

# Tried and True

## Lesson Objectives

- The children will tell the story of Joseph's faithfulness in difficult times.
- The children will describe one way that Joseph did his best.
- The children will explain one way to be faithful to God in a difficult situation.

## Lesson Text

Genesis 37:12-36  
Genesis 39-40

## Scripture Memory Verse

But while Joseph was there in prison, the LORD was with him.

*Genesis 39:20-21*

## Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Keys, Please

Welcome and Singing

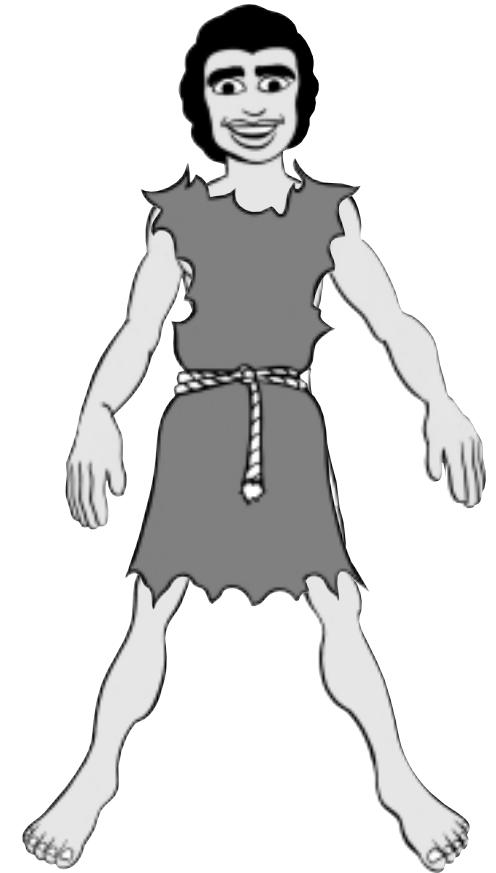
Centers:

Bible Story: Tried and True

Craft: Keys to Success

Scripture Memory: Never Alone

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.



# Tried and True

## Keys, Please

The children preview main ideas from today's Bible Story as they make keys to be used later in their Craft Activity.

### Materials

*For each child:*

- scissors
- pencils
- crayons
- 1 piece of colored construction paper
- 1 legal size envelope

*For the teacher:*

- scissors

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page A, 1 copy for each child

### Preparation

1. Prepare a set of keys from your copy of Reproducible Page A to show the children as an example.
2. Cut out a set of keys from the copies of Reproducible Page A for each child.

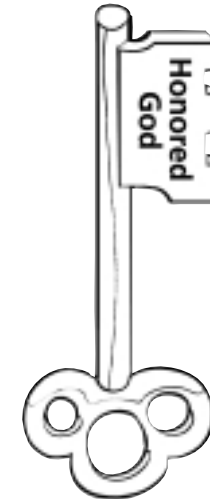
### Instructions

1. As the children arrive, show them the set of keys that you prepared. Explain that they will hear a Bible Story about how Joseph was put in prison and still stayed faithful to God. The keys they make during Preclass will be used later during their Craft Activity.
2. Distribute the crayons and the keys that you prepared for the children from the copies of Reproducible Page A. Tell the children to color and decorate the keys however they like.
3. When they are finished coloring, have them trace the keys onto construction paper and cut out the construction paper keys.

4. Distribute the envelopes and tell the children to write their names on them. Have the children place the keys they colored and their construction paper keys in the envelopes. Collect these and give them to the Craft teacher.
5. Circulate among the children to offer help. Ask them if they know what the words on the keys mean and discuss them with the children.
6. Encourage the children who finish early to prepare a set of keys for children who may arrive late.

### Teacher Tips

- You may want to reproduce Page A on brightly colored paper for a more colorful craft.



**B**

# Tried and True

**S**

## Tried and True

The children will learn how Joseph was faithful to God during difficult times in his life.

### Materials

For the teacher:

- 1 set of "Keys to Success" from the Craft center

### Preparation

1. Talk with the Craft teacher in advance about getting a set of the Keys to Success for your Bible Story session.
2. Practice telling the Bible Story using the Keys to Success.

## Introducing the Bible Story

Direct the children to the story area. Remind them that last week they heard about Joseph as a young man. Today they will learn about some very difficult things that happened to Joseph: he was almost murdered, thrown into a pit, sold into slavery, accused of a crime he did not commit, and then forgotten by someone who was going to help him get out of jail. Throughout all these things that happened to Joseph, he never lost his faith in God.

## Tried by His Brothers

Have your Bible open to Genesis 37. Tell the children that today's Bible Story comes from Genesis 37, 39 and 40. *After Joseph told his brothers about his dreams, they were really unhappy. One day, his brothers were out in the fields with the sheep. Joseph's father sent Joseph to see how they were doing. They saw him coming and started to plot a way to kill him so that his dreams would not come true. Reuben, the oldest brother, told his brothers not to kill him but rather to throw him into a pit. He was planning to come back and rescue him and return him to his father. When Joseph arrived, they took off his special coat and threw him into an empty well. Judah, another brother, told his brothers not to kill him but to sell him as a slave. Some merchants came by, so his brothers took Joseph out of the well and sold him as a slave. The merchants were going to Egypt. When his brother Reuben saw that he was gone, he was upset and did not know what to do. The brothers went and killed a goat and then dipped Joseph's coat in the blood. When they*

*returned to their father, they showed him the coat and told him that Joseph was eaten by a wild animal. Jacob was very sad and cried.*

Hold up the key that says "Trusted God." Explain that the Bible does not say that Joseph tried to fight back or run away. *He must have trusted God to take care of him while all of this was happening. Sometimes we want to fight back when people do mean things to us. We need to remember Joseph and trust God.*

## Tried by Lies

*When Joseph got to Egypt he was sold to a man named Potiphar. Joseph was such a good slave that his master left him in charge of everything in the house. The Bible says that the LORD was with Joseph and gave him success in everything that Joseph did. One day, Potiphar's wife asked Joseph to do something that was wrong. Joseph told her that he could not do such a thing. Potiphar's wife continued every day to ask Joseph, and every day Joseph refused. Finally, Potiphar's wife tried to force him and Joseph ran away from her. She was so angry that she told lies about Joseph to her husband—she said that he had treated her badly. Potiphar was so upset that he had Joseph thrown into prison.*

Take out the key that says "Honored God." Explain that although there was no one telling Joseph to do the right thing, he still wanted to honor God. He refused every day to do something that he knew was wrong. And even though he did the right thing, he was falsely accused and put in jail. The Bible does not say that Joseph tried to blame Potiphar's wife or accuse her of lying. Joseph cared most about honoring God.

## Tried by False Friends

*When Joseph got to prison, the Bible says that the LORD was with him and he was put in charge of the prison. One day, Joseph helped two prisoners. These two men had dreams that they did not understand. Joseph told them that God would help him understand the meaning of their dreams. This is what Joseph told them was the meaning of their dreams: one man would be released from prison and one man would be killed. Both of these dreams came true. Joseph told the man who was going to be released, to remember him and to help him get out of prison. The Bible says this man did*

**I****T****B****O****L****R****E****Y**

# Tried and True

*not remember Joseph—he forgot him.*

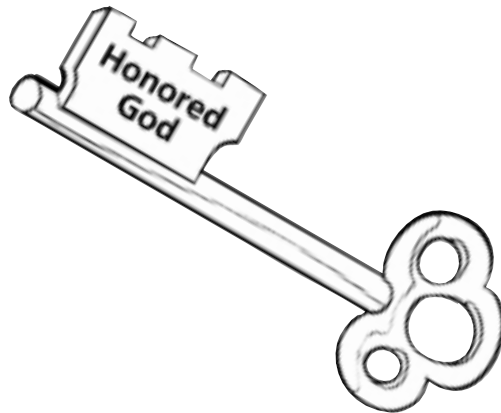
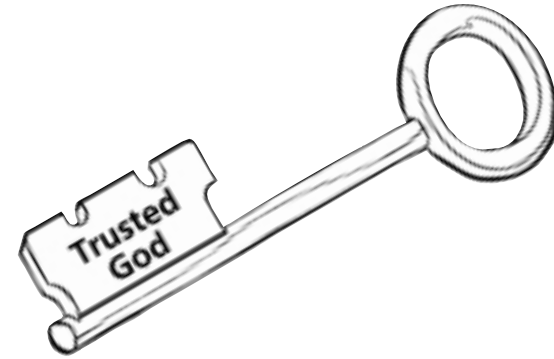
Take out the key marked “Devoted to God.” Tell the children that the LORD was with Joseph even when he was in jail. Joseph helped people but he was not devoted to people—he was devoted to God. Even when he was forgotten, the Bible does not say that Joseph was angry or wanted revenge. Joseph was devoted to God.

## Share and Tell

Take out the three keys and give them to three children. Ask each one to tell one way that Joseph showed his faithfulness to God in difficult situations. Ask each child to name one person that they are going to tell this week about Joseph. Continue until each child has had a chance. Close with a prayer for the children to each be able to trust, honor and be devoted to God like Joseph.

## Teacher Tips

- Pray to help the children desire Joseph’s heart for God.



C

•  
R

•  
A

•  
F

•  
T

•  
•  
•

# Tried and True

## Keys to Success

The children will make a special set of keys to remind them of ways that Joseph was faithful to God in difficult times of his life.

### Materials

For each child:

- 1 glue stick
- crayons
- 1 pipe cleaner, 12"
- envelope with keys prepared during Preclass

For the teacher:

- hole punch

### Preparation

Prepare a set of Keys to Success to show the children as an example.

### Instructions

1. *In our Bible Story, we learned that Joseph faced some very difficult situations. He was falsely accused and put in prison for a crime he did not commit! While he was in prison, Joseph helped another prisoner. Joseph told the man that he would soon be freed from prison. He told the man to remember him and help him get out of prison. But after he was released, the prisoner forgot all about Joseph. During the whole time that Joseph was in prison, he was very successful. The Bible says that everything Joseph did was successful. God blessed him and gave him victories. Today you are going to make a set of "Jailer's Keys" to remind you of the ways that Joseph was successful even while he was in prison!*
2. Distribute the glue sticks and the children's envelopes with the keys they prepared during Preclass. Tell the children to glue their Keys to Success to the keys they cut out of construction paper, as shown in Figure A.

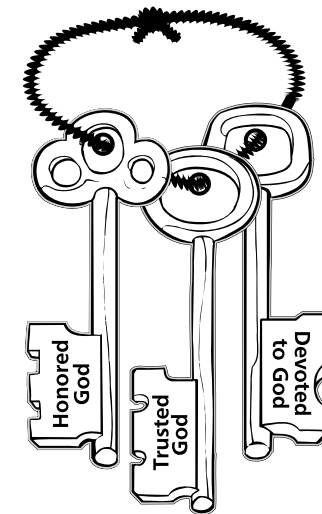
3. When they have finished gluing the keys, punch a hole in each key, as shown in Figure B.
4. Tell the children to write their names on the backs of their keys.
5. Distribute the pipe cleaners and help the children thread them through the holes and then secure them, as shown in Figure C.

### Conclusion

Remind the children that Joseph was successful because of the way he showed his faith. Direct the children to look at their keys and read them together with you. Tell the children that they can be successful like Joseph if they will remember these keys. Close with a prayer for the children to trust, honor and be devoted to God—just like Joseph—even in really difficult situations.

### Teacher Tips

- Be prepared to help some children who need extra help with the gluing.
- Have extra materials from Preclass Activity on hand for extra children or mistakes, etc.



C  
•  
R  
•  
A  
•  
F  
•  
T  
•  
•  
•

# Tried and True

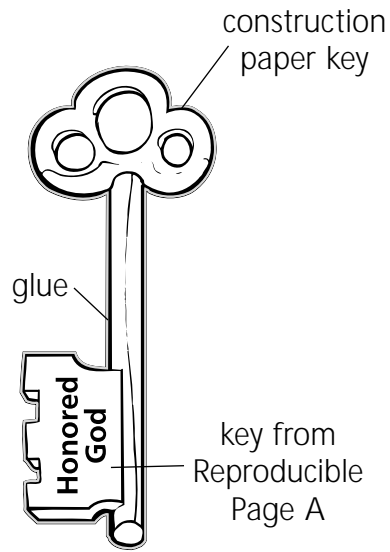


Figure A

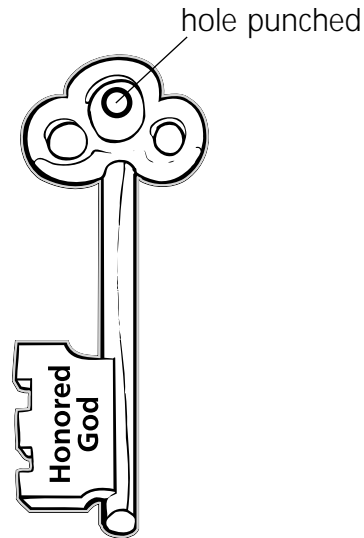


Figure B

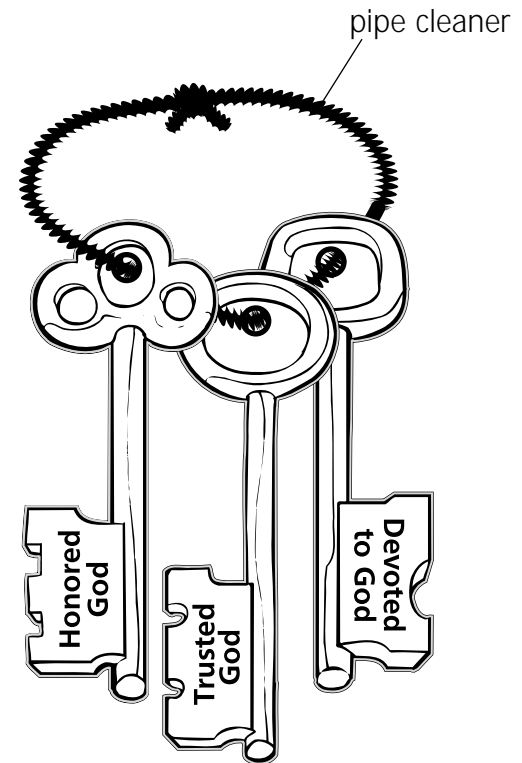


Figure C



SCR  
IPT  
URE  
MEM  
ORY

# Tried and True

## Never Alone

The children will learn the Scripture Memory Verse through this role play.

### Scripture Memory Verse

But while Joseph was there in prison, the LORD was with him.  
*Genesis 39:20-21*

### Materials

*For the teacher:*

- 4 chairs

### Preparation

1. Learn the Scripture Memory Verse before coming to class.
2. Set up a "prison" with the chairs, either by placing them side-by-side or in a square.
3. On the large writing surface, write the Scripture Memory Verse as it appears on the back of this lesson card.

### Instructions

1. Tell the children that today's Scripture Memory Verse tells them the secret of Joseph's success—the LORD was with him! Encourage them that God is always ready to help them the way he helped Joseph.
2. Show the children the Scripture Memory Verse on the back of this lesson card. Say it to them once, and then have them repeat after you. Say it together with the children three times.
3. Have the children say the verse with you in the following ways:
  - in a soft voice
  - in a loud voice
  - at a slow speed
  - at a fast speed
  - in a low tone
  - in a high tone

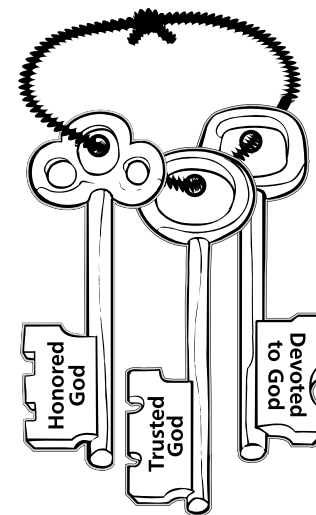
4. Ask each child to take turns saying it together with you.
5. Show the children the prison that you prepared. Tell the children that each of them will take turns being a prisoner. While each one is a prisoner, the others will stand and say the verse together to the prisoner. Continue until each child has had a chance.
6. Have the children form a line in front of the prison. Let the first child stand inside and say the verse from memory to everyone standing in the line. Then, have that child go to the end of the line and the next child stand in the prison. Continue until each child has had a chance.

### Conclusion

Go around in a circle and ask each child to name a difficult situation that they might face this week. Close with a prayer for them to remember that the LORD will be with them whatever the situation.

### Teacher Tips

- Be prepared to share about a situation in which the LORD was with you.



But while Joseph was  
there in prison, the  
LORD was with him.

Genesis 39:20-21



## Lesson Objectives

- The children will tell the story of Joseph's faithfulness in difficult times.
- The children will describe one way that Joseph did his best.
- The children will explain one way to be faithful to God in a difficult situation.

## Lesson Text

Genesis 37:12-36, Genesis 39:40

## Scripture Memory Verse

But while Joseph was there in prison, the LORD was with him.  
*Genesis 39:20-21*

## Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Test of Faith

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: Keys and Doors

Game: Tic-Tac-Toss

Bible Skills: Gone Fishin'!

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.



pre class

ACTIVITY

## Test of Faith

The children will review this week's Bible Story as they take a "test" of faith.

### Materials

For each child:

- pencils
- crayons

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for each child

### Preparation

Complete a "Test of Faith" from your copy of Reproducible Page B.

### Answer Key

- |            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| 1. old     | 6. oldest |
| 2. jealous | 7. save   |
| 3. coat    | 8. slave  |
| 4. dreams  | 9. Egypt  |
| 5. kill    | 10. with  |

## Instructions

1. As the children arrive, explain that they will take a "Test of Faith" to review their Bible Story from this week. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page B to each child. Reassure them that this is not a test for a grade, but to help remind them of the story of Joseph's test in prison.
2. Have the children work in pairs. Make sure to pair the children who did not hear the Bible Story with those who did.
3. Distribute the pencils and crayons. Tell them to work at their own pace. When they are done, they can compare their answers with their partner and draw a picture of Joseph on the back.
4. Circulate among the children. Offer help to children who are having difficulty.
5. Invite them to check their answers with your answer key when they are done.

## Teacher Tips

- Encourage all the children's efforts. Do not let the children become critical of others who do not know the answers.

**Test of Faith**  
Fill in the blank with a word from the box below.

1. Joseph was born when his father was \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Joseph's brothers were \_\_\_\_\_ because their father loved Joseph so much.
3. Joseph's father made a special \_\_\_\_\_ for Joseph to wear.
4. Joseph had two very special \_\_\_\_\_. In them, he saw that he would be a great man.
5. Joseph's brothers wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ him because they did not like his dreams.
6. Reuben was the \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Reuben told his brothers not to kill Joseph. He wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ Joseph and take him home.
8. Joseph's brothers sold him as a \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Joseph went to live in \_\_\_\_\_.
10. No matter what happened to Joseph, the LORD was \_\_\_\_\_ him.

with Egypt	save oldest kill	dreams coat old	jealous slave
---------------	------------------------	-----------------------	------------------

# LIFE APPLICATION

## Keys and Doors

The children will think of ways that they can be faithful like Joseph and do their best for God in difficult situations.

### Materials

For each child:

- pencils
- crayons

For the teacher:

- large writing surface

Reproducible Pages:

- Page C, 1 copy for each child

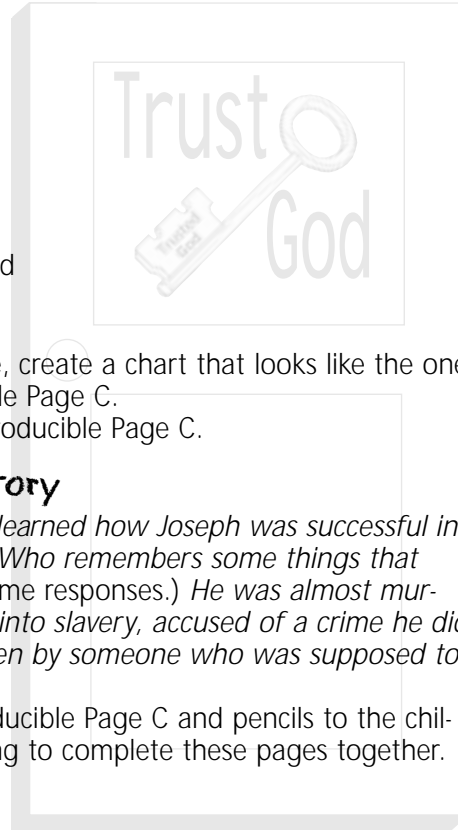
### Preparation

1. On the large writing surface, create a chart that looks like the one on your copy of Reproducible Page C.
2. Complete your copy of Reproducible Page C.

### Reviewing the Bible Story

*In this week's Bible Story, we learned how Joseph was successful in some very difficult situations. Who remembers some things that happened to Joseph? (Take some responses.) He was almost murdered, thrown into a pit, sold into slavery, accused of a crime he did not commit, and then forgotten by someone who was supposed to help him get out of jail.*

Distribute copies of Reproducible Page C and pencils to the children. Explain that you are going to complete these pages together.



### Using the Keys to Success

Using the large chart on the writing surface that you prepared, lead the children in the following questions:

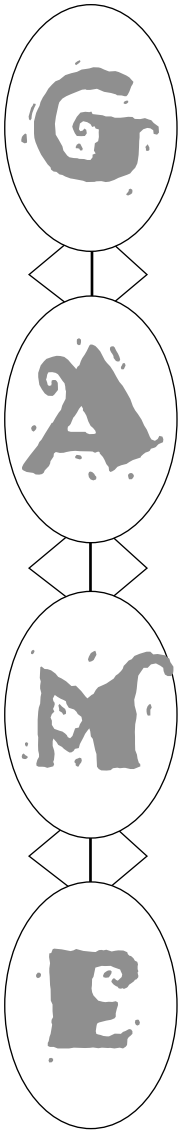
- Ask the children to look at the box that says "Trust." Ask them to think about something that they must trust God about. Tell them to write it the space below on their papers.
- Ask the children to look at the box that says "Honor." Ask them to think of one way that they can do the right thing even if no one is looking. Tell them to write it in the space below on their papers. Offer help with spelling and ideas.
- Ask the children to look at the box that says "Devoted." Ask them to think of one reason why they love God. Tell them to write it in the space below on their papers.

### Opening Their Hearts to God

Have the children each take turns praying to God about one thing that they wrote on their paper. Lead the prayer, saying, for example: *Dear God, Please help me to trust that you will help me to get a new job soon. I know that you will take care of me.* Tell the child on your left to continue in the same way until all the children have had a chance. Close the prayer saying, *In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.*

### Teacher Tips

- Pay attention to the children who did not hear this week's Bible Story. Help them feel welcome and free to participate.



## Tic-Tac-Toss

The children will think of ways that Joseph was faithful and did his best during difficult situations.

### Materials

*For the teacher:*

- 5 nickels
- 5 dimes
- Tic-Tac-Toss game board on the back of this lesson card

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page D, 1 copy for the teacher

### Preparation

Practice playing this game at home.

### Instructions

1. Explain that today's game is a fun review of this week's Bible Story. Remind them of the story, saying: *We learned that Joseph had to face some very difficult situations. Who remembers what happened to Joseph? (Take several responses.) Although Joseph was blamed for things he did not do and forgotten by a person that he helped, he still stayed faithful to God. In our game today, we will think of ways that Joseph showed his faithfulness to God.*
2. Show the children the game board on the back of this lesson card. Divide the children into two teams. Using your copy of Reproducible Page D, tell them that they will take turns answering questions. If they answer correctly, they will win a chance to place or toss a token on the board. If they do not answer correctly, they may not place a token on the board. The first team to reach three in a row, wins the round.
3. Play as many rounds as time permits or until all the questions have been asked.

### Conclusion

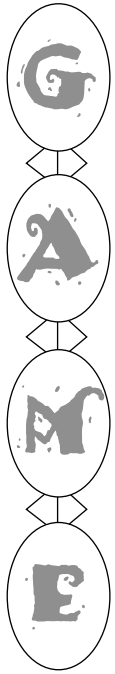
Ask the children to say how they would feel if someone blamed them for something they did not do. Close with a prayer for God to help the children to be faithful even when people are wrong about them.

### Teacher Tips

- You may want to adapt this game to other forms of tic-tac-toe: on a chalk board or using the children as the actual tokens in a large open space.

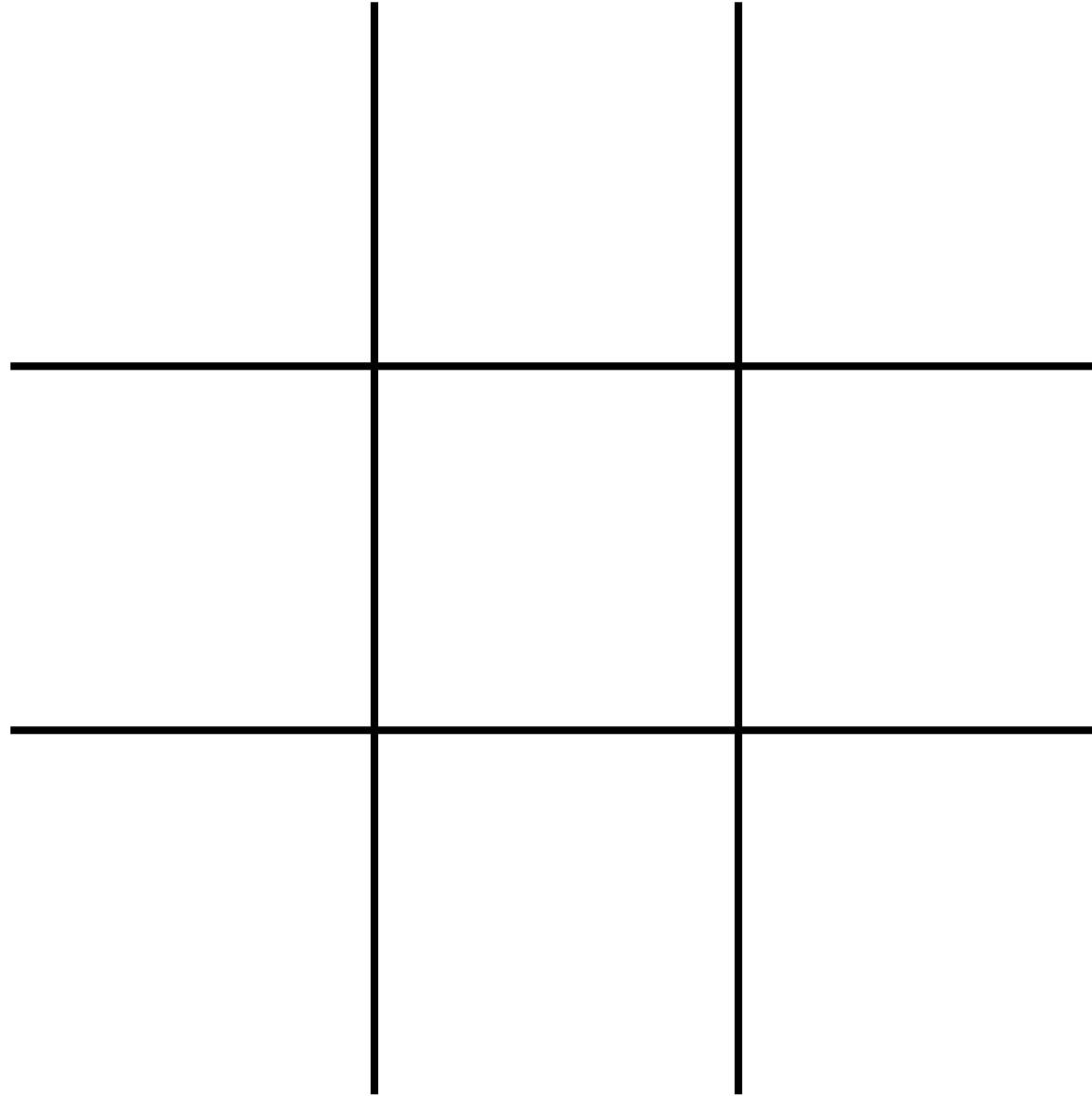


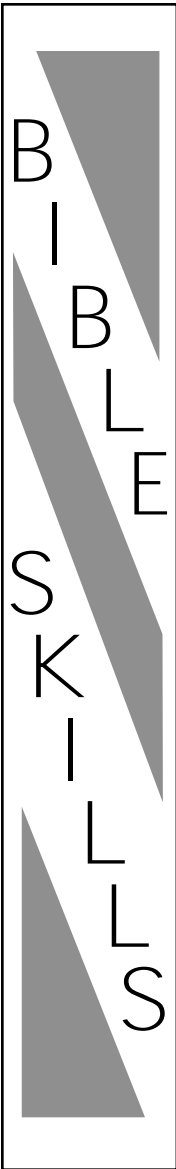
supplement



# Tried and True

The Life of Joseph  
Lesson 2





## Gone Fishin'!

The children will review the names of Joseph's brother's through this fun, matching card game.

### Materials

*For the teacher:*

- 1 set of 24 "Jacob's Sons" cards prepared for Unit 3 Lesson 1 Bible Skills
- scissors

### Preparation

1. Make a second set of 24 cards from copies of Reproducible Pages C and D of Unit 3 Lesson 1 Bible Skills. You should have a total of 48 cards in all.
2. Practice this game at home.

### Instructions

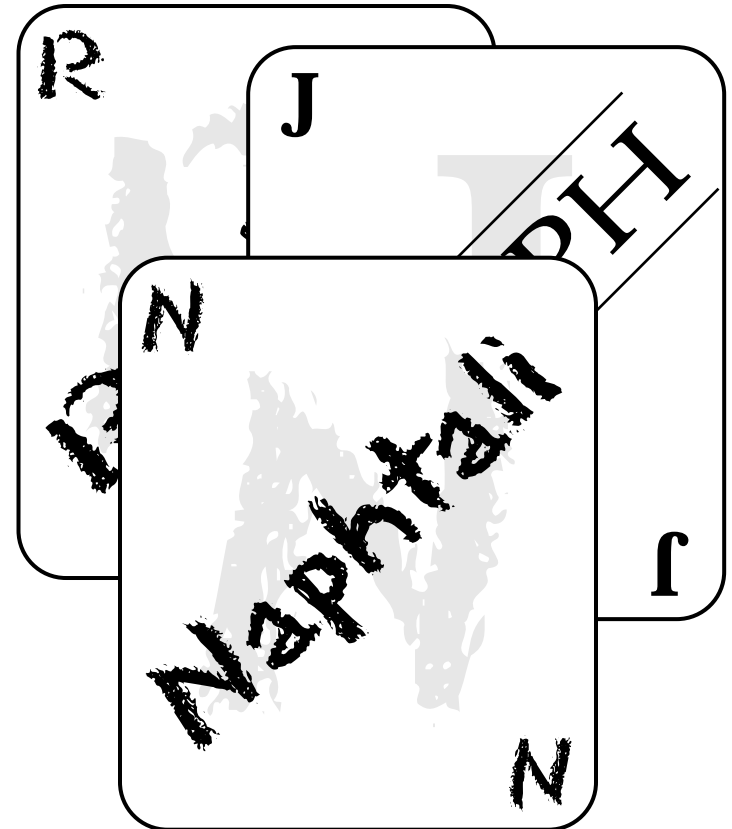
1. Explain that in today's activity, they will review the names of Joseph's brothers through this fun card game.
2. Using the opposite side of this lesson card, review the names of the twelve sons of Jacob with the children. Have them repeat after you. Invite individual children to say them with you.
3. Show them the cards that they used in the matching game from the previous Bible Skills Activity.
4. Give each child and yourself five cards, placing the remaining cards in the middle of the circle face down. Do not let the children show their cards.
5. Begin the game by asking one child if she has a card that matches one of yours, saying: *Mary, have you seen my brother Issachar?* If the child has an Issachar card, she must give it to you. If she does not, she says, *No, I have not seen Issachar. Maybe he's gone fishin'.* You draw from the pile. Continue with the child to your right and play until all cards are matched.
6. For an extra challenge: Make the Joseph cards "wild" cards. Any children who are holding a Joseph card with one other card can count it as a match and go out.

### Conclusion

Ask the children to think of something fun that they can do with their brothers or sisters this week and during the holiday season. Close with a prayer thanking God for the fun we can have with our families. Encourage the children to make up games that they can play at home where they can learn the Bible.

### Teacher Tips

- Think of other games and ways to use the cards.





# Tried and True

Reuben

Gad

Simeon

Asher

Levi

Issachar

Judah

Zebulun

Dan

Joseph

Naphtali

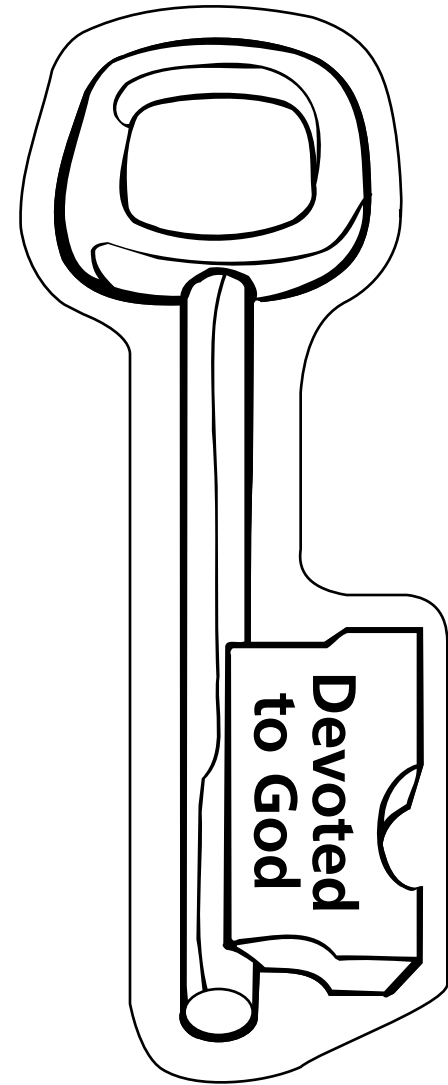
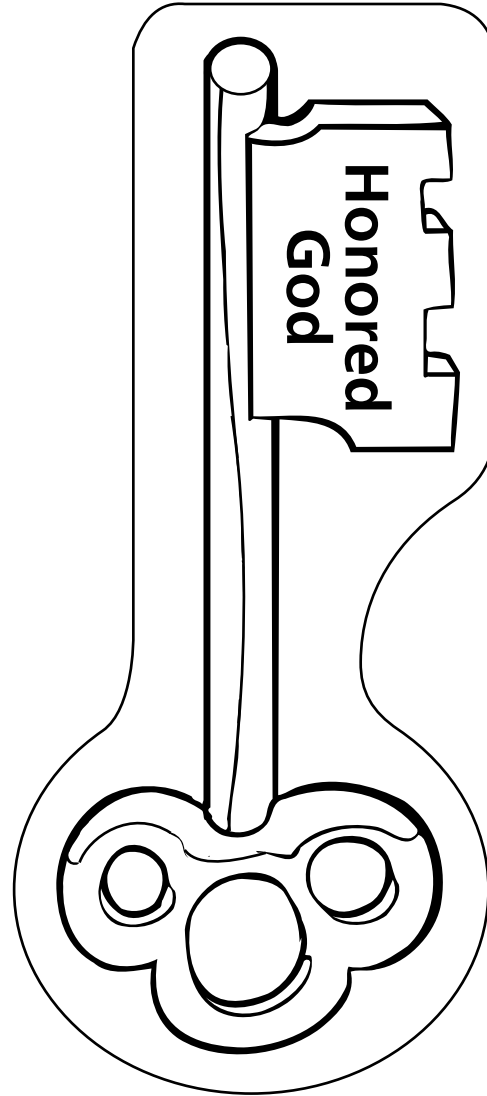
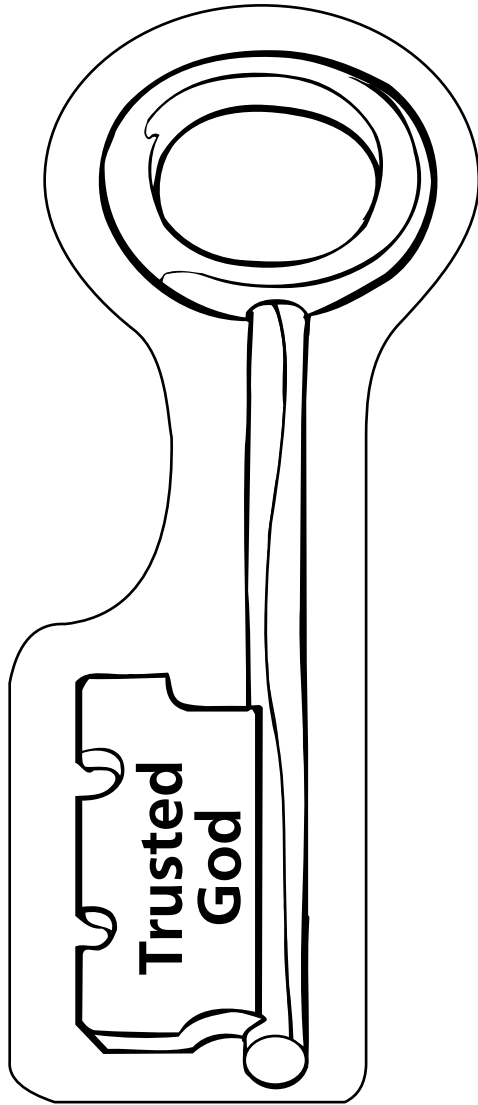
Benjamin



R  
E  
P  
R  
O  
D  
U  
C  
I  
B  
L  
E  
P  
A  
G  
E  
A

Core/Preclass  
1 copy for each child

The Life of Joseph  
Lesson 2



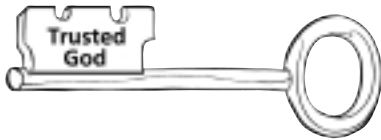
This page intentionally left blank





Supplement/Preclass

1 copy for each child

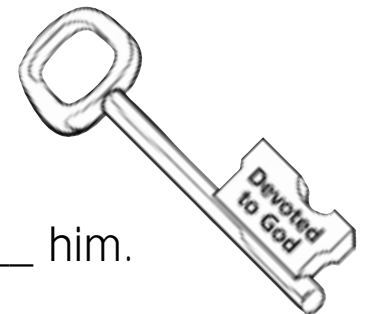


# Test of Faith

Fill in the blank with a word from the box below.



1. Joseph was born when his father was \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Joseph's brothers were \_\_\_\_\_ because their father loved Joseph so much.
3. Joseph's father made a special \_\_\_\_\_ for Joseph to wear.
4. Joseph had two very special \_\_\_\_\_. In them, he saw that he would be a great man.
5. Joseph's brothers wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ him because they did not like his dreams.
6. Reuben was the \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Reuben told his brothers not to kill Joseph. He wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ Joseph and take him home.
8. Joseph's brothers sold him as a \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Joseph went to live in \_\_\_\_\_.
10. No matter what happened to Joseph, the LORD was \_\_\_\_\_ him.



with	save	dreams	jealous
Egypt	oldest	coat	slave
	kill	old	

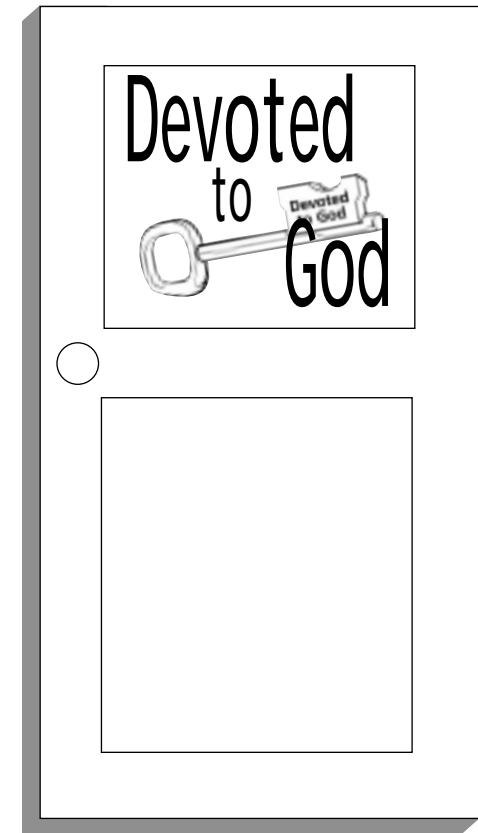
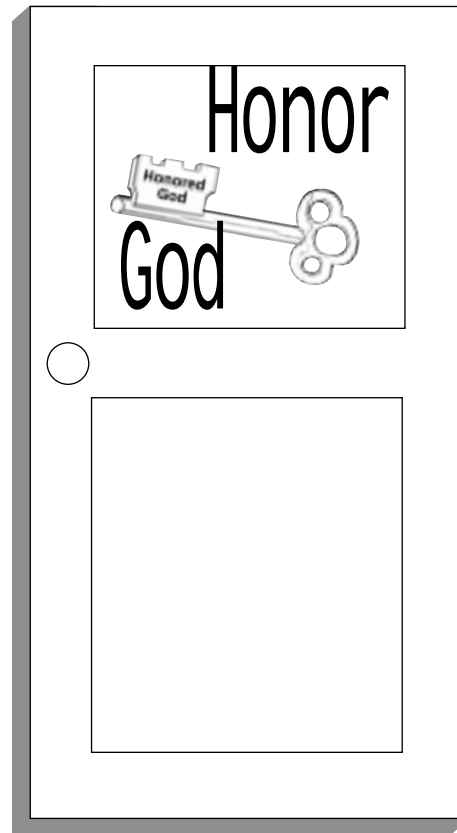
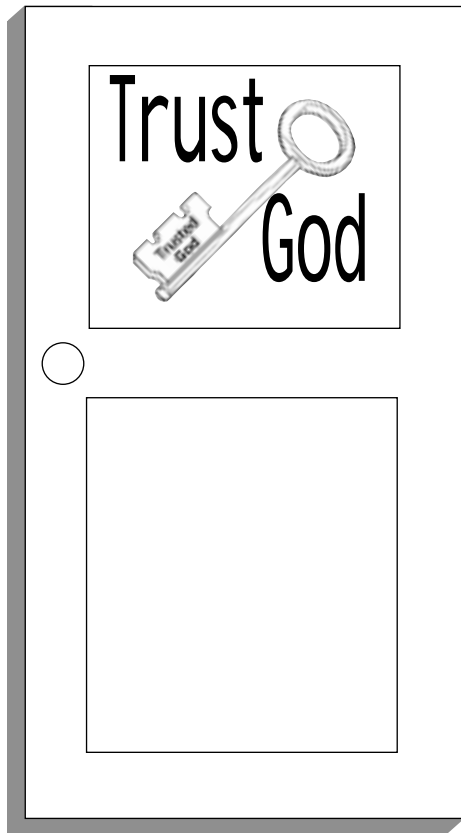


Supplement/Life Application  
1 copy for the teacher

R  
E  
P  
R  
O  
D  
U  
C  
I  
B  
L  
E  
P  
A  
G  
E  
C

PAGE

C



# Tic-Tac-Toss Questions

## Supplement/Game

1 copy for the teacher

R  
E  
P  
R  
O  
D  
U  
C  
I  
B  
L  
E

PAGE

D

True or False:

- Joseph was the oldest child in his family. (F)
- Joseph had some special dreams. (T)
- Joseph's brothers were very happy about Joseph's special dreams. (F)
- Joseph's brothers gave him a beautiful new hat to wear. (F)
- Joseph's father made him a beautiful, richly ornamented robe to wear. (T)
- Joseph's brothers decided to send him on a vacation to Egypt. (F)
- Joseph's brothers wanted to kill him. (T)
- Joseph's brothers sold him as a slave. (T)
- Joseph got so angry that he refused to ever talk to his brothers again. (F)
- Joseph trusted God even when he was treated the wrong way. (T)
- Potiphar was the name of Joseph's brother. (F)
- Potiphar put Joseph in charge of everything in his household. (T)
- Joseph honored God even when people tried to make him do the wrong thing. (T)
- Joseph was devoted to God even when he was in prison. (T)
- Joseph escaped from prison by digging a tunnel under the wall. (F)
- The LORD was with Joseph in everything he did. (T)
- Joseph was put in charge of everything in the jail. (T)

