

This Week's Lesson at a Glance

Reach Community Church – Children's Ministry | Parent Take-Home Sheet | Week 12

LESSON OVERVIEW

Lesson Title:	Joseph: God Works Through Hard Things
Bible Passage(s):	Genesis 37–50
Big Idea:	Even when life is hard and unfair, God is working for good.

MEMORY VERSE

“You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.”

Genesis 50:20

Tip for Parents: Read this verse together during the week and ask your child what they think “God intended it for good” means. Help them see that God can work through difficult situations.

TODAY YOUR CHILD LEARNED

Your child learned about Joseph, one of Jacob's twelve sons.

Joseph's brothers were jealous of him and sold him as a slave. He was taken to Egypt, falsely accused, and thrown into prison. From a human perspective, his life seemed unfair and painful.

“The Lord was with Joseph.” — Genesis 39:2

Over time, God raised Joseph to become a leader in Egypt. During a severe famine, Joseph was able to save many lives — including the very brothers who had betrayed him.

“You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good.” — Genesis 50:20

Your child learned that God does not waste suffering. He is present in hardship and able to bring good from it.

WHY THIS LESSON MATTERS

This account reminds us that:

- God is sovereign, even when circumstances feel out of control.
- God's presence does not disappear in suffering.
- Forgiveness is possible because God is just and trustworthy.

Joseph's life also points us to Jesus.

- Joseph was betrayed for silver. **Jesus was betrayed for silver** (Matthew 26:14–15).
- Joseph suffered though innocent. **Jesus was completely sinless** (1 Peter 2:22).
- Joseph's suffering saved many lives. **Jesus' suffering saves us from sin** (Isaiah 53:5).

God's plan of salvation was unfolding even in Joseph's hardest days.

DEFENDING THE TRUTH (AT HOME)

A Question Children Often Ask: Why would God allow something so bad to happen?

A Simple Biblical Answer: Genesis 50:20 teaches that while people may intend evil, God can bring good from it. God does not cause sin (James 1:13), but He is powerful enough to work through it for His purposes.

Scripture to Read Together

- Genesis 39:2
- Genesis 50:20
- Romans 8:28

TALK ABOUT IT AT HOME

Family Discussion Question: Have you ever experienced something that felt unfair? How might God work through that?

Optional Follow-Up Question: Why do you think Joseph chose to forgive his brothers?

TRY THIS AS A FAMILY

Activity: Pit to Palace Reflection

Draw four simple pictures together:

1. The pit.
2. The prison.
3. The palace.
4. Joseph forgiving his brothers.

Talk about how God was present in every stage.

Discuss this question: Where do we need to trust God right now?

PRAYER TO PRAY TOGETHER

Father God,

Thank You that You are with us even when life feels hard or unfair. Help us trust You when we do not understand what is happening. Teach us to forgive others, just as You forgive us through Jesus.

Remind us that You are always working for good.

In Jesus' name, amen.

A FINAL THOUGHT FOR PARENTS

Joseph's story reminds us that God's faithfulness often unfolds over time.

Your child may face challenges, disappointments, or confusion. But the same God who was with Joseph in the pit, the prison, and the palace is present in your home today.

God is still working.

He is still faithful.

He is still bringing good from what we cannot yet see.