TREE OF PROMISE

Memory Verse: ***"He remembered us when we were in trouble. His love continues forever." Psalm 136:23***

Big Idea: ***God's Promise: He will always remember you.***

Bible Story: ***Joseph in the Pit | Genesis 37***

Gear Up - Arrival

Greet children as they enter the classroom. Mark them present using your iPad and/or paper roster.

Opening Activities: Engage with the kids in your room as they play and interact with designated games and activities as time allows. Use this opportunity to ask kids about their week, discuss their interests, and encourage them to connect with one another!

Memory Verse Game – Memory Verse Motions

Before playing the game ask kids two important questions about the verse.

Ask: What does it say? What does it mean?

- Encourage the kids to help make up an action or hand motion for each key word or phrase in this month's memory verse. Practice the verse together using the motions as cues. Repeat several times until everyone can say it smoothly with the actions matching the words of the memory verse.

Bible Time – Bible Bingo

- Use the Bingo cards provided along with the call out sheet and Bingo markers to play the game.

Get-To-Know-You Game – Three of a Kind

- In this active icebreaker, the goal is to form groups of three kids and determine what they have in common. For instance, all three kids might learn they all like pineapple on their pizza or speak more than one language at home. After a minute, ask each group to share their common trait, then mix up the groups and repeat. (If your class doesn't divide evenly by three, try four instead.

Gear Up - Welcome – 5 minutes

Begin 10 minutes after the service time starts (Ex. 9:40 at the 9:30 experience).

Gather kids together in a space where they can see the TV.
Take a moment to **welcome** the kids to KXP and let them know how glad you are that they are here!

Say: *"God has never made a promise that He didn't keep. The Bible is full of promises that God made to His people. Those same promises are meant for all believers, AND that includes us."*

PRAY FIRST! We want to model this for our kids. Take a moment to pray for the time together and for the kids in your room.

Lesson Introduction – 5 minutes

Share the Lesson Intro with the class before starting the **KXP lesson video**. Challenge them to listen and pay attention during the Bible Story.

Say: "*Welcome to KXP! Come join me around the campfire for a true story from the Bible. I'm Ranger Ross and I'm so glad you're here today. We are continuing our series – Tree of Promise. We are learning that God has never made a promise that He didn't keep. The Bible is full of promises that God made to His people. We have seen how God kept His promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.*
Last month, we learned how God's plan was bigger than the mistakes made by His people. God's plan is bigger than our mistakes, too."

Play the KXP lesson video in your classroom.

Bible Story – 10 minutes

Leaders, please read the Bible story below before Sunday to prepare for discussion.

Joseph in the Pit | Genesis 37

This month, in the book of Genesis, we will learn about Joseph. Joseph is one of Jacob's twelve sons. Remember the promise God made to Abraham that He would make Abraham's descendants as many as the stars in the sky. Joseph was the fourth generation of Abraham's descendants.

Genesis 37:3 tells us "Joseph was born when his father Israel, also called Jacob, was old. So, Israel loved Joseph more than his other sons. He made Joseph a special robe with long sleeves."

Jacob (also known as Israel) had twelve sons, and Joseph was the youngest. Joseph was Jacob's favorite son. When his brothers saw the special robe and special treatment that Joseph received from their father – they were jealous. And it doesn't stop there.

Joseph had a few dreams about ruling over his brothers and them bowing down to him. When he told his brothers and father about his dreams, he bragged and boasted. Joseph didn't handle the situation well. He was a bit prideful about what God had revealed to him.

Genesis 37:8 says "His brothers said, 'Do you really think you will be king over us? Do you truly think you will rule over us?' His brothers hated him even more now. They hated him because of his dreams and what he had said."

One day, Joseph's brothers took their father's livestock to graze near Shechem. Jacob sent Joseph out into the fields to check on his brothers. As Joseph was getting close to his brothers, they planned to kill him because they were jealous of him.

Genesis 37:19 and 20 tells us "They said to each other, 'Here comes that dreamer. Let's kill him and throw his body into one of the wells. We can tell our father that a wild animal killed him. Then we will see what will become of his dreams.'"

This sounds terrible! One of Joseph's brothers, Reuben, tried to talk the others out of killing him by offering a different plan.

Genesis 37, verses 21 and 22 say, "But Reuben heard their plan and saved Joseph. He said, 'Let's not kill him. Don't spill any blood. Throw him into this well here in the desert. But don't harm him!' Reuben planned to save Joseph later and send him back to his father."

One brother out of eleven wanted to spare Joseph's life. Jealousy can lead people to do really mean and terrible things. Joseph made the mistake of bragging and boasting about being his father's favorite son. He also bragged about his dreams and that one day his brothers would bow down to him.

Now the brothers' mistake was being jealous instead of being patient. They let their jealousy turn into anger, anger to the point of wanting to kill their little brother. But God was faithful, and His plan and purpose for Joseph would win.

Now, back to the story. Joseph's brothers took his coat of many colors from him and threw him into a pit. As the brothers sat to eat a meal, they saw a caravan of travelers passing by. The brothers agreed it would be too horrible to kill their own flesh and blood, so they decided to sell him to the travelers.

Reuben was very upset that his brother, Joseph, had been sold. The others planned to trick their father. They didn't want to tell Jacob what they had done so they made up a lie. They killed a goat and dipped Joseph's special robe in its blood. They let Jacob believe that Joseph had been killed by a wild animal.

Genesis chapter 37, verse 34 says "Then Jacob tore his clothes and put on rough cloth to show that he was sad. He continued to be sad about his son for a long time."

The travelers ended up selling Joseph as a slave in Egypt to a man named Potiphar. He was one of Pharoah's captains of the guard.

Lesson Recap –15 minutes

After the video has ended, **share the Lesson Conclusion** with the class.

Say: "*Now Joseph was far from home and his loving father. He was hated by his own brothers, but his story is far from over.* ***Our Big Idea this month teaches us about God's Promise that He will always remember us.*** *We will see how God remembers Joseph throughout his life and works all things for Joseph's good and God's glory."*

Discuss the following questions with your class. *(This can be done in a large or small group setting.)*

- Who was Jacob's favorite son?
- What special thing did Jacob give to Joseph?
- What kind of dreams did Joseph have?
- How did his brothers feel about him?
- What is one thing you learned from today's lesson?

Navigators

- Do you think Joseph's brothers acted harshly towards him? Why or why not?
- How do you feel when you get jealous? Do you get angry, irritable, sad?
- How does God want us to handle feelings of jealousy?

Direct the kids to the **Memory Verse** and **Big Idea** posters in your room. Have your class read them together out loud. Celebrate the kids for paying attention and listening well!

Close in Prayer – 3 to 5 minutes

Ask the kids in your room to share any **prayer requests** they have. Give them a moment to **fill out prayer cards** or **choose a prayer prompt** to take home. Then **pray over them**!

- **P**RAISE - *Open with adoration.*
- **R**EPENT - *Recall and connect the Big Idea from the Bible Story to yourself and the kids.*
- **A**SK - *Petition the Lord on the kids' behalf.*
- **Y**IELD - *Close by giving thanks to God for His perfect plan.*

Live It Out – 5 to 8 minutes | Coat of Many Colors

Scouts: Create a "coat of many colors" by gluing different fabric scraps, felt, or colorful paper onto a cut-out in the shape of a coat.

Navigators: Kids can create a "coat of many colors" like the Scouts but help them take the activity a step deeper. Discuss how valuable colored cloth was in that time period. Talk about the coat being an outward sign of Jacob's favoritism – a remind to the brothers that their father favored Joseph. Encourage conversations to unfold.

Leave No Trace – End of the Hour

1. As parents arrive to pick up children, have the **kids work together to clean up** the classroom.
2. **Thank them** for coming and **encourage them to invite a friend** and come back next week!
3. Children can **finish opening activities** while waiting on their parents.