

## Age-Level Overview

	Open the Bible	Activate Faith
<p><b>Lower Elementary</b></p> <p><b>WORKSHOP FOCUS:</b> With every step we take, God is walking with us.</p> <p><b>FOAMY FEET MAGNETS:</b> Kids will trust God to walk with them by making magnets of their own footprints.</p>	<p><b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Story Bibles</p> <p><b>SUPPLIES:</b> None</p>	<p><b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> None</p> <p><b>SUPPLIES:</b> Sheets of craft foam, pencils, scissors, magnets, fine-tip permanent markers, paint shirts, craft glue, sequins and craft jewels</p>
<p><b>Upper Elementary</b></p> <p><b>WORKSHOP FOCUS:</b> We grow in faith as we practice faith!</p> <p><b>ROYAL RINGS:</b> Kids will learn about Joseph’s rise to power and his royal signet ring by making beaded rings of their own.</p>	<p><b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers</p> <p><b>SUPPLIES:</b> None</p>	<p><b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> None</p> <p><b>SUPPLIES:</b> Small “seed” beads in various colors, thin jewelry wire, wire cutters, paper plates</p>
<p><b>All Kids</b></p> <p><b>WORKSHOP FOCUS:</b> God guides us throughout our lives, even through our dreams.</p> <p><b>DREAM SQUARES:</b> Kids will invite God’s guidance in their lives by decorating fabric squares with symbols of faith.</p>	<p><b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Story Bibles, Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers</p> <p><b>SUPPLIES:</b> None</p>	<p><b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> None</p> <p><b>SUPPLIES:</b> White fabric squares, scratch paper, pencils, fabric paints, fine-tipped permanent markers, water cups, paper plates, paintbrushes, paint shirts, newspaper, masking tape</p>



Visit [www.sparksundayschool.org](http://www.sparksundayschool.org) for more Spark content. Watch a short Lesson Prep Video that will prepare you and give you confidence to explore this Bible story with the kids you are leading. You will also find a downloadable Family Page for this rotation’s story filled with ideas for families to use to explore this story and live out their faith at home.



**Workshop Focus:** With every step we take, God is walking with us.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

- Each week, remember to welcome kids to the rotation. Keep in mind that for some kids it may be the first time they are visiting your workshop!
- If kids have heard the story several times during previous weeks, read it again! Kids learn through repetition, and every workshop will explore the Bible story in a slightly different way.
- Remember that the Shepherds are there to support you as they accompany kids each week.
- Be sure to visit [sparksundayschool.org](http://sparksundayschool.org) to download the Family Page for this story. Make copies of it and ask Shepherds to distribute it during the Wrap Up.

## Open the Bible (10 minutes)

### Joseph and Pharaoh Storytelling

**Today we are going to explore the rest of Joseph's story. Can you remember what happened to Joseph at the end of the story last time?** (*He was sold into slavery by his brothers to a caravan heading to Egypt.*) **Joseph is really in trouble now. He has to go live in Egypt as a slave. But every step of his life, God is walking with him. Open up your Spark Story Bible to Pharaoh's Dreams, beginning on page 54.**

Spark Resources  
Spark Story Bibles

Supplies  
None

Read Pharaoh's Dreams and Joseph Helps His Family.

Talk about these questions together.

- **Do you think Joseph always believed that God would rescue him.** (*Probably not.*) **Joseph doubted sometimes, too. What do you think he did when he began to doubt?** (*he prayed*).
- **How did Joseph get out of jail?** (*He told Pharaoh what his dreams meant.*)
- **What job did Pharaoh give Joseph?** (*Pharaoh put Joseph in charge of the whole country.*)

- **How did Joseph save Egypt from the famine?** (*He planned ahead and stored up grain for seven years.*)
- **How did Joseph treat his brothers when he saw them again?** (*He forgave them and brought them to live with him in Egypt.*)

**Joseph sure went through some ups and downs in his life. He really needed God's help and God was there with him every step of the way. God is with us, too!**

## Activate Faith (25 minutes)

### Foamy Feet Magnets

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**Set Up:** Make a sample foam foot to determine how large the magnet piece will need to be to hold the foam up on a metal surface. Cut magnet pieces to that size. Lay out supplies.

#### Activity Instructions

1. **Joseph's story teaches us that God is always walking with us, even when things are hard. Today we are going to make foamy feet magnets to remember how God walks with us.**
2. Give each kid a sheet of craft foam and a pair of scissors. Have kids take off their shoes and socks. Go around the room and trace both feet of each kid with a pencil.
3. **When I have finished tracing your feet, put your shoes and socks back on. Carefully cut out each of your footprints.** Ask Shepherds to help with this.
4. Give each kid a marker and give the instruction to write "God walks with me!" on the left footprint and "I walk with God" on the right footprint. Write these sentences on the board or a piece of paper posted in the room so the kids will know how to spell the words.
5. Give each kid two magnets, one to affix to the top back side of each footprint. If the magnets are not self-adhering, use a dab of craft glue.
6. Invite the kids to decorate their footprints further by drawing with the markers and affixing sequins and jewels with craft glue.
7. **Your foamy feet magnets are wonderful. You can take them home and put them on your fridge or something metal. Every time you see them, they will remind you that God walks with you and you walk with God.**

#### Spark Resources

None

#### Supplies

Sheets of craft foam, 1 for each kid  
Pencils  
Scissors  
Magnets  
Fine-tip permanent markers  
Paint shirts  
Craft glue  
Sequins and craft jewels

**Option**

Give each kid a piece of mural paper about a yard or meter in length. Have kids partner up and trace one another's feet in a pattern that looks like they are walking around. Allow them to use markers or crayons to decorate the whole paper as they wish. You'll need plenty of space for this, and it is fine to have kids work on the floor.

**Spark Resources**

None

**Supplies**

Mural paper  
Markers and crayons

## Send (5 minutes)

### Wrap Up

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Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

**When do we really need God's help?** Allow all answers. **In these times, we can be sure that God is walking with us. We don't have to be afraid. God loves us and will take care of us.**

**Spark Resources**

Family Pages

**Supplies**

None

### Prayer Time

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**Let's pray. We are going to stand in a circle, walking slowly so the circle rotates. Take one step each time I clap. Listen to the words I say so that you know how to feel when you walk.**

**Dear God,**

Clap five times in a slow, rhythmic pattern, taking a step with each clap. **Thank you for walking with me wherever I go.** Clap and step five times. **Sometimes, I am happy as I walk.** Clap and step five times with a happy face. **Sometimes, I am sad when I walk.** Clap and step five times with a sad face. **Sometimes, I am afraid when I walk.** Clap and step five times with a fearful face. **Sometimes, I am really, really excited when I walk.** Clap and step five times with an excited face. **But however I walk, help me walk with you, God. Help me trust you always.** Clap and step five times. **Amen!**



**Workshop Focus:** We grow in faith as we practice faith!

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

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## Open the Bible (10 minutes)

### Joseph and Pharaoh Storytelling

**Today, we are going to explore the rest of Joseph's story. Can you remember what happened to Joseph at the end of the story last time?** (*He was sold into slavery.*) **Joseph is in a bad way now. What do you think he is thinking at this point?** (*I'm afraid, etc.*) **Even so, Joseph trusts God and is faithful. Open up your Spark Bible to Genesis 39:20 and our first reader will read to verse 22** (page 45).

Spark Resources  
Spark Bibles  
Spark Bible Stickers

Supplies  
None

Invite readers to read the following passages:

41:1-8  
41:25-27  
41:41-43  
41:47-49  
42:1-6  
45:1-3  
47:1

Now tell the kids that Joseph's father dies and the brothers fear that Joseph will take revenge upon them. Ask someone to read the final passage.

50:15-21

Have kids place an "I Read It" sticker in their Spark Bibles.

Talk about these questions together.

- **How did Joseph get out of jail?** (*He interpreted Pharaoh's dream.*)
- **Who gave Joseph the ability to interpret dreams?** (*God*)
- **What job did Pharaoh give Joseph?** (*Joseph got to be a ruler, second in command to Pharaoh.*)
- **What was placed upon his finger when he got this job?** (*a signet ring that showed he was important*)
- **How did Joseph treat his brothers when he saw them again?** (*He forgave them and brought them to live with him in Egypt.*)

**Joseph got to be a ruler whose power was second only to Pharaoh's! It was a long journey but Joseph hung in there. He kept believing in God. It proved to be worth it.**

Invite kids to place other stickers in their Spark Bibles to reflect their interpretations.

## Activate Faith (25 minutes)

### Royal Rings

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**Set Up:** Because this is a technically difficult project, make a sample ring ahead of time. Cut long pieces of jewelry wire for each kid. Lay out supplies.

**Spark Resources**  
None

#### Activity Instructions

1. **In this story, Joseph's faithfulness to God is rewarded. He is given a powerful position in Egypt, and a signet ring is placed upon his hand. We are going to make royal rings of our own to remember this important lesson about God's faithfulness.**
2. Give each kid a paper plate and a piece of precut jewelry wire. **Choose seed beads for your royal ring. You can make it all the same color or create a pattern with various colors. Our rings will have rows of three beads.** Allow kids to select beads from the supply area and place them on their paper plates. They can begin with a handful of beads and get more later if they run out.
3. **String three beads onto your wire. Move them to the center of the wire. Bend the wire a little so they stay in place.**
4. **String three more beads to one end of the wire. Run the other end of the wire through these three beads also. Carefully pull it tight. You should now have two rows of three seed beads.**
5. **Continue this pattern. Add 3 more beads to the end of the wire and run the opposite end of the wire through. Pull it tight.**

**Supplies**  
Small "seed" beads in various colors  
Thin jewelry wire, about 6 inches (15 cm) per kid  
Paper plates, 1 per kid  
Wire cutters

6. **As your rows of beads grow, try putting the ring around your finger to see if it is big enough. When it is the right size, insert the two ends of the wire through the first set of 3 beads and then tie it tight.**
7. Go around with the wire cutters and trim their wires once they have secured them. Tuck the wires up into the beads so they are concealed.
8. **Put on your royal ring and enjoy!**

### Option

Make a royal ring by cutting a circle of craft foam and attaching the edges (either by threading or gluing) to chenille craft stem by carefully poking holes (or using a hole puncher) in each edge of the foam and threading the craft stem through before “fitting” the craft stem around the kid’s finger. After it is crafted, it can be decorated with fine-tip permanent markers or fabric paints. With this option, there will be time to make more than one ring. Kids can share these extra rings with friends.

### Spark Resources

None

### Supplies

Craft foam  
Chenille craft stems  
Fine-tip permanent markers  
Fabric paints  
Paint shirts  
Glue

## Send (5 minutes)

### Wrap Up

Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven’t already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

**Joseph’s situation was really bad, but God was always with him. Joseph hung onto his faith and God eventually delivered him. Not only that, but he also became royalty and was given a royal signet ring and the power to run the country. That allowed him to save his family, too. We must always remember that God will see us through.**

### Spark Resources

Family Pages



### Supplies

Royal Rings

### Prayer Time

**Let us join in prayer. With your ring on your finger, make a fist. Put your fists against your neighbors’ fists so we form a circle with them.**

**Faithful God,**

**Bless these rings that we have made. They remind us of how you remained with Joseph over the years. We don’t know what the future holds for us. We don’t know what problems we’ll face, but we do know that you are with us. You are faithful and always will be. Help us be faithful to you, too. We trust you. Help us to practice our faith, like Joseph, so we may receive even more faith! Amen.**



**Workshop Focus:** God guides us throughout our lives, even through our dreams.

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## Open the Bible (10 minutes)

### Joseph and Pharaoh Storytelling

**Today we are going to explore the rest of Joseph's story. Can you remember what happened to Joseph at the end of the story last time?** (*He was sold into slavery by his brothers.*) **Joseph is in trouble now. But God had already given him two dreams about what would happen to him. What were those dreams?** (*Sheaves bowed to him. Sun, moon, and stars bowed to him.*) **Let's see how God makes these dreams come true. Open up your Spark Bible to Genesis 39, page 44.** This is where our story starts. Read Pharaoh's Dreams and Joseph Helps His Family from the Spark Story Bible, beginning on page 54.

Have kids place a sticker in their Spark Bibles near the start of the story. Encourage them to invite the younger kids to help them choose an appropriate sticker.

Talk about these questions together.

- **How did Joseph get out of jail?** (*He interpreted Pharaoh's dream.*)
- **What job did Pharaoh give Joseph?** (*Joseph got to be a ruler.*)
- **How does this fulfill Joseph's dream?** (*People would bow down to him, including his family.*)

#### Spark Resources

Spark Story Bibles  
Spark Bibles  
Spark Bible Stickers

#### Supplies

None

- **How did Joseph treat his brothers when he saw them again?** (*He forgave them and brought them to live with him in Egypt.*)

**Joseph didn't have an easy life, but God was guiding and helping him. Through dreams and dream interpretation, God guided Joseph. God wants to guide us, too.**

## Activate Faith (25 minutes)

### Dream Squares

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**Set Up:** Fill water cups and set out supplies.

#### Activity Instructions

1. **What was one of the ways God spoke to Joseph?** (*through his dreams*) **We can listen for God's guidance through our dreams, too. That's why we are going to make dream squares today.**
2. Give each kid a fabric square. Have them put on a paint shirt and lay the fabric on a piece of newspaper.
3. **We are going to use fabric paints and markers to decorate our fabric squares. Then you can take them home and hang them on your wall or lay them on your bed. They will remind you to be listening for God's guidance when you are awake and when you sleep.**
4. **Draw yourself on your fabric square. Your picture should show how you are listening to God. You can put other symbols on there, too, like a cross, a heart, a rainbow, a Holy Spirit dove. You can draw a sketch on scratch paper first to prepare.**
5. Circulate around the room. Encourage kids as they lay out their designs in pencil.
6. Squirt paint onto plates. When kids are ready, give each of them a plate with paints and a brush. It is easiest if they outline their penciled-in drawings with a fine-tipped marker, then color the insides in with paint.
7. Let kids know when the time is coming is running out. Have them clean up their paints and then show their fabric squares to the class.
8. **When your art is dry, you can frame it, hang it on a wall, or lay it on your bed. Let it remind you to pray for God's guidance when you are awake and when you are asleep.**

#### Spark Resources

None

#### Supplies

White fabric (one square per kid)  
 Scratch paper  
 Pencils  
 Fabric paints  
 Fine-tip permanent markers  
 Water cups  
 Paintbrushes  
 Paper plates, 1 for each kid  
 Paint shirts  
 Newspaper  
 Masking tape

# Send (5 minutes)

## Wrap Up

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Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

**Perhaps God will speak to you in your dreams like God spoke to Joseph. We need to always look for God's guidance in our lives. God is eager to speak, and our designs will remind us to listen.**

### Spark Resources

Family Pages



Supplies

None

## Prayer Time

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**We will close our workshop with prayer. Stand in a circle. At the end of each petition, I will say "Lord, we say, . . ." and then you'll say, "YES!" as you throw your hands in the air. We'll do it one at a time around the circle like we're doing the wave. Let's practice.** Try it once. **Now let's pray.**

**God of All,**

**Thank you for the story of Joseph. Throughout his life, you gave him guidance. You want to guide us, too. Lord, we say . . . (YES!)**

**We know that you speak to us through many things, even our dreams. We want to be open to how you speak to us. Lord, we say . . . (YES!)**

**We ask for your help for all of us, especially those going through difficult times.**

**We know you are always just a prayer away. Lord we say . . . (YES!)**

**Amen.**