

SMALL GROUP | DAY 4

HOW CAN GOD HELP ME WITH CHALLENGES IN THE FUTURE?



Bible

Genesis 45:4-7 - "Joseph said to his brothers, 'Come close to me.' So they did. Then he said, 'I am your brother Joseph. I'm the one you sold into Egypt. But don't be upset. And don't be angry with yourselves because you sold me here. God sent me ahead of you to save many lives. For two years now, there hasn't been enough food in the land. And for the next five years, people won't be plowing or gathering crops. But God sent me ahead of you to keep some of you alive on earth. He sent me here to save your lives by an act of mighty power.'"

Supplies

- Bible
- Markers and pencils
- Painter Tape (start line)
- 'Sketch the Story' printouts (1 of each per camper)

Digging Deeper

What do you think happened to Joseph and his brothers? [Take some answers]

So, when Joseph found out that his brothers had come to Egypt, at first, he was angry. He even tried to frame his brothers for stealing, but not long after, he felt compassion for them, and revealed his true identity to his brothers, welcoming them into the land. It took a lot of grace and forgiveness for him to do that, but by doing so, he honored God and the plan that God had for his life.

<https://streamable.com/vw1ifj>

Just like how Joseph was used by God in many beautiful ways to impact those around him, when we have a personal relationship with God, we can also be used by Him to do the same. God can help us through the challenges we are faced with, and we can even help others while going through those challenges, all with God's help.



God has a plan for me and my dreams. He can do anything.

DREAM BIG! DREAM

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Activity - Sketch the Story

Before going into the discussion, walk your crew through the full story of Joseph (day by day). Then, hand out the 4 page Take Action drawing sheets and pencils to each camper. Have them draw out a scene to summarize each day while going through the discussion. Then allow each camper to share what they drew while helping them stick their images into their Playbills.

Real Talk

- Even when things don't go the way we plan, we can trust that God has a plan. How did God use Joseph's life and challenges and make something good come from them?
- How can doing the right thing, especially when it is hard, be a way we can show others we trust God?
- Have you ever been through a challenging time that taught you something? What did you learn?
- When have you seen God's plan come through in your life?
- Even when things don't go your way, why can we still put our confidence in God and depend on Him?

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Activity

“LEVEL UP: THE COMEBACK GAME”

Purpose

- Show that things don't always go the way we expect
- Experience what it feels like to mess up → reset → try again → succeed
- Reinforce that a “bad moment” isn't the end

Setup

- Mark a start line and a finish line
- Campers spread out along the start line (no contact needed)

How to Play

Round 1 - “Easy Win”

Leader says:

“Get to the other side however you want.”

- Kids run or walk across easily
- Everyone succeeds quickly

Round 2 - “Plot Twist”

Leader resets everyone:

“Okay, same goal, but now you can only move when I say your name.”

- Kids get stuck waiting
- Some move, some don't
- It feels slower and a bit frustrating

Round 3 - “Even Harder”

Reset again:

“Now you can only move if you're hopping, and only when I clap.”

- Messy
- Slower
- Kids laugh, struggle, and try again

Round 4 - “The Comeback”

Reset:

“Alright, this time you can move however you want again, but help me out-cheer each other on as you go.”

- Kids move freely again
- Energy is higher
- More success and engagement

Final Round (Best Moment)

“Last round-best one yet.

Move however you want, and don't give up, even if it gets weird.”

Add in:

- “Slow motion”
- “Freeze-now go”
- “Tiny steps”

They push through anyway.

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Activity Continued

Debrief Ask:

- “Which round was hardest?”
- “Did anyone want to quit?”

Then land it:

“Sometimes things don’t go the way we expect. Sometimes it gets harder before it gets better, but that doesn’t mean it’s over.”

Then connect:

“Joseph’s story didn’t go how he thought, but it turned into something bigger.”

TODAY’S TAKE ACTION

Share your sketches of scenes from the Joseph story with someone at home and tell them what you’ve learned so far this week – maybe about dreaming big, or how we can use our gifts to help others. Make sure to tell your crew leader who you shared with tomorrow!



PRAY

Dear God,
Thank You for Joseph and Your plan for him. Help us understand Your plan for us too. When things don’t go our way, remind us of Joseph’s story and Your love – you have a plan and you will help us through the challenges that we face. Help us trust Your plan and use our talents to serve You. Even when life is tough, help us keep our eyes on You. Thank You for being with us always.
Amen.