

Joseph

Apply Within

- How does the story of Joseph point to Jesus?
- How do you react when things don't go your way, or the way you planned?
- How does Jesus' teaching in Matthew 23:12, relate to this story?
- Are we quick to forgive others, or do we hold grudges?
- What difficult situation are you dealing with right now? How is God using that situation to bring him glory?

Family Times

At Crosslink we want to build strong families of faith. Scriptures teach us that there are some natural rhythms of life. Deuteronomy 6:7 gives us this prescription for training our children: *"Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."* (HCSB) Here are some ideas of the way you can communicate this week's Big Idea to your children [grandchildren]:

Morning Time - This is a great time to teach your kids about the Lord. Before your kids go to school, ask them if there are kids that they do not get along with at school. Ask them how they respond to those kids. Remind them that Joseph forgave his brothers, even though they tried to kill him. Pray for your kids heart and teach them about forgiveness.

Drive Time - While traveling in your car it is a good time to talk to your children about spiritual matters. Jesus often used object lessons to drive home a point to His followers. Point out the signs on the road and ask your kids why they are there. (To tell you where you are or where you want to go. To give direction.) Tell them that God uses our circumstances in the same way. We should always be pointing others and ourselves to Jesus.

Meal Time - Plan to spend one meal time around the "Story of God" for this week. This week is a wonderful opportunity to give thanks to God for His provision. Plan to share a story about a difficult circumstance in your life, that the Lord used for good. Reflect on how God uses tough situations, to teach us something about Him. Teach your kids that no matter what happens, God is in control. We can trust him, even when we might not understand everything that is happening. His plan is better than ours!

Bed Time - As you tuck your kids into bed each night reflect on the day. Talk about ways they saw God provide for them. Go over the **Family Memory Verse** for the week and then pray with them. Pray they will see the provision of almighty God in their lives, and they would always give Him thanks.

This Weeks Family Memory Verse

"As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good..." Genesis 50:20a

Moses

Apply Within

- What excuses are you most likely to use when God asked you to do something?
- Why do you think that God told Moses to “not come closer in 3:5”?
- When Moses is hesitant to go in v. 11, how does God respond? How does this apply to our salvation?
- God told Moses to tell the Elders of Israel that the Lord has appeared to him. Are you able to tell other about things that God has done in your life?

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Morning Time - The morning time is a great opportunity to talk about spiritual things with your kids. One morning, while getting ready, ask your kids about the shoes that they are wearing. Remind them that Moses was asked to take off his shoes, when he heard the voice of God. Ask your kids why God told Moses to take off his shoes. Take the time to talk to your kids about the holiness of God. Lastly, introduce this week's memory verse.

Drive Time - While traveling in your car it is a good time to talk to your children about spiritual matters. Jesus often used object lessons to drive home a point to His followers. While traveling in your car, play a familiar CD or a familiar radio station. When a song comes on that your kids know, ask your kid to identify the singer/band. Ask them if they recognize the band or singer. Talk to them about how we can pick up familiar voices and sounds, especially when we are listening to them. Let them know that it is the same way with God. We hear God's voice most clearly through the bible and prayer (both talking and listening to God).

Meal Time - Meal times are a great opportunity to hang out with your family. One thing that we learn from the story of Moses is the fact that God chooses to use people in order to accomplish his purposes. Ask your kids why God chooses to use us to accomplish his purposes. Tell them about a time when God used you to accomplish something for Him. Encourage them to be willing to serve the Lord!

Bed Time - As you tuck your kids into bed each night reflect on the day. Talk about ways they saw God provide for them. Go over the **Family Memory Verse** for the week and then pray with them. Pray they will see the provision of almighty God in their lives, and they would always give Him thanks.

This Weeks Family Memory Verse

"God said to Moses, 'I am who I am.' ..." Exodus 3:14a