

UNIT 4:
**Loving
Others**

LESSON 14:

Joseph and His Brothers

Bible Summary

Genesis 37–46

In today's lesson, children will hear about Joseph, who was his father's favorite son. His eleven older brothers were jealous of him. They decided to sell Joseph to some traveling Midianite merchants. The merchants took Joseph to Egypt. Eventually he became one of Pharaoh's highest officials. A few years later, a terrible drought swept over the nation, and Joseph's brothers were forced to travel to Egypt to find food. Joseph was in charge of all the food in Egypt. He chose to be kind to his brothers and gave them food.

Bible Verse

"Love is kind . . ."

1 Corinthians 13:4a

Key Concept

God wants
us to be kind.

KEY CONCEPT MOTIONS:

Every time you say the key concept during the lesson, use these motions: **God [point up] wants us to be kind [point to smile and tilt head].**

Objectives

KNOW WHAT:

Children will hear the story of Joseph choosing to be kind to his brothers, even though they had tried to hurt him.

SO WHAT:

Children will learn that God wants us to be kind to others.

NOW WHAT:

Children will participate in an activity where they will identify ways they can show love to others by being kind.

Spiritual Formation

Kindness

People Needed

Teacher, Helper

Supplies

(Labeled visuals below can be found in the Lesson 14 Visual folder on the Winter Quarter CDs.)

- CD player
- Music for singing

- Sound Effects CD (optional)
- 13 Dolls or stuffed animals (Joseph, father, 11 brothers) *Note: The father doll should look older.*
- Toy sheep (optional)
- 1 Laundry basket or hamper
- 1 Kid-size chair or table
- Benny the Backpack (large backpack with the following supplies):
 - *The Beginner's Bible*
 - Multi-colored coat for Joseph (or white kid t-shirt colored with markers)
 - 1 Can of food (any kind)
- Grover the Game Box (toy or game box with the following supplies):
 - Application pictures: Girl with dropped ice cream cone; Boy with knocked over blocks; Sick girl (*Lesson 14 LG 2—Lesson 14 LG 4*)
- Tele Phony: cell phone
- 3 Ziploc® bags
- 3 Kind puzzles (*Lesson 14 SG 5—Lesson 14 SG 7*)
 - Optional: 1 cookie sheet, magnetic tape, glue
- Crayons
- For each child:
 - Key Concept sticker (*Lesson 14 SG 8*)
 - Two-sided take-home coloring sheet (*Lesson 14 SG 9 and Lesson 14 SG 10*)
 - Snack



Teacher's Prep

READ GENESIS 37–46. (You may wish to read one or two chapters each day this week.) Joseph showed unusual kindness to his brothers at a time when they most needed his help. Why? Because he loved them unconditionally. This week, reflect on how you can show kindness to someone in an unusual way. Ask Jesus to reveal to you the name of one person who may especially need to experience your kindness. Maybe you can invite a neighbor who might be feeling lonely over for dinner. Maybe you can send a note to a friend at work. Or maybe you can help one of your fellow volunteers by listening to the details of their week or offering to help with a child who has many needs. This week, as you show kindness to others, smile and remember that you are God's chosen child. The love and kindness you give to others comes first from Him!

Activity Stations

(20 MINUTES)

Choose which activity stations you will use from the list included in the Activity Stations folder.

Creative Bible Teaching



(15 MINUTES)

[Play upbeat music as children transition to the teaching area. Encourage kids to clap their hands along with you. Clap in a variety of styles like overhead, on your knees, on your belly, etc.]

TEACHER:

Hi, boys and girls! My name is _____, and we are going to have a great time today learning about what a super-amazing God we have! When we're in our special room we always have such a good time. Let's stand up and sing "Having a Good Time!"



MUSIC

Song suggestion: "Having a Good Time"

[Invite kids to sit on the count of three.]

TEACHER:

When we're in our room, we get to have a lot of fun! We're going to sing songs, play games, and read the Bible story!



[SFX 59: Ringing phone; or Helper, without kids' knowledge, calls Teacher's cell phone.]

TEACHER:

[Take Tele Phony out of pocket.] Tele Phony is ringing! He always has a funny joke for us. He always makes us laugh. [Answer phone.] Hello.

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[SFX 60: *Tele Phony: Hello! Hi, friends. Are you ready to hear my funny joke?*]

EVERYONE:
Yeah!



[SFX 61: *Tele Phony: Okay . . . here it goes. Why did the dog sit under the tree in the shade?*]

TEACHER:
Uh, I dunno. Why did the dog sit under the tree in the shade?



[SFX 62: *Tele Phony: Because he didn't want to be HOT dog!*]

TEACHER:
[*Laugh.*] Thanks, Tele Phony. You're funny. [*Hang up phone.*] That was fun, but I know something that is even more fun. Bible stories! When it's time to hear the Bible story, that means it's time to visit Benny the Backpack! Let's see if Benny has a Bible story for us. [*Unzip Benny.*]



[SFX 66: *Twinkling.*]

TEACHER:
[*Take out Bible.*] I found the Bible. Today we are going to learn that **God [point up] wants us to be kind [point to smile and tilt head]**. Being kind means we're nice to others. And one way we can love others is by being nice or kind to them. Click on your listening ears, friends. Click! Click! [*Tug on each earlobe.*] Now let's put on our special eyes. Shookum! Shookum! [*Hold hands to eyes, one at a time, shaping glasses.*]



Today we are going to hear a story to help us learn that God wants us to love others. And since I'm in my very special room, I thought I'd use some of these dolls to help me pretend while I tell the story. This is a story about a man named Joseph. Let's see . . . [*Pick up "Joseph" doll.*] I'll pretend this doll is Joseph. [*Create a "voice" for Joseph's lines and move the doll as if it's talking.*] "Hi, I'm Joseph." The Bible says Joseph lived with his dad [*hold up another doll to represent "Joseph's dad"*] and eleven brothers. I'll pretend my friends are Joseph's eleven brothers. Let's count them together. Ready?

[*Teacher holds up one doll at a time, counting each one. When the counting is done, all the dolls should be in a group.*]

TEACHER:
Joseph and his brothers took care of sheep. [*Hold up stuffed sheep.*] Listen.



[SFX 67: *Sheep baaing.*]

TEACHER:
Let's pretend to take care of the sheep like Joseph and his brothers. [*Pick up Joseph doll and make him "comb" the sheep.*] Let's comb the sheep's hair. Zooop! Zooop! Now, let's watch over the sheep to make sure they are safe. [*Shade eyes with your hand and look out over the kids.*] We're watching, we're watching, we're watching all the sheep. We're watching, we're watching, we're watching all the sheep. . . . And stop!

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Joseph's dad loved all his sons very much. Give yourself a hug. [*Hug self.*] But Joseph's dad loved Joseph more than any of the other brothers. Because he loved Joseph so much, he gave Joseph a special coat. It was a coat made from many different, beautiful colors. [*Put coat on Joseph doll.*] Look at all the colors. Wiggle your fingers if you see red. [*Wiggle fingers.*] Wiggle your fingers if you see yellow. [*Wiggle fingers.*] Wiggle your fingers if you see blue. [*Wiggle fingers.*] Good job!

Well, Joseph's brothers were mad that Joseph got a beautiful coat and they didn't. Show me your angry face. [*Model.*] They didn't like that their dad loved Joseph more than he loved them. The brothers got so angry they decided to hurt Joseph. One day, Joseph was out in the field with his brothers. All of a sudden, they took away his coat, and they threw him down, down, down, into a deep, deep hole. [*Take coat off and throw Joseph doll into the laundry hamper or basket.*]

[SFX 68: *Falling/thump sound.*]

TEACHER:

Do you think Joseph's brothers were being kind? [*Kids respond, "no!"*] They weren't kind at all. But after his brothers threw Joseph in the hole, they saw a group of men coming. The brothers got an idea. They would pull Joseph out of the hole [*pull Joseph doll out of hamper*] and sell him to the men. The men took him to a land far, far away. The Bible says that even though Joseph was far, far away, he grew up. He got bigger and bigger. And one day, Joseph became a leader.

[SFX 69: *Royal music.*]

TEACHER:

Joseph was very rich. He had lots of food to eat. Joseph's brothers ran out of food and didn't have anything to eat. Rub your tummy to show you're hungry. [*Rub tummy.*] Let's say, "I'm hungry." [*Kids respond, "I'm hungry."*]

[*Take an armload of brother dolls and walk them over to the Joseph doll.*] The brothers had to go ask Joseph for some food. The Bible says Joseph missed his brothers. Joseph was kind to his brothers. When he saw them, he hugged them. He loved them so much he gave them bags filled with lots and lots of food. [*Bring out can of food.*] Joseph loved his brothers and wanted to be kind to them. **God [point up] wants us to be kind [point to smile and tilt head].** Let's try that in our low, deep voice. **God [point up] wants us to be kind [point to smile and tilt head].** Let's try it in our quiet voice. **God [point up] wants us to be kind [point to smile and tilt head].** Let's stand up and sing!



MUSIC

Song suggestion "Touch the Sky"

TEACHER:

Good job, friends! Touch your nose. [*Touch nose.*] Now, touch your ears. [*Touch ears.*] And sit down. [*Motion for kids to sit down.*] Friends, what does God want us to do? **God [point up] wants us to be kind [point to smile and tilt head].** Hey, Grover, we're ready to play a game! [*To kids.*] Grover always has fun things inside for us! I'll look and tell you what's inside. [*Open Grover.*]



Lesson 14 LG 2



Lesson 14 LG 3

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[SFX 70: Game music.]



Lesson 14 LG 4

TEACHER:

Oh, this is going to be a fun game. There are pictures in here that will help us remember ways to be kind to others! Let's look at our first picture. [*Display picture of girl with dropped ice cream cone.*] Kids, what do you see in this picture? [*Kids respond.*] What are some ways we could be kind to someone who dropped their ice cream?

[*Kids respond: "give her another one," "pick it up," "help her."*]

TEACHER:

Good thinking! We can show love to others by being kind. Let's say our special words. **God [point up] wants us to be kind [point to smile and tilt head].** Good job! Let's try another one. [*Display picture of boy with knocked over blocks.*] Friends, what do you see in this picture? [*Kids respond.*] What are some ways we could be kind to someone who's having trouble like this?

[*Kids respond: "help pick them up," "help build a new block tower."*]

TEACHER:

Friends, let's say our special words. **God [point up] wants us to be kind [point to smile and tilt head].** Great! Let's try one more. [*Display picture of sick girl.*] Kids, what do you see in this picture? [*Kids respond.*] What are some ways we could be kind to someone who is sick?

[*Kids respond: "give a cookie," "hug," "draw a picture."*]

TEACHER:

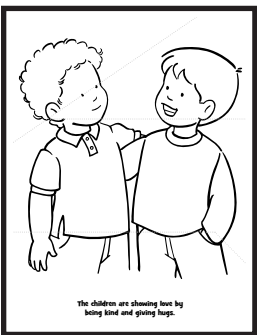
God [point up] wants us to be kind [point to smile and tilt head]. Friends, let's stand up and sing.



MUSIC

Song suggestion "God is Number One"

[*Invite kids to sit down on the count of three.*]



The children are showing love by being kind and giving hugs.

Lesson 14 SG 5

Life Application Activity

(10 MINUTES)

TEACHER:

Let's see what else Grover the Game box has for us today. [*Look in Grover and pull out the puzzles.*] Wow! It's puzzles. I love puzzles! These puzzles are all about how we can be kind to others. Joseph's brothers were unkind to him. But was Joseph kind to his brothers, anyway? [*Yes.*] Today we learned that God wants us to love others by being kind. **God [point up] wants us to be kind [point to smile and tilt head].** We are going to put together three puzzles that show how we can be kind to others. Let's all be kind to each other and take turns putting the pieces together.



The children are showing love by being kind and waiting their turn to go down the slide.

Lesson 14 SG 6

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Lesson 14 SG 7



Lesson 14 SG 8



Lesson 14 SG 9

[Do one puzzle at a time. Gather the children in a circle and give each of the four pieces to a different child. Ask the kids to put their piece in place with the other three pieces in the middle of the circle.]

TEACHER:

Let's take turns putting the pieces of the puzzle on the cookie sheet. Try to connect the pieces to each other. Can you put all the pieces together? Good job!

[When a puzzle is completed, read the words at the bottom of the picture: Hugs: "The children are showing love by being kind and giving hugs." Slide: "The children are showing love by being kind and waiting their turn to go down the slide." Sharing: "The children are showing love by being kind and sharing their toys." Then say the Key Concept. Repeat the process for the remaining two puzzles.]

TEACHER:

Wow, you guys are puzzle experts! Today we learned that God wants us to love others by being kind. **God [point up] wants us to be kind [point to smile and tilt head].** Let's pray and thank God for today's Bible story. [Lead the children in the following finger play.]

Open them. [Open hands.] Close them. [Close hands.]
 Open them. [Open hands.] Close them. [Close hands.]
 Give a little clap. [Clap hands.]
 Open them. [Open hands.] Close them. [Close hands.]
 Open them. [Open hands.] Close them. [Close hands.]
 Fold them in your lap. [Fold hands in lap.]

[Invite the children to repeat after you as you pray.]

Dear God,
 Thank You for the Bible story.
 Please help us
 love others by being kind.
 Thank You for our snack.
 In Jesus' Name,
 Amen.

Snack and Coloring Activity

(15 MINUTES)

This is the time for you and the children to build community. A great way to let the kids know you care about them as individuals is to ask them questions about themselves.

- GIVE** each child a snack to eat.
- GIVE** each child a Key Concept sticker to put on their shirt while they are eating their snack.
- GIVE** each child a coloring sheet to color while they are waiting to be picked up.
- AFFIRM** the children for being kind during church.
- ASK** each child a question or two about themselves:
 - What was your favorite part of the Bible story?
 - How can you be kind at home?