TREE OF PROMISE

Memory Verse: ***"He remembered us when we were in trouble. His love continues forever." Psalms 136:23 (ICB)***
Big Idea: ***God's Promise: He will always remember you.***
Bible Story: ***Joseph in the Palace | Genesis 41-42***

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 – Popsicle sticks

What you'll need: Popsicle sticks with a word/phrase from the memory verse written on each one
How to Play:

- Give each child a popsicle stick with a word or phrase written on it from this month's memory verse.
- See if your class can work together to put the popsicle sticks in the correct word order.
- Then read the memory verse aloud as a class!
- For an added challenge, split your room into 2-3 smaller teams. Give each team a chance to try to put the popsicle sticks in order. Time each group and see who can do it the fastest!

Bible Time – Bible Sort

What you'll need:

- Two baskets or buckets labeled "Old Testament" and "New Testament"
- Cards or pictures with Bible stories or Biblical names (example: Adam & Eve, Noah's Ark, Peter Walks on Water, Jesus' birth, Jacob & Esau, etc)

How to play:

- Call out or show a card. The kids decide which basket it belongs in and drops the card inside.
- You can also play as a relay: they run and drop the card in the correct basket.
- Use the Books of the Bible poster in your room to help the children understand the difference between the Old Testament Books and the New Testament Books.

Get-To-Know-You Game – In or out

What you'll need: to tape off a circle/square on the carpet or floor
How to Play:

- Gather children around taped off circle/square on the floor of your room.
- Name a personality trait/descriptor. Have the children step inside the circle if the trait is true for them.
- Have them stay on the outside of the circle if it is not.
- (Examples: "I am the oldest child," "I play soccer", "I am an only child," "My favorite flavor of ice cream is chocolate," "I can play an instrument," "I have a pet fish," etc.)

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!

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: "*Hey Y'all! Welcome back to KXP! Are you ready for our true story from the Bible? We have been on a journey with Joseph this month. Let's do a little recap to help us remember where Joseph started.*
In week one, we learned that Joseph was Jacob's favorite son. And Joseph had some interesting dreams that God gave him. Joseph's 11 brothers were jealous and plotted to kill him. They decided to throw him into a pit instead and later sold him to travelers as a slave. They just wanted him gone!
Next, in week two, Joseph found favor with his owner, Potiphar, until Potiphar had Joseph thrown in prison for something he did not do.
In week three, we learned that Joseph found favor with the warden of the prison, and Joseph was given authority. Joseph used his gift of interpreting dreams while in prison, and it led him to the palace of Pharaoh, the King of Egypt."

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 Palace | Genesis 41-42

In all of these trials, God always remembered Joseph. Joseph found favor with many people because God was with him. I hope you've been discussing this Big Idea with your family and friends. God promises that He will always remember you in the good times and the hard times, too.
When we left our story last week, Joseph had been made the second most powerful person in all of Egypt, right behind Pharaoh, King of Egypt. Just as Joseph predicted, seven years of plenty came.

Joseph put his plan into action. He helped store huge amounts of food during the good years. In Genesis chapter 41, verses 47-49, it says, **"*During the seven good years, the crops in the land grew well. And Joseph gathered all the food produced in Egypt during those seven years of good crops. He stored the food in the cities. In every city, he stored grain that had been grown in the fields around that city. Joseph stored much grain, as much as the sand of the seashore. He stored so much grain that he could not measure it.*"**

After the seven years of plenty came to an end, the seven years of famine began. A famine is a time when there is not enough food to feed all the people who need to eat.

Genesis 42:6 tells us, "Now Joseph was governor over Egypt. He was the one who sold the grain to people who came to buy it." People from many lands came to Egypt to buy food, including Joseph's brothers from Canaan.

Ten of Joseph's brothers traveled to Egypt to buy food because their families had run out of supplies. They didn't recognize Joseph, and they bowed down to him because of his high position. The brothers bowed down to him just like he had dreamed many years earlier. Joseph knew who they were but didn't tell them who he was at first. Instead, he tested them to see if they had changed.

Joseph accused his brothers of being spies. He said they must bring their youngest brother, Benjamin, next time to prove they were honest. The brothers felt scared and guilty, thinking about what they had done to Joseph long ago. They took grain home, but left one brother, Simeon, behind.

Although Joseph didn't tell them who he was, he showed his brothers kindness by returning their money and giving them the grain and food for free.

When the brothers told their father all that had happened. He was very upset. ***Genesis 42:36 says, "Their father Jacob said to them, 'You are robbing me of all my children. Joseph is gone. Simeon is gone. And now you want to take Benjamin away, too. Everything is against me.'"*** Jacob did not want Benjamin to be taken to Egypt. He did not want to lose another son.

Lesson Recap –15 minutes

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

Say: "*Wow! Joseph's story has taken an interesting turn. His brothers, who sold him and sent him away, came to Egypt for food and needed his help. God remembered Joseph and blessed him. Do you think Joseph helped his brothers and father? Do you think Joseph forgave them? Next week is the final story of Joseph's journey. You don't want to miss the end of this story, so make sure to come back to KXP, and why not bring a friend along with you?*"

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

- Who had strange dreams that no one could explain?
- What did Joseph say the two dreams meant?
- How many years of plenty and how many years of famine did Egypt have?
- What special job did Pharaoh give Joseph?
- Who came to Egypt to buy food from Joseph?
- Did Joseph's brothers recognize him when they saw him?

Harder Questions

- What did Joseph tell his brothers they had to do to prove they were honest?
- Joseph gave God the credit for explaining dreams. Why is it important to remember that our talents come from God?
- How did Joseph show wisdom in helping Egypt prepare for the famine?
- What can we learn from Joseph's patience and faith, even after hard times?

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 | **Famine or Plenty**

What you'll need: No supplies needed

Leaders:

- Call out "Years of Plenty!" - kids run, jump, or spin around freely.
- Call out "Years of Famine!" - kids tiptoe or crouch, move slowly.
- Afterwards, discuss with the kids how Joseph was a good steward of all that He was given! He listened to God and was able to plan, prepare, and trust God in the midst of difficult times.

Leave No Trace – End of the Hour

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