

kidz CONNECTION - it's all about the GROWTH!,
(Grace, Relationships, Obedience, Walk of
Faithfulness, Talking with God, Heart for God and
Others)

Obedience - Elementary

Third quarter – Obedience changes me!

Week four – Sunday School

Scripture – Ephesians 4:31; Genesis 45-50

Lesson – Obedience changes me so I use words to
encourage and build others up!

Verse – Ephesians 4:29-32

Opening - 20 minutes

- Music - 15 minutes
- Activity - 5 minutes

Directions – Assign children to a specific group so they may practice their part – feel free to copy and print out each group’s part so children may sing them during the lesson -

- Small Group #1 – stand tall, scowl, look menacing, point at others and sing to the tune of, “*Camp Granada*” –

“I am Joseph!
I am your brother!
I’m the one you sold,
To be a lousy slave!
You better be afraid,
I’m in charge now,
Just wait and see,
How I get back at yo-u!”

- Small Group #2 – point at yourself and nod while singing to the tune of, “*Camp Granada*” –

“I am Joseph!
I am your brother!
I’m the one you sold,
To be a lousy slave!
Don’t be a-fraid,
Don’t blame yourselves,
God sent me here,
To sa-ve so many!”

- Small Group #3 – look proud, stand tall, shake head, point out and smile and sing to the tune of “*Yankee Doodle*”

“Look at me I’m now in charge!
In fact I rule over all of Egypt!
I’m in charge of all the food,
I decide who eats and who’s a slave!
Let you go?
I don’t think so, you will be my slaves!
Let you go?
I don’t think so, yes, you will be my slaves!”

- Small Group #4 – look proud, stand tall, shake head, point out and smile and sing to the tune of “*Yankee Doodle*”

“Look at me I’m now in charge!
In fact I rule over all of Egypt!

I'm in charge of all the food,
I'll give food to you and your families!
Let you starve?
I don't think so, you are my brothers!
Let you be harmed?
I don't think so, yes, you are my brothers!"

- Small Group #5 – look afraid, act out tying up, throwing, calling names, look sad and afraid, shake head and sing to the tune of, “*It's a Small World*” –

“Remember all the bad things.
We did to Joseph!
We tied him up,
And we threw him in a pit!
We called h-i-m names,
And we sold him as a slave!
It's going to be pay-back-time now!
He's in charge now,
You wait and see,
Joseph will get us!
Just you wait and see!
He'll make us slaves,
He'll call us names!
Wh-at-ever will we do?”

- Small Group #6 – smile, reach out while singing to the tune of, “*It's a Small World*” –

“Do-n't be afraid.
I'm n-ot God!
Y-o-u hu-rt me,
But God planned it for our good!
You were part of God's plan,
H-e wanted to save us all!
S-o, do-n't be afraid!
I'll pro-vide for you,
Your children will be fed!
Please be fr-ee,
From your fears and dread!
You're my family,
And I lo-ve you!
G-od's al-ways in charge!”

Today's Bible lesson is being presented as a “Wave” drama the entire class will participate in. Before beginning lesson, have each child place their chairs in one large circle with each group sitting together beginning with group #1, then group

#2 and so on to group #6. The Storyteller will stand in the center of the circle and tell the first portion of the Bible lesson, then group one will stand, present their part and sit back down. The Storyteller will tell the second part of the Bible lesson then group two will stand, present their part, sit back down and group one will stand, present their part and sit back down. The Storyteller will tell the third part of the Bible lesson and group three will stand, present their part, sit down, group two will stand, present their part, sit down, group one will stand, present their part, sit down and so on until the final part of the lesson is told and each group in turn stands, presents their part and sits back down.

Lesson - 10 minutes

Say – **Hello! I'm so glad to see each of you this morning. We are learning important things about how obedience to God changes our lives! Last week we learned about Jacob and how obedience changed him from a person who connived, tricked and stole from others to a person who worked honestly for what he wanted! Today we are going to look at Joseph and one of the ways obedience changed him. Joseph was not only one of Jacob's sons, he was Jacob's favorite son. While Joseph enjoyed being his dad's favorite, his other ten brothers were not so happy about Joseph being their dad's favorite. One day, when they had the opportunity, they sold Joseph to be a slave in Egypt. It wasn't a wonderful thing to have your brothers actually sell you to be a slave. For many years Joseph worked as a slave and eventually ended up in an Egyptian prison for something he didn't do. Even though all these terrible things happened to Joseph, God was still with him and Joseph chose to trust and obey God; no matter what! Eventually, the Pharaoh needed Joseph's help and ended up making Joseph second in command over all Egypt! Joseph was put in charge of the food during a terrible drought which covered the land – even the land where his brothers still lived. When they heard there was food in Egypt, they traveled there to buy food for their families. Little did they know, the person they would need to get the food from was their brother Joseph. The same brother Joseph they sold as a slave! When they found this out, they were more than a little afraid! They were sure Joseph would get them back for what they did to him.**

(Have Group #1 stand, say their part, do their motions then sit back down - stand tall, scowl, look menacing, point at others and sing to the tune of, "*Camp Granada*" – **"I am Joseph! I am your brother! I'm the one you sold, To be a lousy slave! You better be afraid, I'm in charge now, Just wait and see, How I get back at y-ou!"**)

Say – **While Joseph’s brothers were sure he would get them back for what they did, Joseph had spent his life obeying and trusting God. His obedience to God changed his heart and life! Joseph could have chosen to get his brothers back, after all, he really was the second in command of all of Egypt. If he told his soldiers to grab his brothers, throw them in prison and make them slaves, it would have been done. Joseph could have chosen to yell at his brothers and say unkind things to them, after all, they sold him as a slave! However obedience to God changed Joseph’s life so instead of being angry and cruel, he was kind and loving to his brothers!**

(Have Group #2 stand, say their part, do their motions then sit back down. - point at yourself and nod while singing to the tune of, “*Camp Granada*” – **“I am Joseph! I am your brother! I’m the one you sold, To be a lousy slave! Don’t be afraid, Don’t blame yourselves, God sent me here, To sa-ve so many!”**)
Have Group #1 stand, say their part and do their motions then sit back down)

Say – **Joseph certainly could have chosen to be angry. He could have chosen to get his brothers “back”, and treated them even more severely than they treated him. Yet, something was different about Joseph. Joseph had chosen to trust and obey God years before, throughout the bad times in his life, of which there were many. This obedience to God changed Joseph. When he realized his brothers were standing before him, asking for food, he felt compassion! Joseph chose to be kind to his brothers! In your small groups, beginning with your Small Group Shepherd, tell about a time when you were treated unkindly by someone and how you could show obedience has changed you by speaking kind words in return. Take a few moments to pray you will all show how obedience has changed you by speaking kind words to others! (Allow groups to do this)**

Say – **Joseph showed how obedience to God changed him by speaking kind words to his brothers who really didn’t deserve his kind words. They must have been shocked, not only to find their brother was alive, but certainly by discovering he was now the second in command of all Egypt. Joseph told his brothers the famine they had been experiencing for the past two years was going to last for five more years. Imagine you are one of Joseph’s brothers. This has not been a good day. First, there has been a famine for the past two years and your families back home are starving. The only person with food is your brother Joseph, who you sold to be a slave. He says he isn’t angry with you and he says the famine is going to last for five more years. Your families can not last five more years without food. Plus you are sure Joseph will get over his happiness at seeing his family and remember how badly you treated him. Once he remembers this, he is sure to get even with you.**

(Have Group #3 stand, say their part, do their motions then sit back down. - look proud, stand tall, shake head, point out and smile and sing to the tune of “Yankee Doodle” “**Look at me I’m now in charge! In fact I rule over all of Egypt! I’m in charge of all the food, I decide who eats and who’s a slave! Let you go? I don’t think so, you will be my slaves! Let you go? I don’t think so, yes, you will be my slaves!**” - Have Group #2 stand, say their part and do their motions then sit back down. Have Group #1 stand, say their part and do their motions then sit back down)

Say – **Were Joseph’s brothers right? Would he get over his surprise and happiness at seeing his family again after all those years and remember how badly they treated him? Would he decide to take revenge after all and get even with them? Or, had obedience to God really changed Joseph’s life? Was he really a person who spoke kindly to others and treated them well, even when they didn’t deserve it?**

(Have Group #4 stand, say their part, do their motions then sit back down. - look proud, stand tall, shake head, point out and smile and sing to the tune of “Yankee Doodle”- “**Look at me I’m now in charge! In fact I rule over all of Egypt! I’m in charge of all the food, I’ll give food to you and your families! Let you starve? I don’t think so, you are my brothers! Let you be harmed? I don’t think so, yes, you are my brothers!**” - Have Group #3 stand, say their part, do their motions then sit back down. Have Group #2 stand, say their part and do their motions then sit back down. Have Group #1 stand, say their part and do their motions then sit back down)

Say – **Obedience to God really had changed Joseph’s life! He really did not want to get even with his brothers! He could have said and done very unkind things to them, but instead he chose to use words to encourage and build them up! Joseph reassured his brothers he really would take care of them and their families so they would have enough to eat for the remainder of the famine. In fact, Joseph had his brothers return to their homes and bring their families, and their father back to live in Egypt with Joseph so he could take care of them in person. When his father died, his brothers once again became afraid. They didn’t understand how obedience changes the lives of those who choose to obey God so they thought now their father was gone; Joseph would finally take his revenge on them.**

(Have Group #5 say their part, do their motions then sit back down. – look afraid, act out tying up, throwing, calling names, look sad and afraid, shake head and sing to the tune of, “It’s a Small World” – “**Remember all the bad things. We did to Joseph! We tied him up, And we threw him in a pit! We called h-i-m names, And we sold him to be a slave! It’s going to be pay-back-time now!**”

He's in charge now, You wait and see, Joseph will get us now! Just you wait and see! He'll make us slaves, He'll call us names! Wh-at-ever will we do?" - Have Group #4 stand, say their part, do their motions then sit back down. Have Group #3 stand, say their part, do their motions then sit back down. Have Group #2 stand, say their part and do their motions then sit back down. Have Group #1 stand, say their part and do their motions then sit back down)

Say – **Joseph's brothers just didn't get it! They expected Joseph to treat them as they had treated him. It was a very good thing for them obedience to God really had changed Joseph's life, for real!**

(Have Group #6 stand, say their part, do their motions then sit back down - smile, reach out while singing to the tune of, "*It's a Small World*" – **"Do-n't be afraid. I'm n-ot God! Y-o-u hu-rt me, But God planned it for our good! You were part of God's plan, H-e wanted to save us all! S-o, do-n't be afraid! I'll provide for you, Your children will be fed! Please be fr-ee, From your fears and dread! You're my family, And I lo-ve you! G-od's al-ways in charge!"** - Have Group #5 stand, say their part, do their motions then sit back down. Have Group #4 stand, say their part, do their motions then sit back down. Have Group #3 stand, say their part, do their motions then sit back down. Have Group #2 stand, say their part and do their motions then sit back down. Have Group #1 stand, say their part and do their motions then sit back down)

Say – **Joseph explained once again to his brothers he really was not going to get even with them. Joseph reassured them he would continue to show and speak love and kindness to them and their families! Joseph knew even though his brothers intended to harm him all those many years ago, God used their evil for the good of Joseph and his entire family! Joseph trusted and obeyed God and this obedience really changed his life so he was able to show in both words and actions, love and kindness to others; even those who hurt him!**

Wrap up by teacher -

Thank children for participating and close in prayer – **Joseph has something very important to teach us about how obedience to God changes our lives! Joseph chose to obey God and allowed obedience to change how he lived his life. His heart and life became so filled with obedience to God; he didn't have any room for anger, unkind words or revenge. A life of obedience only has room for kind words and love! Joseph was so very changed by obedience he was able to show incredible kindness, both in word and action, to people who had truly treated him very badly. We need to choose to trust and obey God and then allow obedience to change our lives so we don't**

have room for anger, unkind words or revenge and instead have room for kind words and loving actions! In the coming weeks and months we will learn more about how obedience to God changes our lives! Thank You God for Your amazing love for us! Thank You for the way obedience changes our lives and fills our hearts and lives with kind words and loving actions so we do not have room for anger, unkind words or revenge! Thank You for Your love for us, we love You, too! Amen!

Dismiss children to their small groups for Small Group Time.

Small group time - 25 minutes

- Catch up/greet visitors/pray
- work through application flyer
- choose activity to do for coming week
- work on memory verse

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Obedience - Elementary

Third quarter – Obedience changes me!

Week four – Optional Second Service

Scripture – Psalm 112:1-9

Lesson – I need to let obedience change my life and
cause me to be a person of kind words!

Verse – Ephesians 4:29-32

Opening

- Music
- Verse – Ephesians 4:29-32 – **/ Don't let any evil talk come out of your mouths. / Say only what will help to build others up and meet their needs. / Then what you say will help those who listen. / Do not make God's Holy Spirit sad. / He marked you with a seal / for the day when God will set you completely free. / Get rid of all hard feelings, anger and rage. / Stop all fighting and lying. / Put away every form of hatred. / Be kind and tender to one another. / Forgive each other, just as God forgave you because of what Christ has done. /**
- Game – **Puzzling Directions Race**
 - Supplies –
 - 24 sheets of card stock - in two colors, one per team
 - Two buckets
 - Two sharpie pens - each a different color
 - Preparation –
 - Write verse on card stock as divided above - entire verse on 12 sheets in one color ink, another set in the second color.
 - Make your puzzle by placing one sheet of card stock over another, just overlapping edges and cut so one sheet fits into the next. For example, take your first sheet of card stock, with the reference of the verse, "Ephesians 4:29-32," and overlap the edge with the next sheet of card stock containing the next part of the verse saying, "Don't let any evil talk com out of your mouths." Cut overlapped parts of the card stock so they fit together like a puzzle. Continue with rest of verse making one large puzzle where each part fits together. Do the same with the other color of card stock to make a puzzle verse for the other team.
 - Directions –
 - Set buckets at one end of the room, mix up the verse puzzle pieces for one team and place in their bucket. Do the same for the other team's verse puzzle pieces.
 - Divide children into two groups.
 - Children will "run", one at a time, to retrieve one of their verse puzzle pieces from their bucket. Each team will select one of their Small Group Leaders to be the "run caller" for the other team. The "run caller" will tell each racer, how they may move across the room to get their puzzle piece. For example, the "run caller" may start with, "take five baby steps", then they may say, "take 10 giant steps", or "run backward" or "hop", "skip", etc. The "run caller" may not only use slow, tiny steps for the other team. Make sure they

know they have to let them run, take giant steps etc. along with taking small steps, crawling, etc...

- When a team has collected all their verse puzzle pieces, team members gather at the bucket and place the puzzle in correct order.
- First team to get the verse correct, wins
- Play again, if you have time, beginning with any children who didn't get to run for a verse puzzle piece the last time.

Bible lesson

- Supplies –
 - DVD – VeggieTales - The Ballad of Little Joe
 - Start time – 22:03 – Little Joe wonders what God is up to
 - End time – 32:42 – Little Joe is reunited with his family and uses kind and loving words with them

Greet children and gather them in sharing circles (sitting knee to knee with the others in their small group).

Say – **Over the coming months we are going to learn many very important things about how choosing to obey God changes our everyday lives! Last week we learned about Jacob and how choosing to obey God changed and filled his life by making him an honest worker! Talk in your small group and share how you allowed obedience to change your life last week! Tell about a time when you were an honest worker!** (Allow children to talk in their small group)

Say - **Today we learned about Joseph and how obedience changed his life by making him a person who used kind and loving words and actions with others rather than being angry and vengeful! We need to obey and allow obedience to God to change and fill our lives with kind words and loving actions, too! We're going to watch a clip to help us understand choosing kindness over revenge.**

(Show clip)

Say – **In our clip Little Joe made the choice to use kind words and actions with his brothers even when they had treated him so badly. He could have taken revenge on his brothers, but obedience to God filled his life with kindness leaving no room for revenge! In Psalm 112 David tells about a number of ways our lives change when we choose to trust and obey God! I want to know what God's Word says!** (Read Psalm 112:1-9)

Say – **David knew when we obey God and allow obedience to change our lives, it will show in our every day lives! Let’s praise God for how obedience changes us like David did! “Dear Lord, I want to praise You!” (Allow children to repeat prayer) “Dear God, thank You for the amazing delight You give me when I obey You!” (Allow children to repeat prayer) “Dear God, thank You I can know when I’m honest and do what is right, one day my children will be blessed!” (Allow children to repeat prayer) “Oh Lord! Thank You for the good things You send my way when I’m generous and fair!” (Allow children to repeat prayer) “Dear God, thank You I can know I’m safe, secure and You will be with me forever when I do what is right !” (Allow children to repeat prayer) “Thank You even when bad things happen, I can still trust in You and not be afraid!” (Allow children to repeat prayer)**

Say – **What an amazing Psalm! In your small groups, make up your own praise for God! Praise Him for how obedience changes your life! I’ll give you all a few minutes to make your praise and then each group will be able to lead us all in a time of praises to God! (Allow groups to make their praises and then to lead the class in their praises)**

Ask - **What can you do this week to show how obedience has changed you by making you a person who uses kind words and loving actions? Talk about this in your small group for a moment. (Give groups a few moments to do this)**

Ask – **Who will tell me what you talked about? (Allow a few children to share)**

Say – **David obeyed God and this changed his life by filling it with obedience and kindness! The same is true for us! When we obey God, obedience will change us too and fill our lives with kindness! Small Group Leaders, go around your circle and pray the following from Psalm 112 for each child in your group, by name, “Thank You, LORD for _____ Pease help him/her show how obedience to You has changed his/her life by how he/she shows kindness and love for others, especially those in need!” (Allow groups a few moments to do this, and then when they have all finished, close in prayer.)**

Extra time craft –

Supplies –

- Memory Cross – one per child (www.kidzconnection.us)
- Verse stickers or verse on paper – follow template – one per child
- Markers
- Two-sided tape – for verse on paper
- scissors

Directions –

- Help children place their verse stickers/verse on paper with two-sided tape in the correct places on their Memory Cross and allow them to decorate as they like

Say – **Use your Memory Cross in the coming month to help you learn our verses from Ephesians. Obedience to God changes our lives and makes us people who are trustworthy, tell the truth and keep our promises! Obedience makes us people who worship God! Obedience makes us people whose lives are filled with kindness! Put your stickers on your memory cross and decorate it to help you remember how obedience changes your life!**

If you have extra time – play your memory verse game again.