6,8 and 22:17



Things you might need for this lesson:

FIND/GATHER/BUY:

- Costume for Whyit (all 8 weeks)
- Pyramid Verse Tool for Hide it
- MOSES Costume for Tell it *
- GPS for Teach it

FROM DOWNLOADS:

- Scarabs and Cats Signs for Play it
- Screen and 4D Glasses for Tell it
- Take home tool for parents
- IMAGES and VIDEO for projection

***NOTE:** This week's 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.

This week Whyit will finally get it right. "OK, kids, today I have a riddle for you. I'm going to describe a Bible Hero and I want to see if you can figure out who it is! This guy - oops that was a hint. God gave a very clear vision to a young boy, OR GIRL, that He had an epic amazing plan for his, OR HER, life. When he, or she, shared it with his, or her, family, they teased him, or her, and thought he, or she, was nuts, bragging, or making it up, but this hero knew it was from God and never gave up. Even when his, or her, siblings grabbed him, or her, and sold him, or her, away and told his, or her, parents he, or she, was dead, he, or she, never lost sight of that dream. When this person became a slave, they just decided, 'If I'm gonna be a slave for awhile, so be it, I'll be a best slave they've ever seen,' and soon worked their way up to being in charge of the entire house. Then, when asked to do something wrong, this Bible hero said, 'No way, I've got a dream, and I ain't gonna mess it up sinning', and ran away. That landed this person in jail - but again, this hero said, 'Fine, if I'm gonna be in jail, I'm just gonna be the best prisoner they've ever seen!' And soon they were in charge of the entire prison like they worked there. God saw that great attitude and gave him, or her, a superpower to understand weird dreams, and word traveled ALL THE WAY TO THE TOP until he, or she, ended up getting called to the Oval Office (or whatever they called the head honcho's office in Egypt), and next thing this dude, or dudette, knew, they were in charge of the entire country! Soon, his, or her, family came and actually - get this - bowed before him JUST LIKE his, or her, dream had showed when he, or she, was a little tike. OK, you get ONLY ONE GUESS WHO THIS BIBLE SUPER STAR IS!" (Kids will say Joseph!) The leader is impressed, "Whyit, you finally got it right!" Whyit, says, "Oh, I knew all along, I was just messing with you! I love the story of Joseph. And I have a dream too... and I'm trusting God to make it come true if I just keep trusting and following Him!"



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: For this last and final week, the kids will compete to create a HUMAN pyramid out of children! Have them build their pyramid up in the front of the room. This is something you may want to film. It would be fun for the kids who played to watch later. It is the tallest and best-looking pyramid that will win by audience applause!

PLAYING: Choose two teams to compete and it IS recommended to do boys against girls for this game. If you want, use your Cobras and Cats teams (Boys vs. Girls). You'll want to choose six kids or ten kids per team depending on size of your group. Be sure to have them take their shoes off. (For the girls' team, choose girls who are not wearing dresses.) It's also best to choose older kids, although a smaller, younger child can be chosen to be the top of the pyramid! They compete to form the best human pyramid! If using six kids, have three form the base, two on the middle row, and one on top, Or, if using ten kids, have four form the base, three on the next row, two on the next row, and one on the top! Ideally, a soft surface is best, and be sure to take pictures and perhaps even film their efforts!

THE POINT: This was hard work and the ones on the bottom had to hold steady and hold the weight of the ones above them. They had the hardest time, but without them, the pyramid would never have been made. The same is true in life. The trials and tests in life are what lead to the triumphs that come later. We took pictures and filmed because we want to always remember how fun this was! (You can even make the point that even if they failed, it was still fun, and they made a memory!)



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: Big Red!

The short video clip for this lesson features Karl, the Kidologist, doing a short object lesson featuring two shoes – a big shoe and a red sneaker – who discuss how beautiful are the feet of those who bring Good News! Show this short teaching video to the kids or train a leader to do the talk “live.”

Featured Verses: Isaiah 52:7; Romans 10:14-16; Deuteronomy 8:6; 1 Kings 2:3

THE POINT: The greatest legacy we can have is serving others and telling others about Jesus. Did you know that Joseph was a relative of Jesus? Because of his faithfulness to God, he started the family that would end up being the family of Jesus. That’s quite a legacy!



Story: Joseph fulfills the promise God made to Abraham.

Scripture: Genesis 17:2,6,8 and 22:17

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: Moses comes out to talk about the fulfillment of the promises to Abraham from Genesis Chapters 17:2,6,8 and 22:17

Bible Story Summary: Moses comes out and gives a BIG OVERVIEW of his life – from being a baby saved by his sister, to being raised in the palace, to a QUICK review of the plagues of Egypt, to the parting of the Red Sea, and the journey to the Promised Land – but the FOCUS is that ALL OF THAT WAS POSSIBLE because of Joseph. Had Joseph given up when he was a slave, or when he was in prison, God’s People would have never even come to Egypt in the first place, or grown to become a mighty nation, and then become a big enough nation to conquer Canaan and become the Nation of Israel.

TEACH it The main points about it



The Hero’s Legacy

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.



Review the concept and stages of the Hero’s Journey and how they are reflected in so many of the blockbuster movies and animated films that we love. Challenge kids to look for these stages when they watch movies and films.

Review the Stages in the Hero’s Journey:

- **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.
- **The Hero's Return** – Often, there were those who doubted the hero at the beginning. They spoke words of doubt or disbelief. We love when they are proven wrong. We want them to see what the hero accomplished, and we want the hero vindicated!
- **The Hero's Legacy** – The true mark of the hero is when they are remembered. When a hero's story is told long after they are gone, then they truly were a hero. There are books telling their story, statues erected in their honor, songs sung about them, and little kids dressing up and pretending to be them. They leave a legacy behind them for future generations to be inspired by.

On this FINAL WEEK, we met a new character – also a Prince of Egypt, but not someone you expected! But he was someone that never would have even gotten to play a role in God's Master Plan if it hadn't been for Joseph being faithful to God through his Hero's Journey. We just heard the story of Moses' life from the man himself! As another HERO FOR GOD, he also went through the same stages as Joseph! He was Called as a baby when his mom hid him, and he faced his Plight very early when he went down the Nile and survived alligators (or was it crocodiles?!). He was rescued and raised as a prince but faced his own Test when he saw a Hebrew being attacked, stuck up for his fellow Hebrew, and had to flee! His Trial was in the wilderness for many years until he encountered Hope when God visited him in the burning bush. God then sent him back to Egypt, his Return, to free His people! That whole encounter contained trial after trial, but he was faithful and it resulted in his Triumph and, of course, Moses also has an incredible Legacy. You can see, his Hero Stages are in a slightly different order – but they are there, just like they are in every great Hero Story.

What will YOUR HERO STORY BE?

How can YOU have a HERO STORY?

How can YOU HAVE A LEGACY?

You might be thinking, "But I'm just a kid!" Did you know Jesus was a kid too?

READ: Luke 2:52 *And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.*

You can work on growing up just like Jesus had to. Jesus was the **ULTIMATE FORMULA** for The Hero's Journey!

He had a Calling! Angels announced his birth! He went through Trials and Tests – tempted by Satan! He was betrayed and killed and even died! But he rose again! How is THAT for a Hero's Triumph! But here is the best part: Jesus' RETURN is still coming! And His LEGACY is not only NOW – it will be for all of ETERNITY!

So, what was young Jesus' "formula" for growing up to be a hero? (READ LUKE 2:52 again)

1) Grow in WISDOM

How do we do that? Read your Bible. Go to church. Learn all you can while you are young about how to live for God. Get smart and wise and practice doing the right thing!

2) Grow in STATURE

Be healthy! Eat well and exercise. Develop good habits. Learn skills. Be the best person you can be so that you are a 'sharp tool' in God's toolbox.

3) Grow in FAVOR with:

GOD

Work on your relationship with God.

and MAN

Work on your relationships with others. Get along with people. Everyone. Parents, siblings, friends, teachers, classmates, everyone.

READ: Proverbs 22:1 *A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold.*

Joseph rose in position as a slave and later as a prisoner because he had a good name. He grew in favor with God and with Man, and it led to being a hero for an entire nation. If you want to be a hero, it starts with WHO YOU ARE, not WHAT YOU DO.

Nothing is more valuable than your name and reputation.

But what about the bad things that happened to him? Remember the bad things Joseph's brothers did?

READ: Proverbs 16:4 *The LORD works out everything to its proper end – even the wicked for a day of disaster.*

Remember, Joseph's brothers intended to hurt him, but God had a plan, and even their bad intentions were part of God's plan. God didn't make them do that. Had they been good brothers, God would have still gotten him there somehow, but God worked with the bad for His good.

READ: Psalm 33:11 *The plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of His heart through all generations.*

OBJECT LESSON: A GPS

Have you ever used a GPS? You enter a destination, and it tells you the best way to get to where you want to go. It might even suggest a few ways to get there. What happens if you make a wrong turn or an accident blocks the way you need to go? You can exit the highway or make a turn, and what will the GPS say? (Allow kids to respond.) "Rerouting." That's right. The GPS will get you there, even if the route has to change. It will reroute as many times as it needs to in order to get you to the destination. It will never say, "Sorry, you keep making wrong turns, I give up. I refuse to give you any more directions. Go home!"

GPS stands for "Global Positioning System" There are a zillion satellites up in space that are keeping track of your location in order to help guide you. God is like a GPS – consider Him a GOD POSITIONING SYSTEM. He always knows where you are. Sometimes you make wrong turns in life. It could result from a sin you commit. It could be a sin someone else commits that changes your plans. It could just be a mistake you make, or a change in plans, or something else unforeseen. But God will "reroute" your Journey as many times as it takes to get you where He wants to get you! But we have a part in it – we need to be trusting and obeying his directions if we are ever to get to the destination!

GOD'S PART:

READ: *Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*

OUR PART:

READ: *Hebrews 10:36 You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.*

You are on a Hero's Journey!

You have a Calling! You will have Plights, and Tests and Trials! Will you persevere? If so, you will Triumph! You will experience the reward of a Return and you will leave a Legacy that will last an eternity too!



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: **LEGACY**

Bible Verse to look up and read together: **Proverbs 22:1**

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.



2 Corinthians 1:20

For as many as are the promises of God, in Him they are yes; therefore also through Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us.

Romans 4:21

And being fully assured that what God had promised, He was able also to perform.

Hebrews 13:8

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.



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, spend some time thinking about the kind of person you want to grow up to be, and what you might need to change now to form habits that will help form you into the person God wants you to be.



(If you used the Show it segment)

Ask God to give you a glimpse of the **LEGACY** He wants your life to be and to help you Live 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

Congratulations on Finishing Year 2 Unit 4 Joseph, A Hero's Journey from **it** Bible Curriculum!

Be sure to check [Kidology.org/it](https://www.kidology.org/it) to download the next exciting series! **it** Bible Curriculum Year 2 consists of four units that are 8 weeks long, one unit that is 4 weeks long, plus an 8-Week Easter and 4-week Christmas series. We also have several Super Sunday stand-alone lessons to help bridge the gap between series when there are fifth Sundays or other times you may need a bonus lesson.



BONUS IDEAS!



it is always growing and adding NEW IDEAS!

Be sure you are a member of the [Kidology.org Facebook Group](https://www.facebook.com/kidology.org) 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!

VISIT OR JOIN AT: [Facebook.com/groups/kidologyorg](https://www.facebook.com/groups/kidologyorg)