Explorers - Together @ Home

st luke's hampstead

👀 Big Idea – Chosen but Rejected

God shows Joseph in two dreams that he will be an important leader. This makes his brothers jealous and they get rid of him

When God shows his plans for the future, they are certain, even if others reject them.

READY? Let's Pray!

🙏🏾 *Dear God, please help us today as we learn about your big plans for Joseph and your people. AMEN*

📖 Bible Story – Genesis 37: 1-36

Since this is the first lesson of the series looking at Joseph, spend some time introducing and placing the story of Joseph in the context of what has gone before. Can the children remember who Joseph father and mother were? (see Genesis 30:22-24)

You could…

Watch this clip from the 1999 film: Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rwFgJMect2g

A note about the film.

It is a wonderful, light, kid friendly film. Many of you will have watched it or seen the stage show.

However, it is worth remembering that it is not always true to the real bible story. Many of the songs, like the one above, will really help the story come alive, and set the scene. But remember the story is about God and his amazing plan for His rebellious people, not Joseph and his abilities.

This story has a lot of different emotions. In your preparation, read through the story and find the critical points where emotions are expressed (you may choose not to use all of them). Give each child a set of faces cut out of different coloured paper or card (or printed from Google). The faces need to be angry, jealous, happy, and sad (perhaps red, green, yellow and grey if you are using card).

As you tell the story, stop at various points and ask your children: Hold up the face that you think best describes how the people in the story were feeling. Help them to understand the increasing hatred that Joseph's brothers felt towards him.

Explain the difference between what Joseph's brothers had planned for him and what God had planned for Joseph. The brothers thought they got rid of Joseph, but he was exactly where God wanted him to be – in the house of a very important man in Egypt, Potiphar.

Once you have told the story, tell your children what this story teaches us about Jesus. Use the Big Idea to help you with this. Try to keep this short and simple.

Activity Time – *Choose any combination of Game, Craft or Song that works for you.* ***Don't miss out on Round Up or Prayer!***

Craft… Paper chain handcuffs

Using different coloured strips of paper or card, make a paper chain. All the strips need to be the same size so worth prepping beforehand. Try to use lots of different colours like in Joseph's coat. You can use coloured paper/card, or plain paper/card and have your children colour in the strips in all different colours.

Remind the children that Joseph was sold as a slave. Can they use their chains to tell each other how that happened?

Game… Four Corners https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9PVAPA9B_yU

Play the game Four Corners. Watch this 30 second video on how to play if you are unsure. You can also play with less corners, and use walls instead of corners if needed. Get the whole family involved for some great fun!

In today's true story, the brothers didn't know that it was God plan to get Joseph to Egypt. God is the only one who knows what's going to happen in the future, so he can even use the bad things that people do to make his plan work.

Song…

The Lord is King – Colin Buchanan
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8FFG_UryEYE

Round Up

Young children have little or no concept of time so get them to talk about anything that they know will happen soon, perhaps what they will eat tonight, which bed they will sleep in tonight, what will they have for breakfast tomorrow morning etc.

Can they be sure these things will happen? What could stop those things from happening?

Even if we can't be sure what's going to happen, God always knows exactly what will happen because he is the boss (ruler) of everything. We see this in the story of Joseph.

Prayer: *Dear God,*

Help us to trust and believe in your promises, even when bad things happen. Thankyou that you always love us. AMEN