

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

Obedience – Preschool/Early Elementary

Third quarter – Obedience changes me!

Week four – Sunday School

Scripture – Ephesians 4:31; Genesis 45-50

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

Verse – Ephesians 4:31, 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 Small Group Shepherds may read them during the lesson. Each part will be preformed as a “call and respond” - like in the army! The Small Group Shepherd will “call” and the children will “repeat/respond” – feel free to have children stand at attention, march in place, salute, etc

○ Small Group #1 –

(Call) - **I am Joseph your brother!**

(Respond/repeat) - **I am Joseph your brother!**

(Call) - **You sold me to be a slave!**

(Respond/repeat) - **You sold me to be a slave!**

(Call) – **Do not be a-fraid of me!**

(Respond/repeat) - **Do not be a-fraid of me!**

(Call) - **God sent me to save us all!**

(Respond/repeat) - **God sent me to save us all!**

○ Small Group #2 -

(Call) - **Look at me I’m now in charge!**

(Respond/repeat) - **Look at me I’m now in charge!**

(Call) - **I’ll give food to all of you!**

(Respond/repeat) - **I’ll give food to all of you!**

(Call) – **I won’t let you be harmed!**

(Respond/repeat) - **I won’t let you be harmed!**

(Call) – **You’re my brothers and I love you!**

(Respond/repeat) - **You’re my brothers and I love you!**

○ Small Group #3 –

(Call) - **Don’t be afraid though you hurt me!**

(Respond/repeat) - **Don’t be afraid though you hurt me!**

(Call) - **You were part of G-od’s plan!**

(Respond/repeat) - **You were part of G-od’s plan!**

(Call) – **Please be fre-e from your fears!**

(Respond/repeat) - **Please be fre-e from your fears!**

(Call) – **God is al-ways in charge!**

(Respond/repeat) - **God is al-ways in charge!**

## 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.

Ask – **What do you think Joseph's brother's faces looked like when they thought about how he was their dad's favorite son?** (Allow children to show their sad, angry faces)

Say – **Joseph's brothers were very angry he was their dad's favorite son, so 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 was even sent to 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! Finally, one day 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. God told Joseph what to do so Egypt would have food when the other countries ran out of food. When Joseph's brothers heard there was food in Egypt; they traveled there to buy some 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!**

Ask – **What do you think Joseph's brother's faces looked like when they realized Joseph was in charge of the food in Egypt and they had to get their food from him?** (Allow children to show their surprised and afraid faces)

Say - **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. I need Small Group #1 to join me and help with the next part of our Bible lesson!** (Allow the children from Small Group #1 to join you)

Ask – (Turn to Group #1) – **Joseph's brothers were sure Joseph would want to get them back for the terrible things they did to him all those years ago. They thought Joseph would have his soldiers put them in prison and make them be his slaves. However; they didn't know Joseph had chosen to trust and obey God! They didn't know how obedience to God changed Joseph's life! They just waited for Joseph**

to tell them what terrible things he was going to do to them. Do you know what Joseph told his brothers? (Allow children to respond – yes)

Say – **Wonderful! Please show us what Joseph told his brothers!** - (Call) - **I am Joseph your brother!** (Respond/repeat) - **I am Joseph your brother!** (Call) - **You sold me to be a slave!** (Respond/repeat) - **You sold me to be a slave!** (Call) – **Do not be a-fraid of me!** (Respond/repeat) - **Do not be a-fraid of me!** (Call) - **God sent me to save us all!** (Respond/repeat) - **God sent me to save us all!**

Say - **Joseph’s brothers were sure he would get them back for what they did, but Joseph was someone who chose to obey and trust 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!**

Say – **Joseph’s life was changed by obedience! Joseph became a person who used kind words and loving actions with others, even others who had not been kind to him! Let’s say a cheer for how Joseph’s life was changed by obedience! “Hooray! Obedience changed Joseph! He used kind words and loving actions with others!”** (Lead children in your cheer three times)

Say – **Wonderful! Small Group #1, before you return to your seats, please tell us one more time how obedience changed Joseph and what he told his brothers!** - (Call) - **I am Joseph your brother!** (Respond/repeat) - **I am Joseph your brother!** (Call) - **You sold me to be a slave!** (Respond/repeat) - **You sold me to be a slave!** (Call) – **Do not be a-fraid of me!** (Respond/repeat) - **Do not be a-fraid of me!** (Call) - **God sent me to save us all!** (Respond/repeat) - **God sent me to save us all!** (Send Small Group #1 back to their seats)

Say – **Joseph let obedience change his life so he was a person who used kind words and loving actions with others, even others who had not been kind or loving to him! We need to let obedience change us like it changed Joseph! In your small groups, beginning with your Small Group Shepherd, tell about a time this week when you will use kind words and loving actions with others!** (Allow groups to do this)

Say – **Joseph certainly could have chosen to be angry. He could have chosen to get his brothers “back”, and treated them even more**

unkindly than they treated him. Yet, something was different about Joseph. Joseph had chosen to trust and obey God years before, all through 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 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. I need Group #2 to join me and help with our Bible lesson so we can learn if Joseph really continued to let obedience to God change his life! (Allow Group #2 to join you)

Ask - **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? (Allow children to respond)**

Say – **Small Group #2, please tell us if Joseph continued to allow obedience to change his life so he was a person who used kind words and loving actions with others. What did Joseph say to his brothers next? (Allow children to respond - (Call) - Look at me I'm now in charge! (Respond/repeat) - Look at me I'm now in charge! (Call) - I'll give food to all of you! (Respond/repeat) - I'll give food to all of you! (Call) – I won't let you be harmed! (Respond/repeat) - I won't let you be harmed! (Call) – You're my brothers and I love you! (Respond/repeat) - You're my brothers and I love you!**

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! Let's say a cheer for how Joseph's life**

**was changed by obedience! “Hooray! Obedience changed Joseph! He used kind words and loving actions with others!” (Lead children in your cheer three times)**

Say – **Wonderful! Small Group #2, before you return to your seats, please tell us one more time how obedience changed Joseph and what he told his brothers! (Allow children to respond - (Call) - Look at me I’m now in charge! (Respond/repeat) - Look at me I’m now in charge! (Call) - I’ll give food to all of you! (Respond/repeat) - I’ll give food to all of you! (Call) – I won’t let you be harmed! (Respond/repeat) - I won’t let you be harmed! (Call) – You’re my brothers and I love you! (Respond/repeat) - You’re my brothers and I love you! (Send Small Group #2 back to their seats)**

Say - **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. Many years later 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 for sure. I need Small Group #3 to join me and help with our Bible lesson so we can learn if Joseph really continued to let obedience to God change his life! (Allow Group #3 to join you)**

Say – **Small Group #3, please tell us if Joseph continued to allow obedience to change his life so he was a person who used kind words and loving actions with others. What did Joseph say to his brothers next? (Call) - Don’t be afraid though you hurt me! (Respond/repeat) - Don’t be afraid though you hurt me! (Call) - You were part of God’s plan! (Respond/repeat) - You were part of God’s plan! (Call) – Please be free from your fears! (Respond/repeat) - Please be free from your fears! (Call) – God is always in charge! (Respond/repeat) - God is always in charge!**

Say – **Obedience to God really had changed Joseph’s life! Joseph continued to use kind words and loving actions with his brothers! Let’s say a cheer for how Joseph’s life was changed by obedience! “Hooray! Obedience changed Joseph! He used kind words and loving actions with others!” (Lead children in your cheer three times)**

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! 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! Small Group #3, before you return to your seats, please tell us one more time how obedience changed Joseph and what he told his brothers! (Call) - **Don't be afraid though you hurt me!** (Respond/repeat) - **Don't be afraid though you hurt me!** (Call) - **You were part of God's plan!** (Respond/repeat) - **You were part of God's plan!** (Call) - **Please be fre-e from your fears!** (Respond/repeat) - **Please be fre-e from your fears!** (Call) - **God is al-ways in charge!** (Respond/repeat) - **God is al-ways in charge!** (Send Small Group #3 back to their seats)

Say - **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! In your small groups, beginning with your Small Group Shepherd, thank God for how obedience changes your life and lets you show love and kindness to others!** (Allow a few moments for groups to do this)

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 - 15 minutes

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

## Final Application Activity – 10 minutes

Supplies –

- Colored “o” cereal
- Small paper cups – one per child

Directions –

- Give each child some “o” cereal
- Allow each child to share their cereal with others – as they hand a piece of cereal to another child, have them speak kind words to show how obedience has changed their life

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Obedience – Preschool/Early 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 4:31, 32

## Opening

- Music
- Verse – Ephesians 4:31, 32 – **/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 – **Mother May I? Relay!**
  - Directions -
    - Divide children into two teams, and have them line up at one side of the room
    - Teacher will call out how many and type of steps the first two children may take as they race across the room and back to their team. This continues until all children have raced.
    - First team to complete the race, will say their verse
    - All the children will say, the verse together
  - Play again, if you have 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 continue 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 and got them back, 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 by the way we live every day! 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 happiness You give me when I obey You!” (Allow children to repeat prayer) “Dear God, thank You I can know I’m safe 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 - **Let’s praise God together! Let’s praise God for the happiness He gives us when we obey! In your small groups think of a way to show how happy you are when you obey. Each group will have a turn to show us how they will praise God for the happiness He gives us when we obey Him!** (Allow groups to do this – they may make up a cheer or dance or song or whatever they like)

Say – **Let’s praise God for always being with us!** (Lead children in popcorn praises for specific times and places when God is with us)

Say – **Let’s praise God for how we can trust Him and not be afraid even when something bad happens! Tell your group something you are afraid of, then praise God that you can trust Him no matter what!** (Allow groups to do this)

Say – **What an amazing Psalm! In your small group, beginning with your Small Group Leader, tell a time when you can show how obedience has changed you by the way you use kind words and loving actions with others!** (Allow a few moments for groups to do this)

Say – **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! David’s life changed from obeying God! David’s life was filled 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 to do this, and then when they have all finished, close in prayer.)

### Extra time craft –

Supplies –

- Empty child safety cap pill bottles – one per child
- Unpopped popcorn
- Happy face stickers, star stickers, heart stickers
- Colorful electrical tape
- Sturdy, strong glue

Directions –

- Allow children to place popcorn in their bottle, then glue and tape closed
- Allow children to decorate bottle with stickers

Say – **Use your Obedience Changes me Praise Shaker to praise God for the ways obedience changes you! In your small group, beginning with your Small Group Leader, shake your praise shaker and use kind words with the others in your group!**

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