

## **Bible Lessons for Children**

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

By Tamarie Tigh

### **Beginner Lesson Thirty-one: Joseph Interprets Dreams**

#### **Overview**

Bible Songs

Bible Reading & Discussion: Genesis 40:1-23

Memorization & Art Activity: "A Baptist Catechism: A Catechism for Boys & Girls" Review *Questions 19-21*

#### **Opening**

Get students' attention by using a pre-planned silence signal.  
Have students sit in rows or a semi-circle facing you.  
Open in prayer asking God's blessing upon the time.

#### **Bible Songs**

5-10 minutes

Materials: Song visuals &/or props as needed

Strategies: Sing It with Hand &/or Body Motions as appropriate

Instructions: Lead students to sing songs about the Bible. Spend some time discussing the meaning of new songs. Encourage students to think about what they are singing. Be very careful to choose songs that only speak truth about the Word of God.

#### **Bible Reading**

15 minutes

Materials: Bibles for students to use

Strategies: Leader Read Aloud & Picturing

Scripture: Genesis 40:1-23

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Tell students to close their eyes as they listen and try to picture what they hear. Stop occasionally to allow students an opportunity to describe what they pictured.

#### **Bible Discussion**

10 minutes

Materials: Word poster (no new word)

Strategy: Jeopardy Jump Up

Instructions: Have students sit in a fellowship circle. Give each answer and challenge students to produce the correct question. Have students jump up to share questions.

Questions: What two people were put into prison with Joseph? (The king's cupbearer and the king's baker) Why did they look downcast? (They each had a dream that they could not interpret.) Describe the cupbearer's dream. (A vine had three branches that grew grapes and the cupbearer was pressing the juice into the king's cup.) What did Joseph say the dream meant? (In three days the cupbearer would return to serving the king.) What did Joseph ask the cupbearer? (To remember him to the king) Describe the baker's dream. (He had three cake baskets on his head and the birds were eating the baked goods out of the top basket.) What did Joseph say the dream meant? (In three days the king would hang the baker and the birds would eat his flesh.) Were the dreams interpreted correctly? (Yes) Joseph said that dream interpretations belong to whom? (God) If dream interpretations belong to God, why do you think Joseph was able to interpret the dreams? (Because God was working through Joseph; last lesson we learned that God was with Joseph blessing him and causing him to succeed.) Did the cupbearer remember Joseph to the king? (No)

Show students the word poster and have them act out the words: Creator = maker (use hands to make a ball), Omnipotent = all

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powerful (make a muscle), Omniscient = all knowing (tap head), Merciful = doesn't punish as deserved (make "safe on base" sign with two arms), Righteous = perfect (with right hand make circular motion), Just = right (thumbs up), Creator of Nations (sweep arm from left to right), God is in control (salute with hand to head) Long-suffering = patient (fold hands together as though waiting patiently), Glory = shining light (spread fingers of both hands like light rays), Deliverer (move wrists as though breaking rope), Savior (spread arms wide then draw together), All-seeing (put hand above eyes as though looking around), Faithful (shake hands with another person), Judge (drop fist as though striking with a gavel), Provider (cup hands and move arms from self as though giving to someone), Prayer Answerer (fold hands and bow head), Sovereign = Ultimate Authority (hold out fist as though holding a king's scepter), Grace = unearned favor (thumbs down then rotate to thumbs up), Way to Heaven (walk in place), Protector (raise hands as though shielding head), Promise Keeper (with fore-finger cross heart), Success maker (raise arms as though winning a race)

**Group Prayer** Through prayer, praise God for Who He Is.

**Bible Memory**  
10-15 minutes

Materials: Bean Bag

Strategy: Bean Bag Toss and Stand Up/Sit Down

Instructions: Review memory work from the last three lessons by having students stand. Ask catechism questions #19-21 & toss bean bag to someone to share the answer &/or verse. If student answers correctly, student sits down & bean bag is tossed back to leader.

**Bible Art Activity**  
As time allows

Materials: Paper, markers, sample project

Activity: Catechism Review Game

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Give students paper. Have students make a game board of connected squares, circles, or other shapes. Have students write "Start" at the beginning and "End" at the finish. Every few spaces have students write in the shape: Q#, A#, or V# (representing questions #19-21, answers #19-21, and verses #19-21). Allow students to play the game by rolling a number cube and moving a small object the correct number of spaces. If the student lands on a Q, A, or V, the student must share the correct question, answer, or verse to get another turn. Incomplete projects may be taken home to finish.

**Closing**

Have students assist with clean-up.

Remind students to practice their memory work throughout the week.

Close in prayer & dismiss.