

Three easy steps for an at-home experience!



BIG IDEA: God Has a Plan: It Is Big

Jacob, aka Israel, had 12 sons. God's plan to prosper Abraham and Jacob and give them many descendants was in motion. Today we focus on Joseph and how God used his messy life as a part of his plan. Joseph was favored by his father and hated by his brothers, which led to complete family dysfunction. Joseph's brothers threw him in a well and eventually sold him into slavery. Was this all part of God's plan? We will learn that God's plan is BIG and he can take any situation and use it!



STEP ONE: READ THE BIBLE STORY

Genesis 37 from the NIV
Pages 74-86 in the Read With Me Bible.



STEP TWO: WATCH THE TEACHING VIDEO

Available at youtube.com/eastviewkids
Around the Block - Week 5



STEP THREE: CHOOSE AN ACTIVITY

FOR YOUNGER KIDS: Ruined Rainbow

Materials: Play-doh in a variety of colors

Joseph's father gave Joseph a beautiful robe made with many bright colors. Let's use this Play-doh to see what colors might have been in Joseph's coat.

Give each family member a different color of Play-doh. Give them a few minutes to squish and feel the Play-doh. Then ask them to place the pieces back in your hand. As you are talking, begin to squish all the colors together in your hands.

When Joseph's brothers saw his coat, how did they feel? Yep, jealous and mad. They also got mad because Joseph told them about some dreams. Do you remember anything about those dreams? Joseph told about his dreams and they meant that someday he would be greater than all his brothers. Well, this made his brothers even more jealous and even madder. So mad that they decided to throw Joseph into an empty well. And eventually they sold him to some slave traders. That is bad! What about his beautiful coat?

Show the now icky colored wad of Play-doh to your family.

They ruined his coat and put animal's blood on it and showed it to their father. They lied and said that Joseph had been attacked by a wild animal.

Are all these bad things really a part of God's plan? It all seems like a big mess! But God can take our big messes and make something beautiful out of it. In fact, God took the biggest mess—our sins—and cleaned them all up! He sent his Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for us. His plan for us is so big because his love for us is so big!

As you are talking, form the play-dough into a cross and show it to your family.

eastview kids family worship

FOR ALL KIDS: The Whole Picture

Materials: Age-appropriate puzzle--ideally one that is new to your family

Keep the puzzle box out of sight and bring out just one puzzle piece. Show the puzzle piece to your family.

This puzzle piece is part of a bigger puzzle. Can you tell from this puzzle piece what the puzzle picture is? Maybe you have some guesses by the colors and what you can see on the piece. What do you think the puzzle looks like?

After some guesses, bring out the picture of the puzzle. How close did their guesses come?

You see, God's plan is like a completed puzzle. But our view of God's plan is like this one small puzzle piece.

In our story today, Joseph has some really bad things happen to him. His brothers hated him so much that they threw him in a well. Then later they sold him, and he became a slave and had to go to a far-away land.

All of this was part of God's plan! That must have been very hard for Joseph to understand. But, he trusted God and trusted that God's plan for his life was big and good. And we can trust that God's plan for our lives is big and good!

Work together to complete the puzzle!