Belief

LESSON 1 Juniors

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Saves **SCRIPTURE:** Genesis 37; 39–50

WORD OF WONDER: From Jeremiah 32:17

Prayer of Invitation

God, thank You for being here with us. We invite Your Holy Spirit to lead us today. Help us understand more about how You save us. Help us remember You are with us even when things are hard. In Jesus' name, Amen.

God's Big Story

I open my Bible and what do I see? (Hold your hands together, then open your palms, as if opening a book.)

God's big story, waiting for me! (Point to yourself.)

Let's start by reading part of God's big story from the book of Genesis in the Bible. That's the first book of the Bible.

Read the God's Big Story Script provided or read Genesis 50:16–21 from the Bible. You can also print the Bible Story Picture to give the kids a visual depiction as you tell the story.

GOD'S BIG STORY SCRIPT

Our God's big story today is a great story from the Bible about a man named Joseph. Encourage the kids to say, "Joseph." Let's find out from the Bible what happened to him.

Our story today is a great story from the Bible about a person named Joseph. Encourage the kids to say "Joseph."

Let's find out from the Bible what happened to Joseph!

Joseph had 11 brothers, and he was the second youngest son. His dad loved him so much. Give yourself a big hug. Allow kids to respond.

His dad gave him a beautiful, colorful coat. Pretend to put on a coat. Encourage the kids to pretend to put on a coat. Put on a coat or jacket (or a robe). You can also let the kids take turns putting it on.

This made his brothers very angry. Show me your angry face. Allow kids to respond.

The brothers threw Joseph into a deep hole. More bad things happened to Joseph. Say, "Uh-oh!" Allow kids to respond.

Joseph even got thrown in jail. But God was with him. Say, "Yay, God!" Allow kids to respond.

One day, the king had a crazy dream. The dream warned the king that his people would not have any food. Say, "Uh-oh!" and rub your belly like you're hungry. Encourage kids to respond.

But God was with Joseph, and Joseph gathered food to help the people. Can you pretend to gather a bunch of food? Allow kids to respond.

One day, his brothers came begging for food because they were hungry. They didn't know it was Joseph. But Joseph told his brothers who he was and forgave them for being mean to him. Give someone a high five! Allow kids to respond.

God was with Joseph and worked through him to save lots of people. Say, "Yay, God!" Allow kids to respond.

God is powerful. He saves us! Can you clap and cheer? Encourage the kids to respond.

Watch God's Big Story

Worship

Connecting the Wonder Truth

Our Wonder Truth today is GOD SAVES. Where did you see our Wonder Truth happen in the story? Allow kids to answer freely.

Joseph had a big part in God's plan to save His people. God promised Jacob's grandfather, Abraham, that his family would grow into a nation and bless the whole world. Later, God worked through Joseph to save Jacob's family from starving. And long after that, Jesus was born from that family to save all people from sin (the wrong things we do)!

Word of Wonder

WORD OF WONDER

Nothing is too hard for God.

—from Jeremiah 32:17

Our Word of Wonder for the God Rescues series is from Jeremiah 32:17. Let's practice saying the Word of Wonder together.

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

- NOTHING—Cross your arms in front of you, back and forth.
- IS TOO—Hold up two fingers (peace sign). HARD—
- Hold both arms straight up in front of you. FOR GOD.
- —Point up.
- **FROM JEREMIAH 32:17**—Hold your hands together as if opening a book.

Our Wonder Truth today reminds us that God saves. God is powerful, and no matter what happens, He is with us. He takes care of us, and there's nothing too big for God!

Prayer Journal Questions:

- What is something only God can do? (If the kids need help, offer ideas such as: creating the world, sending Jesus for us, saving us, etc.)
- · What is something hard for you to do? How could God help you?