

Alley SG—October 2nd, 2022

Today's Bible Story: Down in a Hole (Joseph Sold By Brothers/Joseph in Jail) • *Genesis 37, 39–40*

Today's Key Question: What helps people get through hard things?

Today's Bottom Line: Hold on because God is with you

Monthly Memory Verse: *Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up.* Galatians 6:9 (NIRV)

1. Verses to Take with You

What You Need: Two buckets (per Group), prepared "Gather a Crop" Cards (2 sets per Group), Bibles, Alley Cash for Winners

What You Say: "We're going to have a fun competition right now, and it is going to help up to memorize this month's Bible Verse. Here's how to play..."

What You Do:

- Pass out Bibles and ask kids to turn to Galatians 6:9.
- Ask a volunteer to read the verse out loud for the group.
- Divide kids into two teams and have everyone line up, facing the opposite direction from where you are. Instruct them to keep their eyes closed. NO PEEKING!
- While their eyes are closed, tape both sets of "Gather a Crop" cards all over your space in various locations (on the wall, under or on top of tables or chairs, etc.).
- With kids still facing the opposite direction from where you've hidden the cards, explain that they will work as a team to "gather their crop" by collecting the cards and placing them in their team's bucket.
- Assign each team a different color of card to find.
- When you say, "Go!" teams can turn around, and one kid from each team will hunt for a card in their team's color.
- They will place the card in the bucket and run back to their team, handing the bucket to another teammate.
- Then that kid will go and collect another card in the correct color. They will run back to their team and hand the bucket to another teammate.
- Continue until their entire crop has been gathered.
- Teammates will work together to put the verse in order. The first team to have their verse in the correct order wins.
- Ask the following questions:
 - What does it mean to gather a crop?
 - Why is it easy to get tired of doing good?
- Encourage kids to work on memorizing Galatians 6:9 this month.

2. Knot Good!

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Guide kids to stand in a circle.
- Instruct kids to reach their right hand to the center of the circle and grab someone else's right hand, making sure not to grab the hand of the person right next to them.
- Repeat with left hands so that every kid is holding two hands.
- Explain that they have created a human knot and that they must work together to untangle themselves.
- Give guidance and suggestions as needed, especially if no one in the group has ever done something like this before.
- Remind kids to move slowly so that they don't injure anyone's arms or cause the group to fall on each other!

- ASK the discussion questions below (Activity 3) after finishing this game.

What You Say:

“You all got yourself into quite a knot! *[Transition]* In today’s story, we heard about someone who got into a very tangled-up situation. Like Joseph, you can hold on, even when things get hard. God will be right there to help you, no matter what situation you face!”

3. Discussion Questions

- What are some hard things you have had to face?
- What helps you get through hard things?
- What are some ways you are reminded that God is with you?
- How can Joseph’s story encourage you?
- How can you use your experiences to encourage others?

4. Make it Personal with Prayer

- Close the group in prayer.

What You Say:

“Dear God, thank You for the story of Joseph and what it teaches us about You. Help us to remember that we can hold on through hard things because You are with us. Help us to have grit, no matter what we are facing. Thank You for loving us and for being with us always. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”