

Prayer  (5 minutes)

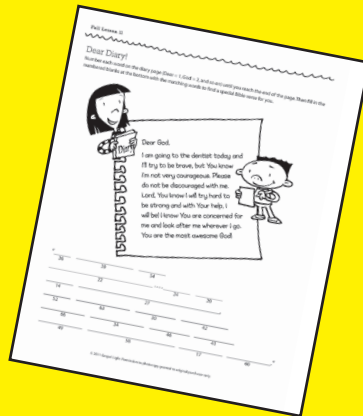
- **What difficult situations are you thinking about right now?** Give your own answer before asking students to respond.
- **How can we support each other in the difficult situations we face?** (Pray for each other. Encourage each other.)

Invite volunteers to tell prayer requests as you write them on the whiteboard. Help students find Joshua 1:9 in their Bibles and read the verse aloud together again. Then pray with students about the needs and concerns they mention.

Distribute Lesson 11 *Family Fridge Fun* papers as students leave.

CD-ROM Lesson Extras! 

1. Help your kids discover the main idea of books in the Bible by playing Content Concentration. Use only the first eight books of the Bible for this lesson.
2. Students discover today's Bible verse by completing "Dear Diary!" puzzle.



Big Idea

God is always with me and gives me courage to make right choices!



PRAYER TIP

If you have been keeping a prayer journal for your class, review prayer requests from previous weeks and ask students to tell ways God has answered those requests.

Joseph's Sticky Situations 

Genesis 37: 39

Dear Teacher,

Have you ever had one of those weeks when you ask yourself, *Why me?!* I sure have! Within four days, my car was broken into, my high heel broke off one morning at work (leaving me to walk with a strange limp for the rest of the day), I got a speeding ticket, I lost my cell phone, and my credit card information was used in more countries than I have ever visited!

Throughout Joseph's life, he was thrown into one sticky situation after another. Though he may have asked God, *Why me?!* Joseph continued to look to God and choose to do what was right. God was with Joseph through difficult times, and He is with us during both the great days and the days we wish we could forget! This week, write out Joshua 1:9. Place it where you'll see it often. Remember that we can be strong and courageous because we know that God is with us.



Lise Pham
Editor



Bible Verse

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9



Big Idea

God is always with me and gives me courage to make right choices!



Action Plan

Evaluate situations in my life and tell right choices to make.

Connecting You to Jesus 

The story of Joseph can be seen as a picture of Jesus' life. Joseph is known as the messianic patriarch. Despite being mistreated in many ways, Joseph chose to be obedient. Later, he was given a position of high honor. Jesus was mistreated, but He obeyed God, even to the point of being killed on the cross. But God raised Jesus from the grave, so Jesus could be our Savior, and He gave Jesus the ultimate honor of being seated at the right hand of God Himself.



Big Idea

God is always with me and gives me courage to make right choices!

Action Plan

Evaluate situations in my life and tell right choices to make.

Review (5 minutes)

Welcome your group and ask the following questions to review large-group activities.

- What kinds of shoes do you have?
- Where do you wear your different shoes?

Our shoes take us to lots of different places. Sometimes we may find ourselves in a sticky situation, but we can have courage to make right choices, because we know that God is always with us.

TIP

As your students arrive for large-group time, greet them and ask, Would you rather be the oldest or youngest kid in the family?

Kid Talk Cards (5 minutes)

Distribute Lesson 11 *Kid Talk Cards*. As you read aloud the situations on the card, students vote on the saddest situation Joseph had to face, making sad faces to show their votes. Repeat for scariest situations, asking students to make scared faces to show their votes.



- What choices did Joseph make in these sad and scary situations?
- What are some choices other people might have made? What might have happened if Joseph had made those choices?
- Why do you think Joseph kept making right choices in the midst of these situations?



Whiteboard Time (10 minutes)

Let's talk about some sad or scary situations you or a friend might have been in. On whiteboard, begin a game of Pictionary by drawing a place such as a school, car, amusement park, sports field or skate park. Continue drawing until someone guesses the correct location. Challenge correct guesser to tell a sticky situation that might happen at that place. Then correct guesser (or another volunteer) begins a new round by drawing a place for others to guess. Continue as time permits.

After several rounds, students look at Side 2 of *Kid Talk Cards* and read Bible verse aloud together. Invite students to answer the question on the page by telling which right choice they will have the courage to make.



- **What promise does God give for people in sticky or scary situations?** (He will be with us.)
- **What do people usually do when they feel that they are in a sticky situation?** (Complain. Blame someone else. Lie to get out of it.)
- **How might knowing that God is with you help you to make right choices and do good things in the midst of difficult situations?** (Gives courage. Reminds us that other people have been in similar situations. Helps us remember that God can make good things happen out of the situation.)
- **Why might making one of the choices on Side 2 be hard? What good things could happen if a kid made that choice?** (Gain respect. Help others do what is right. Be a leader. Keep out of trouble. Help others learn about God's love and power.)