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Joseph - Serving



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Introduction

Your family is precious to the Lord. We pray that you will be firm in your faith and confidence in God and His plan even in turbulent times. God surrounds you and your family now and forever.

Those who trust in the Lord are as secure as Mount Zion; they will not be defeated but will endure forever. Just as the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people, both now and forever.

Psalm 125:1-2

We are continuing to learn from our hero of the month, Joseph! Today's lesson will focus on serving. The first place where children should serve is in their homes. Therefore it is important that they learn to do so from a young age.

Lesson Objectives:

- Teach our children the characteristics of serving
- Teach our children simple ways of serving at home.

Lesson Context:

- The story takes place in Egypt: in the house of Potiphar, in the prison and in Pharaoh's palace.
- Joseph was able to serve even when he was being treated unfairly. The way he served made him stand out wherever he was and opened the way for him to become the second most powerful man in Egypt.

What to Prepare:

- Read in advance
Genesis 39
Genesis 41

Declaration for the week:

I will use what God has given me to serve others!

Memorize the Word:

God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.

1 Peter 4:10 NLT

Word of the week:

Serve

(to give help;
to be of use)



Opening - Ice breaker:

Ask: What does the word “serve” mean (let the kids answer)

Say: In the dictionary the word “serve” has a lot of meanings. The word “serve” can mean to offer food, to help, to spend time, to work, to give honour and to be obedient. (Mention some of meanings the kids also gave)

Serving is the desire to always help others and do our best, even when the situation is very difficult.

We can learn some important things about serving from the verses we have read.



- Some people only want to serve when things are going well for them. A true servant, like Joseph, always helps in any given situation. Joseph was in prison, a very sad unhappy place, but he still served there.

A hero is always willing to serve!

- The presence of God is the greatest treasure there is - better than any title, talent or possession. The Lord was always with Joseph, helping him overcome difficult circumstances, because he had a servant's heart. We must always know that God is with us and that He is our best friend.

God is with those who serve!

- Joseph served faithfully for many years and God honored him by giving him a place of authority in Egypt. Sometimes people do not see the good you are doing, but God does and He will always honour you when you do good and serve others.

God rewards those who serve!

Application

Brainstorm : God wants us to serve the people around us, in our family, church, school, and community. Write down a way you could serve in each of these situations:

1. Family

- a. When a parent is sick
- b. When a sibling is frustrated

2. Church

- a. When an elderly person needs a place to sit
- b. When a small child is lost and crying

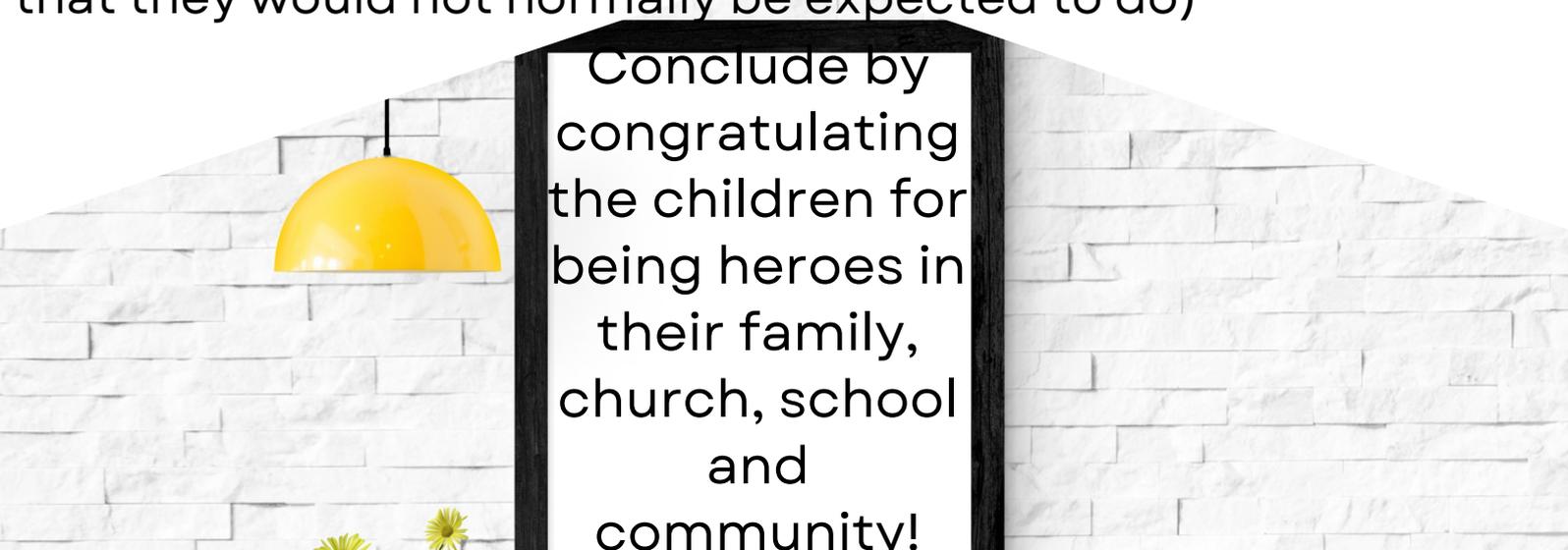
3. School

- a. When a classmate is alone at break
- b. When the class keep misbehaving

4. Community

- a. When there is dirt in the street/park
- b. When new people move into your street

(Teacher: there is no wrong answer. Just ensure each child understands to get permission from parents to do something that they would not normally be expected to do)



Conclude by congratulating the children for being heroes in their family, church, school and community!