

# Primary

## TEACHER GUIDE

Year A, Quarter 2  
God Is With Me







## SABBATH SCHOOL CURRICULUM

### PRIMARY • YEAR A • QUARTER 2

A Teacher Guide for Primary Sabbath School (children ages 7-9)



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*A rigorous process, involving reviewers, experts, parents, and children from around the world, in addition to a steering committee and a manuscript evaluation committee, has been followed in the development of these materials. We wish to thank all of those involved.*

# Primary Teacher Guide

YEAR A • QUARTER 2

## QUARTER OVERVIEW

# God Is With Me

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## Dear Primary Sabbath School Teacher,

Thank you so much for being willing to teach your group of Primary children this year!

As you pray and plan from this new curriculum, may God lead you to know just how to make every Sabbath full of teachable moments that are eternally life-changing for the children.

- The main goal of this curriculum is to help your Primary students **to know and love Jesus and His living Word**, to **grow into His likeness**, and to want to **serve Him** every day.
- In all your interactions, the stories, and the group activities, remember to point the children to **God's living, powerful Word**. As you read the condensed narrative portions each week, be sure to have your Bible nearby to open so the children can read from it. Encourage the children to bring their own Bibles to Sabbath School each week.
- Encourage **parents and caregivers to read the lesson** to the children each day. Also encourage the children to **spend time with Jesus every day** (see ideas for this at the beginning of the *Primary Student Guide*).
- Be **intentional about the culture you foster** in your Sabbath School class, helping all to have a sense of belonging. Notice those who might be on the fringes and involve them.
- Ensure that you always have at least one other **adult helper** in the room with you. They can welcome children who arrive late and assist you as needed.
- This new, global Sabbath School curriculum is written for hundreds of cultures. You will no doubt find some things that need adjusting and adapting to **meet the needs of the children in front of you**. If your group has very little knowledge, make the lessons simpler. If they know a lot, go deeper still. Look to adapt some of the activities for children with **special needs**. See [www.aliveinjesus.info](http://www.aliveinjesus.info) for a training video on nurturing children with special needs. Pray for wisdom about what and how to use this curriculum, while staying true to its goals.
- The **Kindergarten and Primary Bible stories are the same**, so if you belong to a small church with combined Sabbath School classes, select the level that will best suit the knowledge and needs of your children.
- We have provided you with **music** suggestions in the program. You might also like to invite the children to choose songs and lead the singing time. Where possible, choose songs that apply to the weekly theme. If possible, display the words of the songs so that everyone can learn the songs together. Keep in mind the importance of choosing songs that share spiritual truths, as music will linger in our minds for years to come.
- Make an **Offering Chart** at the beginning of each quarter from the template provided on our website. Together with the children, write weekly offering goals at the bottom of the page to encourage children to give to God's work. Each week after the offering has been collected and counted, invite one child to color the new section to indicate the offering goal has been met. Display the Offering Chart in a prominent place in your Sabbath School room.





- You may like to make special mention of **birthdays** by singing a birthday song and giving a small gift to the child. If appropriate in your culture, encourage children to bring a Birthday-Thank Offering for your mission project. Also, be sure to acknowledge **visitors** and make them feel welcome in your Sabbath School. You'll find a "Happy Birthday" song and a "Visitor Song" on the Alive in Jesus website.
- Establish a healthy understanding of **prayer**. Model how special it is to talk with God as a friend through your own prayers, encouraging children to pray from their heart with reverence. Kneel for the opening prayer, explaining that this shows God we are humble.
- Encourage children to learn their **weekly memory verse**. You can share various methods of doing memorization with them and point them to the weekly Scripture song, which will help them to remember the verse. Please also spend a few moments reflecting on the meaning of each memory verse by discussing the questions each week. You may like to play the quarterly **Scripture song** playlist as the children arrive, as they do their crafts, or as they leave Sabbath School, to reinforce the memory verses each quarter.
- Display the Alive in Jesus quarterly **mural** at the front of your classroom. This is an important visual teaching tool and will bring color and life to your Sabbath School room.
- All resources can be found on the **Alive in Jesus website**, [www.aliveinjesus.info](http://www.aliveinjesus.info), including crafts, music, training videos, podcasts, news and updates, and general information about Alive in Jesus.
- The Primary children will look to you as one of the most important adults in their lives, so **make your personal daily abiding with Jesus a priority**. Pray for these children and the precious hour you have together each Sabbath morning.






Jesus said, "I must preach the kingdom of God . . . for this purpose I have been sent" (Luke 4:43). He has called you, and He will equip you, as you teach, nurture, guide, and love the Primary children in your care this year.

**Thank you for being willing to serve in this way! May God lead you as you lead His little children into a loving friendship with Him.**

"The Sabbath school should be one of the greatest instrumentalities, and the most effectual, in **bringing souls to Christ**." "It gives to young and old a **knowledge of God's word**, . . . [and] it awakens in them a **love for its sacred truths**, and a **desire to study them for themselves**; above all, it teaches them to regulate their lives by its holy teachings."

Ellen G. White, *Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, pp. 10, 11.

**LESSON COMPONENTS.** These teaching principles are included in all teacher guides, although not always in a specific order. All activities fall under one or more of these areas, although we've chosen to highlight the most prominent in each lesson.

 <p><b>HOOK</b></p> <p><b>Arouse Curiosity</b> Hooking children into the topic to help make them eager to learn Bible truths.</p>	 <p><b>HEAD</b></p> <p><b>Story Immersion and Exploration</b> Sharing the story and key ideas in a memorable and meaningful way.</p>	 <p><b>HEART</b></p> <p><b>Connection With God</b> Touching the children's hearts and fostering love for God through worship.</p>	 <p><b>HAND</b></p> <p><b>Commitment and Application</b> Applying the learning in life through mission and service.</p>	 <p><b>HOORAY</b></p> <p><b>Learning Celebration</b> Celebrating new insights about God, or their learning from the lesson.</p>
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# Tips for Telling Bible Stories in Sabbath School

*“Teach me what I do not see” (Job 34:32).*

**1. Practice telling the Bible story as you would any other story.** This is the heart of Sabbath School. We want to show children that the Bible is living, powerful, true, and trustworthy, and that God has a special message for them personally in each story. Invest time into how you will communicate this most effectively to the children in your class. Remember:

- Learn the story and be so familiar with it that you can recall the different parts. Don't read it. Memorize an outline, select appropriate visuals according to the age of your audience.
- Change the pitch, tone, and speed as the action unfolds. Use action, enthusiasm, and appropriate gestures.
- Plan your opening sentence to catch the immediate attention of the children.
- Tell the events in a logical sequence. Don't tell unnecessary details (this will confuse and interrupt the story). The younger the audience, the fewer details are needed.
- Finish the story at the peak of interest. Don't speak too quickly, sermonize, summarize, or retell the story—children don't need this.

**2. Pray with the children before you tell a Bible story,** or before you read from the Bible. Ask God to help everyone understand the Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

**3. Sabbath School should be a joyful, memorable place, where children learn about God and grow to love Him.** We should prayerfully consider how to communicate God's sacred stories in clear, meaningful ways. Children should know that the Bible stories are true—not fables. Both the method and the message of communication should clearly support this idea.

**4. Make the Bible story memorable and engaging** by using one or more of the following strategies:

- **Peg people** and props. If possible, purchase some wooden pegs and paint or decorate them as wooden people to be used in some storytelling sections. Over time, you may like to add new people: Jesus, disciples, and other Bible characters. Encourage children to retell the Bible story to each other using these peg people. You may also like to display these in a regular place with other objects (animals, house, ocean—using colored materials or simple boxes) for children to

play with if they arrive early. Move these peg people and objects around on your fabric scene as you tell the story. Children can take turns doing this as you tell the story, and they can then retell the story in their own words. This is an effective method to teach children to recall, internalize, and share the story with someone else.

- Use the weekly **Picture PowerPoints** as you tell the story. Pause to reference the emotions on the faces of the Bible characters, the backgrounds, and the details of the story. These pictures will stay in the minds of the children and help them remember the story.
- **Felts** (younger children). Although felts are an older resource, they're helpful because you can unpack the story as it happens with visuals that will stay in the minds of children. Practice with your felts ahead of time so that you can be clear about the sequence and position of each one.
- **Dramatic storytelling** with objects. Use expression and various objects, sounds, and smells that use our five senses to make the story memorable and clear.
- **Alive in Jesus podcasts.** Invite the children to listen to one or two of the daily narratives of the Sabbath School podcast and then tell, draw, or discuss the remainder of the story in groups or pairs. As the children listen to the story, they may want to draw what they hear (stick people) or write two questions for discussion at the end of the story. Alternatively, each child can draw a small section of the story to string together as a long story scene at the end.

**5. Pray that God will help you to communicate His stories effectively** for the specific age to whom you're speaking. You're dealing with God's Word and eternal implications.

*“Show me Your ways, O Lord;*

*Teach me Your paths.*

*Lead me in Your truth and teach me,*

*For You are the God of my salvation;*

*On You I wait all the day.”*

**Psalm 25:4, 5**

# Craft Resources



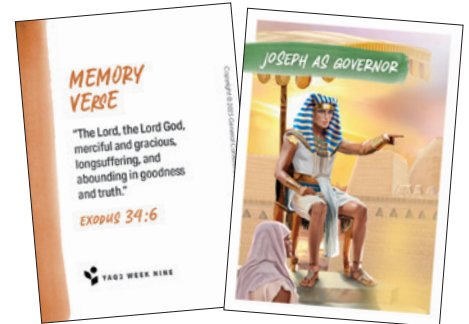
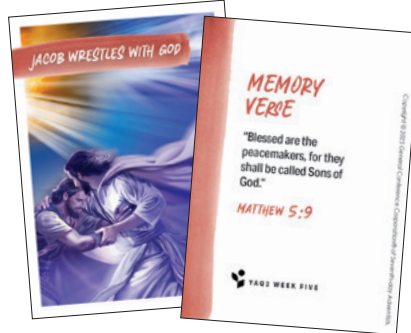
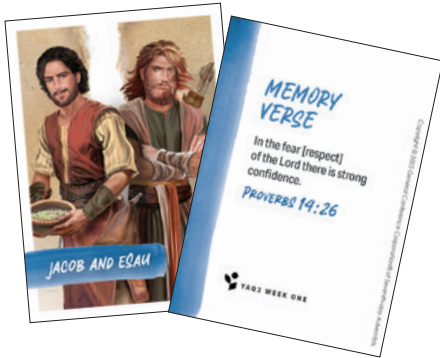
## Primary, Year A, Quarter 2

WEEK	CRAFT	SAMPLE	RESOURCES/SUPPLIES
1: The Birthright Stew	Pot of Stew		Black strips of paper; paper cups; craft sticks; chenille sticks or pipe cleaners; yellow, orange, and red tissue paper; brown crepe paper; scissors; craft glue.
2: Jacob Tricks Isaac	Banner of Truth		Week 2 craft template, watercolor paints, paintbrushes, water, black markers, long dowels or sticks, tape, scissors, stickers (optional).
3: The Ladder From Heaven	Jacob's Ladder		Week 3 craft template, extra-large craft sticks, small craft sticks, yellow markers, scissors, craft glue, gold glitter glue.
4: Jacob Works for Uncle Laban	Spotted Sheep		Week 4 craft template, paper cups or foam balls, cotton balls, scissors, glue, black markers, googly eyes (optional).
5: Jacob and the Midnight Wrestle	Bridge-Building Challenge		Recycled cardboard, blue paper, craft sticks, paper cups, cardboard cylinders, masking tape, craft glue, scissors, toy cars (optional).
6: Joseph's Coat and Dreams	Joseph's Colorful Coat		Week 6 craft template (on white cardstock), colorful yarn, colored pencils/markers, scissors.
7: Joseph and His Brothers	Joseph in a Pit		Week 7 craft template, colored pencils, craft sticks, paper cups, black paper, brown paper, scissors, glue, tape.
8: Joseph: A Slave in Egypt	Joseph in Jail		Week 8 craft template (on white cardstock), craft sticks, craft glue, scissors, twine or string, tape.
9: Joseph: From Prison to Palace	Joseph the Interpreter		Week 9 craft template, scissors, markers, split pins.
10: Joseph: Governor of Egypt	Joseph the Governor		Week 10 craft template, crayons, scissors, split pins.
11: A Family Reunited	Fan-Fold Booklet		Week 11 craft template, markers, scissors, glue.
12: Ruth and Naomi	Medical Kit		Week 12 craft template, (medical kit printed on red paper), crayons/colored pencils, scissors, glue, Band-aids or plasters (optional).
13: Ruth and Boaz	Ruth's Basket		Week 13 craft template on cardstock, twine or yarn, scissors, pictures of grain/stalks of grain.



# Character Cards

Each week, the Primary children will receive one Character Card. These will be kept in a container in the Sabbath School room; they can be used in some activities, and the children will take these home at the end of the quarter.





## Primary

YEAR A • QUARTER 2

### God Is With Me

- WEEK 1 **The Birthright Stew**
- WEEK 2 Jacob Tricks Isaac
- WEEK 3 The Ladder From Heaven
- WEEK 4 Jacob Works for Uncle Laban
- WEEK 5 Jacob and the Midnight Wrestle
- WEEK 6 Joseph's Coat and Dreams
- WEEK 7 Joseph and His Brothers
- WEEK 8 Joseph: A Slave in Egypt
- WEEK 9 Joseph: From Prison to Palace
- WEEK 10 Joseph: Governor of Egypt
- WEEK 11 A Family Reunited
- WEEK 12 Ruth and Naomi
- WEEK 13 Ruth and Boaz

### Week 1

# The Birthright Stew

**Bible References:** Genesis 24, 25:19-34

**Big Idea** We can have confidence in God to lead us.

**Memory Verse** "In the fear [respect] of the Lord there is strong confidence" (Proverbs 14:26).

**References**  
*Patriarch and Prophets*, pp. 171-179  
*The Bible Story*, vol. 1, pp. 177-190  
*The Bible Story*, vol. 2 pp. 9-12

Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson:

- 3. The Father
- 7. Nature of Humanity
- 11. Growing in Christ
- 17. Spiritual Gifts
- 22. Christian Behavior
- 23. Marriage and Family

**Word of the Week** **Confidence:** Trust that you or someone will act in the best possible way or that an outcome will be good.

**Lesson Summary** Abraham's growing family learned to have confidence in God and His timing. Abraham and his servant trusted God to find a wife for his son Isaac, and God delivered. Isaac and his wife trusted God for a baby, and God delivered—they had twins! God told them that the younger, Jacob, not the firstborn, would be the family's leader. Jacob lacked confidence in God's plan and timing, and instead tried to snatch it for himself.

**Learning Goals** The children will:  
**Know** that God is always with them and knows what is best for them.  
**Feel** confident that God will lead their lives.  
**Respond** by giving their hearts and lives to God, allowing Him to guide them.



# A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

The world tells us that being confident is a good thing. But on what, or whom, is our confidence based?

God has given us every reason to have confidence and recognize that He is the ultimate reason we can be confident in facing the challenges of life. He created us, saved us, and loves us. He invites us to cease our worry, our fretting and stress, and depend on Him for peace, joy, and love. He alone is the one who can give us the peace that passes all understanding.

This kind of peace is not something we can achieve ourselves. The Bible tells us to “trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths” (Proverbs 3:5, 6).

Despite seeing God's promises so faithfully fulfilled, Jacob fell into the trap that so easily ensnares all of us: depending on self instead of God. His choice to take advantage of his brother was the beginning of much trouble and trauma. “We need to have far less confidence in what man can do and far more confidence in what God can do for every believing soul” (Ellen G. White, *Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 146).

May you and the children in your Sabbath School class grow in confidence as you see God's goodness and His sovereign hand at work in the lives of Isaac, Rebekah, and their family. And may you be like Abraham's wise servant and ask God to lead you every step, every day.



# Simple Program Outline

**Big Idea:** We can have confidence in God to lead us.

## Primary, Year A, Quarter 2, Week 1

### EARLY ARRIVALS

- Play quarterly **Scripture Song playlist**.
- Paper people craft

### OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

- Welcome
- Songs
  - **“Alive in Jesus”**
  - **“God Speaks to Us”**
  - **“Love My Enemies”**
  - **“A Whisper From the Heart”**
- Pray.
- Introduce **quarterly mission project**, **Mission Fast Fact**, and **Offering Chart**. Sing offering song: **“What Can I Give to the Lord?”**
- Collect offering.
- **“Visitor Song”**
- **“Happy Birthday”**

### FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

- Pass-the-drawing: Mixed-up creations
- Discuss: God sees the big picture.
- Share the **Big Idea: We can have confidence in God to lead us.**

### BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

### UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

- Activity: **Blindfolded obstacle course**, in pairs, with guides
- Discuss: We can't see the future, but God can. He leads us when we allow Him to.
- Activity: Pairs, look up **Proverbs 3:5-7** and discuss. We can trust God, not ourselves.

### TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

- **Character Card 14: Jacob and Esau**
- **Memory Verse and Scripture Song: “Proverbs 14:26”**
- **Mission Story:** “Child Missionary”
- Introduce this quarter's Mission Challenge and weekly challenge: Bring a show-and-tell.
- **Craft:** Pot of Stew
- Sing **“God Be With You.”**
- Commit: Review activities. Do you want God to lead your life this week?
- Pray.



# Program Preparation

## Opening and Focus Activities

Source the **Paper People outline**.

Cut **pieces of paper** into four vertical strips. Make enough strips of paper for each child.

Visit the AIJ website for information about the location of this quarter's Mission Offering. Print and create an **Offering Chart**. Source a **globe** or **world map**. Print the **13 Mission Fast Facts** so you can share a Mission Fast Fact each week.

Write the **Big Idea** at the top of your **whiteboard**, use the **Picture PowerPoint**, or print/write out and display. (Do this every week.)

## Bible Story and Unpack the Story

Source the **Program PowerPoint**.

Source **big jug/waterpot**. **Star** from last quarter. **Pot and bowl** for pretend stew, **basket of vegetables**.

Source objects for obstacle course to scatter around the room, i.e., **paper cups**, **cones**, or anything else available, and a **blindfold**.

Cut a large cardboard heart shape into four pieces. On each piece, write one of the following statements:

1. Jesus, help me to learn to love You and follow You.
2. Jesus, help me to wait for You to work things out in my life.
3. Jesus, help me to trust You.
4. Jesus, help me to pray to You when I need to make an important decision.

## Tie It All Together

Source **Character Card 14: Jacob and Esau** for each child. Purchase the cards (if available), or print the front and back and glue the two sides together. Provide a container, envelope, bag, or keyring for children to store these cards in the classroom this quarter.

## Craft Materials

Source strips of **black paper**; **a paper cup**; **craft sticks**; **chenille sticks or pipe cleaners**; **yellow, orange, and red tissue paper**; **brown crepe paper**; **scissors**; **craft glue**. Make a sample.

# What Do I Need?

## Source From AIJ Website ([www.aliveinjesus.info](http://www.aliveinjesus.info))

### Music:

- "Alive in Jesus"
- "God Speaks to Us"
- "Love My Enemies"
- "A Whisper From the Heart"
- "What Can I Give to the Lord?"
- "Visitor Song"
- "Happy Birthday"
- Scripture Song: "Proverbs 14:26"
- "God Be With You"



[qr.aij.info\\_PA2Music](http://qr.aij.info_PA2Music)

- Paper people outline
- Location of Mission Offering and 13 Mission Fast Facts
- Offering Chart template
- Week 1 Program PowerPoint
- Character Card 14: Jacob and Esau for each child

## Additional Resources to Source

- Class Bible; Bible for pairs or written-out verse.
- Globe or world map
- Offering container
- Objects to scatter: paper cups/cones, etc.
- Blindfold
- Jug/waterpot
- Star (craft from last quarter)
- Basket of vegetables
- Pot and bowl for pretend stew
- Character card collection device for each child
- Craft materials (see above)



# Full Program Outline

**Big Idea:** We can have confidence in God to lead us.

## EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

**LISTEN:** Play this quarter's **Scripture Song playlist** quietly in the background.

**CONNECT:** Warmly acknowledge all children by name as they arrive. Share how happy you are to see them.

**DO:** Demonstrate how to fold the paper and then cut around the outline to create two paper people. Talk about how they are identical. Did God make us all the same? **Invite the children to create their own paper people and color and decorate each one so they are different.** Talk about how in today's story there were twin brothers who weren't identical. God gives each one of us different gifts and talents to use for Him.

## OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

**WELCOME:** Bring the children together and welcome them as a group. Invite the children to look at the wall mural and ask them what they notice.

Open your Bible while you explain that this quarter we'll continue to follow the story of God's faithful care of Abraham and his family.

Ask the group:

- **Which book in the Bible have we been reading?** (Genesis)
- **What did God promise Abraham's family?** (Prompt answer by showing a star or some dust. God promised to make them a big family, to bless them, and to use them to bless others.)
- **Whom might we meet next in Abraham's family?** Invite them to look at the mural for clues.

Explain that we will learn through their stories, and in God's Word, that God is with us and He leads our lives.

**SING:** Sing the welcome song, "**Alive in Jesus,**" followed by "**Love My Enemies**" and "**God Speaks to Us.**"

Sing the prayer song, "**A Whisper From the Heart.**"

**PRAY:** **Pray** and invite God to be close to you and the children as you learn to trust in our faithful God.

**SING:** Sing the offering song, "**What Can I Give to the Lord?**"

**GIVE:** Introduce this quarter's mission project and offering destination, and explain a little about it. Highlight the location on a world map or globe. Share this week's **Mission Fast Fact** about this quarter's mission project. Say a short prayer for God to bless and take the offering to where it's most needed.

Have a child collect the offering. Display your **Offering Chart** and decide on how much money the class would like to aim to collect this quarter. After today's offering has been collected and counted by an adult, invite one child to color the first section of the Offering Chart.

**SING:** Warmly welcome any visitor and sing the "**Visitor Song.**" Sing "**Happy Birthday**" to a child who has had a birthday this week, and pray for God to bless them.

## FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

**DO:** Seat the children in a **circle** and hand out **pens** and long **strips of paper**. Ask them to draw a facial expression of their choice in the first section, then fold the paper over, so it can't be seen, and pass their drawing to the next person. Without peeking at the first section, have them draw the body of someone with an interesting job in the next section, then fold the paper and pass it along. The next person will draw a pair of feet, fold, and pass along. Invite the children to open their papers.

**DISCUSS:** Ask a few children to show their pictures and kindly share a laugh together. Then invite them to pass the papers once more. This time, invite them to imagine they are looking at a picture of themselves in the future.

- **How do you feel about this picture?**
- **What's one word to describe it?**



**TEACHING POINT:** We have lots of choices to make in life, such as: the kinds of people I'll choose as my friends, whether to be honest when I make a mistake, what I want to share with others, how I will include others into my circle of friends, and whether I should let my mood affect how I act. The good news is that we don't have to rely on ourselves to make these choices. God sees the big picture and wants the best for us—we can trust His plans for us and ask Him to lead us in the big and small decisions.

**READ:** Read the **Big Idea** together from the whiteboard or **Program Powerpoint: We can have confidence in God to lead us.**

#### BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)


 **SHARE:** Pray, then creatively share the Bible story.

#### UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

**DO:** Set up an **obstacle course** using soft equipment (paper cups or cones) that children need to walk around to get to a marked destination. Children will work in pairs—one partner wearing a blindfold and the other acting as a guide. Guides can use only the words **forward, backward, left, right, and stop** to safely guide their partner through the “minefield.” If the partner with the blindfold walks into an object, they are to switch roles and start over.

- **Whom did you need to rely on to get through this obstacle course and why?** (Their partner; they couldn't see the best or safest way to go.)
- **Who in the story showed they trusted God to lead them and how?** (Eliezer prayed for help to find Isaac's wife; Isaac prayed and trusted God's promise for a family.)

**Teaching point:** Life is uncertain. Sometimes we won't know which direction we should take or what we should do. God is the best guide! He is always with us and will lead us if we ask Him to.

 **DISCUSS:** Ask the children to stay standing and pair up. Have them help each other look up Proverbs 3:5-7. Invite them to read the verse and discuss together:

- **Which Bible character in today's story would you share this verse with if you could, and why?**

Bring the children back together and have the pairs share their thoughts with the class. Affirm their answers, and then discuss the following questions as a group, encouraging different children to respond each time:

Show the children a large cardboard shaped heart “puzzle” with four pieces. Each piece will have a statement written on it, which you can show the children for them to read aloud after each of the following questions is discussed.

- **Why do you think God planned to give Jacob the birthright?** (God wanted to give Jacob the birthright, not because he was a quiet boy, but because he loved God, was thoughtful of others, and would lead the family to love and follow God; Esau was more interested in himself than the ways of God.) **Show paper people.** Show and read the statement on puzzle piece 1 (Jesus, help me to learn to love You and follow You rather than following my own ways.).
- **Jacob wanted what God wanted. So what was wrong with what he did to Esau?** (It was wrong to take advantage of his brother. He didn't trust God to work things out His way, in His time.) **Show pot of stew.** Show and read the statement on puzzle piece 2 (Jesus, help me to wait for You to work things out in my life.)
- **Why is it better to have confidence in God rather than in ourselves?** (God knows what is best for us and others.) Show and read the statement on puzzle piece 3 (Jesus, help me to trust You.)
- **What will you do when you need to make an important decision?** (Pray and ask God to lead you.) Show and read the statement on puzzle piece 4 (Jesus, help me to pray to You when I need to make an important decision.)

**Teaching Point:** We can't see the future, but our loving God can. He always knows what is best for us. When we pray and ask for His help, He can guide us.

# Full Program Outline Continued



## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**MEMORY VERSE:** Give each child **Character Card 14: Jacob and Esau** to place in their container. Discuss the picture and ask the children to recite the **memory verse**. Then sing the **Scripture Song** together: **“Proverbs 14:26.”**

- **In this week’s story, how has God shown that we can have confidence in Him?**

**MISSION STORY:** Share the **Mission Story**, “Child Missionary,” and discuss the follow-up question.

**MISSION CHALLENGE:** Share that this quarter we’ll be focusing on **friendship** for our Mission Challenge. Each week we’ll learn or do something that will help us to eventually bring a friend to Sabbath School. Explain that Jesus wants us to share the good news of the Bible and His saving love with others. We can do this by sharing Sabbath School with our friends who may not yet know Him.

Share that this week’s mission challenge is to **bring** something for show-and-tell next week that answers this question:

- **What’s something you like about Sabbath School that you’d like a friend to enjoy with you? Is it a specific song, activity, the way your teacher tells the Bible story, the crafts, or something from nature you’ve collected at home?**

**CRAFT:** Display your **Pot of Stew craft** and explain how to make it. You may like to play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist** quietly in the background as children complete their craft. As the children create, talk about the exchange Esau made: the stew for God’s special blessing. How easy it can be to desire something we want instead of what God gives—which is so much better in the long term!

**SING:** Bring children back together to sing your closing song, **“God Be With You.”**

**COMMIT:** Ask a child to share what they learned from: **the drawing game; the obstacle course; the Bible verse they looked up.**

Ask the class for a hands-up response:

- **Do you want God to lead your life this week?**

**PRAY:** Invite each child to tell someone near them, “God wants to lead your life.”

Then pray for God to be with the children and their families and to help them remember that God is always with us. Give each child a joyful culturally appropriate gesture as they leave the Sabbath School room.

## Bible Story

**Big Idea:** We can have confidence in God to lead us.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

### Storytelling Suggestions

Show the pictures from this week’s story in the **Program PowerPoint**. Ask a child to follow your cues and ► click through the images. You may like to use the following props: a **star** from last quarter, a **basket with fruit or vegetables**, a **big jug/waterpot**, **paper people** from early arrivals, a **pot and bowls** for pretend stew.

**Pray:** Ask God to help everyone understand today’s Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.



## TELL THE STORY

▶ Eliezer pulled his 10 hot, thirsty camels to a stop by the well. *Whew!* Abraham's faithful servant smiled. He had finally made it to the faraway town where Abraham's family lived. Abraham had sent Eliezer here to find his son Isaac a wife—a wife who would love God as he did.

The servant looked around at the dusty shepherds. He would need God's help! So he prayed. **What did He ask God for? Read Genesis 24:14.** (For God to show him the woman; for her to give him and his camels a drink.)

Eliezer opened his eyes to see a beautiful woman coming toward him. God had sent Rebekah to the well. She said the very words from Eliezer's prayer! ▶ She gave him water . . . then rushed to fetch water for his 10 thirsty camels too.

Eliezer was so happy! Rebekah was the daughter of Abraham's nephew, and a believer in God. God had answered his prayer and found the right wife for Isaac!

Isaac and Rebekah trusted God's choice and were happily married. They held on to God's promise to Father Abraham to give them a big, blessed family—with descendants like the stars, "too many to count" (Genesis 15:5, ICB). (Show star.)

They waited for a baby. . . and waited . . . for 20 years. Isaac asked God to please send them a child. "The Lord heard Isaac's prayer, and Rebekah became pregnant" (Genesis 25:21, ICB).

▶ Rebekah's tummy got bigger and bigger. It wiggled and wobbled all the time! What was going on? God told Rebekah she was having twins—and they were already wrestling each other inside her tummy!

**What else did God tell Rebekah about these babies? Read Genesis 25:23.** (They would lead two separate nations; the younger would be the leader.)

Rebekah had twin sons, just as God had promised. Esau was born first, covered in thick red hair. Then, holding on to his tiny foot, had come Jacob. They were very different, but both very loved! (Paper people.)

▶ Strong Esau grew up to be a skillful hunter (mime using a bow and arrow). Father Isaac loved to hear about his exciting adventures out in the wild. As Esau grew up, he chose to do what he pleased.

Jacob was quiet and gentle. He loved to work in the vegetable patch (show vegetables in the basket) and care for the animals. Mother Rebekah loved his soft, peaceful ways. He grew to be thoughtful and helpful.

Rebekah told Jacob about God's words—he was to one day have the birthright. This was God's special blessing for the eldest son. It meant inheriting a double portion of his father's wealth, and leading the family to love, worship, and obey God.

▶ Esau wasn't interested in the things of God. But Jacob was—He loved God. Jacob desperately wanted the birthright. He couldn't wait!

One day, while Jacob was boiling a pot of stew (put a pot on a table), Esau trudged into camp, tired and hungry. *Mmm, the stew smelled so good!* And he was starving! Esau begged Jacob, "Quick, let me have some of that red stew!"

**How did Jacob reply? Read Genesis 25:31.** ("Sell me your birthright as of this day.")

▶ Esau quickly agreed. He cared only for his tummy.

Wanting to be sure Esau wouldn't change his mind, Jacob made Esau promise. And he did! Treating the precious birthright as something worthless, Esau traded God's special gift for a bowl of stew (pretend to scoop stew into a bowl).

# Mission Story **Child Missionary**



**Focus:** We are never too young to follow God's leading.

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**Location:** Help a child locate **Bolivia** on your **globe** or **world map**.

One Sabbath 12-year-old Ariel heard a sermon in a home church in Bolivia that really made him think. The pastor said that everyone should be involved in missionary work. Ariel liked the idea of being a missionary, but what could a 12-year-old boy do?

Ariel began to pray. "Dear God, what do I do now? Help me to be a real missionary for You."

He began to look for people who might be interested in learning about Jesus. As he looked, he kept asking God to lead him. "Dear God," he prayed, "help me to be a real missionary for You."

One day he joined his parents and sister in visiting another family. While there, he saw that one of them, a girl named Irene, was interested in the Bible. He offered to give her Bible studies, and she agreed.

Ariel had never given Bible studies before, and he wasn't really sure what to do. But he found a set of Bible lessons and studied them with Irene. He prayed a lot that God would lead and help him. And God did!

Irene looked forward to each new Bible lesson. When they finished the lessons, she decided to give her heart to Jesus. She was baptized.

Ariel was so happy. God had led him to be a real missionary for Him.

*What do I do now?* he thought. He remembered his prayer and decided to keep praying that God would lead him, every day, to be a real missionary.

After Irene got baptized, her father also decided to give his heart to Jesus. Then her mother too. The whole family ended up being baptized!

Ariel learned that no one is ever too young to be a missionary.

• **What can you do to help guide you to others who need to know about Jesus?**



# Craft

## Pot of Stew

### What you need:

Black strip of paper; a paper cup; three craft sticks; a chenille stick or pipe cleaner; yellow, orange, and red tissue paper; brown crepe paper; scissors; craft glue (1).

### Instructions:

- Glue three craft sticks together, as shown. Leave to dry (2).
- Cut a paper cup in half and glue a strip of black paper around the outside. Fold the remaining black paper inside the cup (3 and 4).
- Have an adult poke two holes on either side of the cup (5).
- Cut a chenille stick/pipe cleaner in half and attach to each hole (5).
- Layer a piece of yellow, orange, and red tissue paper and glue on top of the craft sticks. Scrunch it up a little to make it look like a fire (6 and 7).
- Crumple a piece of brown crepe paper and place inside the black cup (8).
- Retell the story by pretending to make lentil stew on the fire, as Jacob did.





## Primary

YEAR A • QUARTER 2

### God Is With Me

- WEEK 1 The Birthright Stew
- WEEK 2 **Jacob Tricks Isaac**
- WEEK 3 The Ladder From Heaven
- WEEK 4 Jacob Works for Uncle Laban
- WEEK 5 Jacob and the Midnight Wrestle
- WEEK 6 Joseph's Coat and Dreams
- WEEK 7 Joseph and His Brothers
- WEEK 8 Joseph: A Slave in Egypt
- WEEK 9 Joseph: From Prison to Palace
- WEEK 10 Joseph: Governor of Egypt
- WEEK 11 A Family Reunited
- WEEK 12 Ruth and Naomi
- WEEK 13 Ruth and Boaz

## Week 2

# Jacob Tricks Isaac

**Bible Reference:** Genesis 27:1-41

**Big Idea** God delights in us when our words and actions are truthful.

**Memory Verse** "Lying lips are an abomination [disgrace] to the Lord, but those who deal truthfully are His delight" (Proverbs 12:22).

**References** *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 179-181  
*The Story of Redemption*, pp. 88, 89  
*The Bible Story*, vol. 2, pp. 13-18

**Fundamental Beliefs** Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson:  
3. The Father  
7. The Nature of Humanity  
11. Growing in Christ  
19. The Law of God  
22. Christian Behavior

**Word of the Week** **Truthful:** Telling the truth and being honest in the way we speak and act.

**Lesson Summary** Isaac's family lied and deceived others to gain what they wanted instead of trusting in God. In his old age, Isaac decided to give his older son, Esau, the birthright blessing, despite God's promise that it would be for Jacob. Rebekah and Jacob lied with their words and actions and tricked Isaac into giving the blessing to Jacob instead. Their lies hurt themselves and each other, as well as their family members.

**Learning Goals** The children will:  
**Know** that God wants His children to be truthful.  
**Feel** a desire to always be truthful.  
**Respond** by being honest and truthful.



# A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

“Since the war in heaven, Satan’s goal has been to separate humankind from a relationship with our Creator, God. Disguised as a serpent, and determined to pull off the first, worst deception, Satan tempted Eve to lose trust in God. He wanted her to trust herself instead; to do things her way. Sadly, Adam and Eve fell for this deception.”

The Bible tells us that there is no truth in Satan—he is a liar and the father of lies (John 8:44). His lies spread—first to Adam and Eve as they tried to shift the blame, then on throughout the generations.

Rebekah and Jacob followed in this path. Trusting themselves, they set out to get what they wanted, their way. To disguise himself, Jacob put on animal furs and wore Esau’s clothing. Rebekah substituted Esau’s food with her own version. And just as the story way back in the Garden of Eden spiraled downward quickly, so does the story of Jacob and Esau. Suddenly there were

feelings of loneliness, anger, sadness, and grief beyond measure.

God wants so much more for us. The Bible tells us, “Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who deal truthfully are His delight” (Proverbs 12:22). God wants to show us how to live with truthfulness and integrity—attributes of His character. He wants the very best for us. He invites us to trust and depend on Him—the way, the truth, and the life. “Those who realize their dependence upon God will feel that they must be honest with their fellow men, and, above all, they must be honest with God, from whom come all the blessings of life” (Ellen G. White, *Child Guidance*, p. 152).

May we realize our need for Jesus every day this week and ask Him to help us to be like Him so that we can be honest tactfully.



# Simple Program Outline

**Big Idea:** God delights in us when our words and actions are truthful.

## Primary, Year A, Quarter 2, Week 2

### EARLY ARRIVALS

- Play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist**.
- Mystery sensory bags

### OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

- Welcome
- Songs
  - **“God Speaks to Us”**
  - **“Love My Enemies”**
  - **“A Whisper From the Heart”**
- Pray.
- **“What Can I Give to the Lord?”**
- Collect offering.
- **Offering Chart** and **Mission Fast Fact**
- **“Visitor Song”**
- **“Happy Birthday”**

### FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

- Game: Guess the Truth
- Share the **Big Idea: God delights in us when our words and actions are truthful.**

### BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

### UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

- Activity and discussion: **Blindfolded “Who Am I?”**
- Fruit object lesson: Honesty is sweet

### TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

- **Character Card 15: Jacob**
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song: “Proverbs 12:22”**
- **Nature Lesson:** “The Cuckoo Bird Deception”
- **Craft:** Banner of Truth
- **Mission Challenge:** Show-and-tell; pray for God to show you whom to invite to Sabbath School.
- Sing **“God Be With You.”**
- Respond: Two children share what they have learned.
- Pray.



# Program Preparation

## Opening and Focus Activities

Prepare six **Mystery Sensory Bags** containing items for children to feel and guess. Number the bags for identification. (Prepare two or more sets for a larger group.) Place household objects or objects from nature in the bags. For example: **keys, grapes, cooked cold spaghetti noodles, potato peels, raisins, leaves, pumpkin seeds, a baby rattle, cotton balls, fur.**

Source paper and pencils to play **Guess the Truth**.

Update **Offering Chart**.

Prepare **Mission Fast Fact**.

Write the **Big Idea** on your **whiteboard** or use the **Program PowerPoint**.

## Bible Story and Unpack the Story

Source the **Program PowerPoint**.

Source a **furry blanket/fake fur fabric** and two **bowls** for pretend "stew."

Source a **blindfold** to play "Who Am I?" game.

Source **sweet cut fruit** that's common in your culture (**e.g., bananas, mangoes, strawberries, apples**). Prepare enough to share with the class, and a small bowl for the object lesson. **Salt** and **honey**.

## Tie It All Together

Source **Character Card 15: Jacob** for each child.

## Craft Materials

Source the **week 2 craft template** for each of your children. **A piece of dowel or large craft stick** for each child. **Watercolor paints, paintbrushes, water, black markers, tape, scissors. Stickers** (optional).

# What Do I Need?

## Source From AIJ Website ([www.aliveinjesus.info](http://www.aliveinjesus.info))

### Music:

- "God Speaks to Us"
- "Love My Enemies"
- "A Whisper From the Heart"
- "What Can I Give to the Lord?"
- "Visitor Song"
- "Happy Birthday"
- Scripture Song: "Proverbs 12:22"
- "God Be With You"



[qr.aij.info\\_PA2Music](http://qr.aij.info_PA2Music)

- Week 2 Program PowerPoint
- Character Card 15: Jacob
- Week 2 craft template
- Mission Fast Fact

## Additional Resources to Source

- Class Bible
- Six numbered bags
- Mystery sensory items for each bag
- Paper and pencils
- Offering container
- Blindfolds
- Furry blanket/fake fur fabric
- Shirt
- Two bowls for pretend stew
- Cut fruit
- Salt, honey
- Craft materials (see above)



# Full Program Outline

**Big Idea:** God delights in us when our words and actions are truthful.

## EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

**LISTEN:** Play this quarter's **Scripture Song playlist** quietly in the background.

**CONNECT:** Warmly acknowledge all children by name as they arrive. Share how happy you are to see them.

**DO:** Without the children looking, invite them to feel inside each **Mystery Sensory Bag**. Ask what the children thought was in each bag, then reveal each object. Share that in the story today we will hear about someone who tricked his blind father by pretending to "feel" like someone else.

## OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

**WELCOME:** Bring the children together and welcome them as a group. Express how wonderful it is to be together to learn more from the Bible and worship our loving God. Remind them that they can share a short show-and-tell about **last week's Mission Challenge** toward the end of class. (Focus: If you had a friend who doesn't come to church, what would you want them to see, hear, or do at Sabbath School?)

**SING:** Sing the welcome song, "**God Speaks to Us**," followed by "**Love My Enemies**." Then sing the prayer song, "**A Whisper From the Heart**."

**PRAY:** Invite several children to **pray**.

**GIVE:** Have a child collect the offering. Display your **Offering Chart**, invite one child to color today's collection, and share how much money the class has given so far this quarter. Share this week's **Mission Fast Fact** about this quarter's mission project. Say a short prayer for God to bless and take the offering to where it's most needed.

**SING:** Warmly welcome any visitor and sing the "**Visitor Song**." Sing "**Happy Birthday**" to a child who has had a birthday this week and pray for God to bless them.

## FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

**J DO:** Play a game of **Guess the Truth**. Give each child a **piece of paper** and a **pencil**. Ask them to write down, in any order, two true facts and one untrue fact about themselves. (For example: I like swimming. My pet's name is Dusty. I play the piano.) Invite the children to read aloud their three facts. Can the other children guess which statement is untrue?

- **Which was easier to write: the things that were true or untrue?** (Accept all answers.)

Often it takes far more thought and energy to come up with lies than it is to simply tell the truth. And as we'll see in today's story, lies hurt ourselves and others. God is always honest, and He wants to help us to always be honest in a tactful way too—no matter what.

**READ:** Point to the **Big Idea** written on your whiteboard or the **Program PowerPoint** and read it together: **God delights in us when our words and actions are truthful.**

## BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

**SHARE:** Pray, then creatively share the Bible story.

## UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

**DO:** Play a game of "**Who Am I?**" Put a blindfold on one child and have them stand with their back to the class. Ask for volunteers to go close to the blindfolded person and say "Who Am I?" in a funny voice. The blindfolded person is to guess who it is. Repeat the activity for others wanting to have a turn.



**DISCUSS:** • **What was it like to try to guess who was speaking when you couldn't see them? What made it extra hard?** (Not using their true voice.)

• **Jacob started off telling one lie. What were the other ways he deceived his father?** (Lying about who he was, the food, the clothes he was wearing, the feel of his skin.)

• **What does the Bible say about lying and being dishonest? Read today's memory verse, Proverbs 12:22.** ("Lying lips are an abomination [disgrace], but those who deal truthfully are His delight.")

**TEACHING POINT:** When we tell one lie, it often leads to other lies. Sin is like that—when we do it, it's easy to do it again next time. It's always better to be honest and truthful from the beginning. God delights in us when we are truthful.

 **DO:** Share an object lesson. You will need **sweet cut fruit** (small amount in bowl; more to share with class), **salt**, and **honey**.

- Share with the children that honesty is sweet. Have a child come and taste the fruit.
- Shake some salt on the fruit and give an example of when they might cover up a mistake or problem with a lie. Ask a child to taste the fruit now. (YUCK!)
- Share that when we tell a lie, we often put ourselves in a position where we feel we have to tell another lie to cover up the first lie—just as Jacob did. Pour some honey over the top of the salty fruit and have the child taste the fruit now. (YUCK!)

**DO:** Invite the children to find a place in the room to silently pray that God will help them to always be truthful.

**TEACHING POINT:** Lies cannot be dissolved by covering them up. One lie easily leads to another lie. They ruin a wonderful, sweet life. If you have lied, the only way to deal with the lie is to have the courage to say you are sorry and ask God for forgiveness. Then God can wash the nasty rubbish out of your life and give you a clean start.

You may like to share the **fresh, sweet fruit** with the class. Remind the children that God loves us very much and loves to forgive us when we are sorry. He can help us learn to trust Him more and more.


### TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**MEMORY VERSE:** Give each child **Character Card 15: Jacob** to place in their container. Discuss the picture and have the children read the **memory verse** on the back. Then sing the **Scripture Song, "Proverbs 12:22."**

- **What does "delight" mean? What kind of facial expressions show this emotion?**
- **Why would God delight in us when we are truthful?** (He is truthful; He wants the best for us; He wants us to be like Him.)

**NATURE LESSON:** Read the **Nature Lesson, "The Cuckoo Bird Deception,"** and engage the children in the discussion questions.

**CRAFT:** Give a **Banner of Truth craft template** to each child and invite them to cut it out, then decorate. On one side of the banner children can write "God delights in us when we are truthful." When the banner is finished, provide the dowels or large craft sticks and help the children attach it to their banner. You may like to listen to the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist** in the background as children make their craft.

 **MISSION CHALLENGE:** Invite the children to briefly report about last week's Mission Challenge. Remind them of the question: **If you had a friend who doesn't come to church, what would you want them to see, hear, or do at Sabbath School?**

Affirm their answers and emphasize how special it is to learn about Jesus together at Sabbath School. Share that they can be a missionary for God by inviting their friends to Sabbath School anytime. This quarter we are planning a special Sabbath School to bring our friends to in week 9 or 10.

Share that this week's Mission Challenge is to **pray each day for God to lead us to the person we can invite to Sabbath School.** Affirm that they don't need to know right now—God will show them when the time is right.

# Full Program Outline Continued



## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**SING:** Bring children back together to sing your closing song, “**God Be With You.**”

**RESPOND:** Ask for two children to each say what they have learned today. Then ask for two more to share what they would like God to help them do this week. Affirm each answer by inviting all students to say “Yes!” after each response.

**PRAY:** Thank God for the children who have come to Sabbath School today. Ask Him to help each one trust Him more and help each child to be truthful and honest.

## Bible Story

**Big Idea:** God delights in us when our words and actions are truthful.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

### Storytelling Suggestions

Show the pictures from this week’s story in the **Program PowerPoint**. Ask a child to follow your cues and ► click through the images. You may like to use the following props: **a furry blanket or fake fur fabric, 2 bowls** for pretend stew.

**Pray:** Ask God to help everyone understand today’s Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

### TELL THE STORY

Father Isaac took a deep breath. *It was time.* He was now old and blind. It was time to give God’s birthright blessing to one of his sons and make him the new leader of the family.

► Secretly he called for his firstborn son, Esau, to come to him. Isaac smiled as he felt Esau’s hairy hand in his and smelled the fields on his clothes. **What did Isaac tell Esau to do? Read Genesis 27:2-4.** (To hunt game and make food for him to eat; then he would bless Esau.)

The birthright blessing would be for Esau! Father Isaac knew God had told Rebekah: “The older shall serve the younger” (Genesis 25:23). But he trusted his own thinking instead. He loved his firstborn the most, and the firstborn always got the birthright.

► Rebekah stood by the door to the tent and quietly listened. She heard everything! As Esau ran to the fields to hunt, she ran in the other direction—to find Jacob!

Rebekah had a sneaky plan of her own. She wouldn’t wait for God’s plan. She decided to “fix” things her way. She told Jacob to bring her two baby goats so she could make food for Isaac. Jacob was to take the food to his blind father, pretend to be Esau, and get the blessing instead!

Jacob shook his head. He really didn’t like the idea of tricking his father into believing a lie. He said, “My brother Esau is a hairy man. I am smooth! If my father touches me, he will know I am not Esau. Then he will not bless me” (Genesis 27:11, 12, ICB).

Rebekah had another trick! **What did Jacob and Rebekah do to make sure their lie would be believed? Read Genesis 27:14-17.** (She put Jacob in Esau’s clothes and put animal skins on his arms.)

**PAUSE:** **Did Rebekah want the right thing for Jacob? What was wrong with her plan?** (Yes. But it wasn’t honest. She didn’t trust God and allow Him to fulfill His promise in His time and in His way.)



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(Furry blanket, bowl.) ► Jacob walked slowly into his father Isaac's tent carrying a steaming bowl of stew. His arms were covered in hairy goatskin, and he was wearing his brother's clothes. He tried his best to sound like Esau too. "Father," he said gruffly.

Isaac replied, "Yes, my son. Who are you?" (Genesis 27:18, ICB).

Jacob replied, "I am Esau, your first son. I have done what you told me. Now sit up and eat some meat of the animal I hunted for you. Then bless me" (Genesis 27:19, ICB).

**What happened next? Read Genesis 27:20-24. (Isaac questioned him further, and Jacob lied each time.)**

One lie led to another and then another. Jacob lied with his words, his food, the feel of his skin, and even his smell!

Convinced by the lies, Isaac ate the stew (bowl) and gave God's birthright blessing to Jacob. "May God give you plenty. . . . May nations serve you. . . . May everyone who blesses you be blessed" (Genesis 27:28, 29, ICB).

Jacob got what he had always wanted, but it didn't feel good. He hadn't been truthful, and now he felt very guilty.

Just as Jacob left the tent, Esau came in from hunting. ► He made some tasty stew and carried the bowl to Isaac (second bowl). He told his dear old father he was ready for the blessing.

Isaac was confused! "Who are you?"

Esau replied, "I am your son—your firstborn son—Esau" (Genesis 27:32, ICB).

Isaac's hands shook, and his body trembled. *No!* His own son Jacob had deceived him! He told Esau what happened. Esau cried out! He begged his father for the blessing.

► Sad Isaac suddenly knew that he had made a terrible mistake in not trusting God's plan. He *could not* and *would not* give the blessing twice—it now belonged to Jacob.

God's little family didn't feel like a happy family anymore. Isaac was disappointed. Jacob was weighed down with guilt. Rebekah was bitterly sorry. And Esau cried and raged in anger.

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## TEACHER NOTES

# Nature Lesson The Cuckoo Bird Deception



**Focus:** Trickery and dishonesty have sad consequences.

The European common cuckoo bird is known as a brood parasite. A brood parasite is a bird that will trick another bird into raising its young. For example, the female cuckoo will spy on the nest of a small bird, like a reed warbler. At just the right moment the cuckoo hen flies down to the reed warbler's nest, pushes one of its eggs out of the nest, lays its own egg, and flies off.

The sneaky swap takes only about 10 seconds. Amazingly, the cuckoo's egg looks a lot like the other bird's eggs. These faithful reed warblers do all the hard work of parenting. They incubate, feed, and raise the young cuckoo chick, usually at the expense of their own true chicks. The cuckoo chick typically hatches before the natural ones hatch, and then it tries to push the other eggs or chicks out of the nest!

It's such a sad thing to see a little pair of reed warblers working really hard to feed a fat cuckoo chick that might be three times their size. Meanwhile, their own starving little chicks are pushed out of the nest by the cuckoo chick. What a nasty trick!

- How do you feel about the cuckoo, knowing that it tricks another bird into raising its young?
- Who is hurt by this dishonest trick, and how?
- Can trickery or dishonesty ever lead to a good outcome for all?

[www.amazingfacts.org](http://www.amazingfacts.org)

## Craft

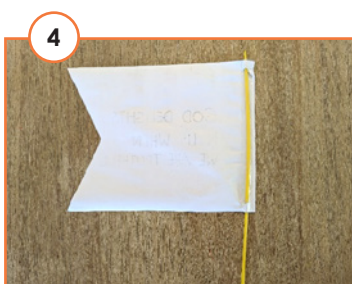
### Banner of Truth

#### What you need:

Week 2 craft template, watercolor paints, paintbrush, water, black marker, a long dowel or stick, tape, scissors, stickers (optional) (1).

#### Instructions:

- Cut out banner.
- Use watercolor paints to decorate the banner (2).
- Once dry, use a marker to write "God delights in us when we are truthful" and decorate with stickers (3).
- Poke a hole through the top and bottom of the banner (3).
- Slide a dowel/stick through the holes and secure with tape (4).







## Primary

YEAR A • QUARTER 2

### God Is With Me

- WEEK 1 The Birthright Stew
- WEEK 2 Jacob Tricks Isaac
- WEEK 3 **The Ladder From Heaven**
- WEEK 4 Jacob Works for Uncle Laban
- WEEK 5 Jacob and the Midnight Wrestle
- WEEK 6 Joseph's Coat and Dreams
- WEEK 7 Joseph and His Brothers
- WEEK 8 Joseph: A Slave in Egypt
- WEEK 9 Joseph: From Prison to Palace
- WEEK 10 Joseph: Governor of Egypt
- WEEK 11 A Family Reunited
- WEEK 12 Ruth and Naomi
- WEEK 13 Ruth and Boaz

### Week 3

# The Ladder From Heaven

**Bible References: Genesis 27:41-46 and Genesis 28**

**Big Idea** God forgives me and is always with me.

**Memory Verse** "To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness" (Daniel 9:9).

**References** *Patriarch and Prophets*, pp. 183-188  
*The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 1, pp. 379-383  
*The Bible Story*, vol. 2, pp. 20-24

Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson:

- 3. The Father
- 4. The Son
- 7. The Nature of Humanity
- 9. The Life, Death, and Resurrection of Christ
- 10. Experience of Salvation
- 11. Growing in Christ
- 21. Stewardship
- 23. Marriage and Family

**Fundamental Beliefs**

**Word of the Week**

**Forgiveness:** Giving up the right to punish someone when they have done wrong or hurt us; letting go of hurtful feelings such as anger or hatred toward a person who has hurt us or others. If we repent, God forgives us.

**Lesson Summary**

God's forgiveness and ever-present love is shown through the story of Jacob. After deceiving his brother, Jacob fled for his life. He left home with his father's blessing, but felt lonely, guilty, and sorry. God sent him a dream showing a ladder that reached from earth to heaven, with angels walking up and down it. Jesus stood at the top of the ladder and promised Jacob that He would always be with him and protect him. Jacob knew he was forgiven and loved.

**Learning Goals**

The children will:  
**Know** that God will always forgive us when we repent, no matter what.  
**Feel** assured that God is with us.  
**Respond** by forgiving others who wrong us.



# A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

Before you set out to teach the lesson this week, close your eyes and spend some time imagining the glory Jacob glimpsed in his dream from God. In his darkest moment—having destroyed his family relationships through deception and lost his home—this scene of dazzling beauty is what God chose to show him!

Can you picture God at the top of the ladder? Can you see His eyes sparkling with love and mercy? As you sit with this image in your mind, consider the words He spoke to His friend Jacob. “Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go” (Genesis 28:15).

Our sin has sad consequences. It hurts us and others; it separates us from God. But God does not leave us. He pursues us with love. He offers us forgiveness. He gives us Jesus.

Just as God forgives us, He invites us to forgive others. When we forgive, it doesn't mean that we approve of what the other person has done. It also doesn't mean that the other person acknowledges their guilt. It does mean, however, that I hand this issue over into God's hands, who will judge things justly, and in the process

He frees me of having to take things into my own hands to bring justice. Forgiveness liberates me from the bondage of some wrong that someone has done in my life. When I forgive, it's not a sign of weakness, but rather a sign of strength.

“The ladder represented to Jacob the world's Redeemer, who links earth and heaven together” (Ellen G. White, *Christian Education*, p. 156). Because Jesus died to save us, we can be forgiven and live in close relationship with Him forever. Just as Jacob's ladder reached all the way to Jacob's cold stone pillow and his guilty heart, “Christ reaches us where we are. He took our nature and overcame, that we through taking His nature might overcome” (Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages*, pp. 311, 312).

As you explore Jacob's story with the children this week, may you be reminded of how much God loves you and that “to the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness” (Daniel 9:9).



# Simple Program Outline

**Big Idea:** God forgives me and is always with me.

## Primary, Year A, Quarter 2, Week 3

### EARLY ARRIVALS

- Play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist**.
- Find the angels.

### OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

- Welcome
- Songs
  - **“God Is My Faithful Friend”**
  - **“Jacob’s Ladder”**
  - **“Sabbath Song”**
- Pray.
- Sing offering song: **“What Can I Give to the Lord?”** Collect offering.
- **Offering Chart** and **Mission Fast Fact**
- **“Visitor Song”**
- **“Happy Birthday”**

### FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

- Storm in a Jar object lesson
- Share the **Big Idea: God forgives me and is always with me.**

### BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

### UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

- Jumping object lesson: **Grace**
- Discussion on Jesus’ forgiveness and death to save us.

### TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

- **Character Card 16: Jacob’s Ladder**
- **Memory Verse:** Challenge and **Scripture Song:** **“Daniel 9:9”**
- **Mission Story:** “Finding Forgiveness”
- **Craft:** Jacob’s Ladder
- Sing **“God Be With You.”**
- **Mission Challenge:** Strengthen friendships, make new ones.
- Respond: Stone; thanks for what they learned
- Pray.



# Program Preparation

## Opening and Focus Activities

Print and cut out **angel outlines** and hide around the Sabbath School area. Source **glitter glue or sparkly pens** for children to then decorate.

Source a **jar with lid, water, sand**.

Update **Offering Chart**.

Prepare **Mission Fast Fact**.

Write the **Big Idea** on your **whiteboard** or use the **Program PowerPoint**.

## Bible Story and Unpack the Story

Source the **Program PowerPoint**.

Source a **large stone**.

For the jumping competition, source **tape or string** to mark a line to jump from and to jump to (an unreachable distance away). Mark the jumps with tape, or simply have an adult stand adjacent to the farthest jump. A long piece of **fabric** (can be tied together), **string, or tape** to be the "ladder" bridging the gap.

## Tie It All Together

Source **Character Card 16: Jacob's Ladder** for each child.

## Craft Materials

Source the **week 3 craft template, large and small craft sticks, yellow marker, scissors, craft glue, gold glitter glue**.

# What Do I Need?

## Source From AIJ Website ([www.aliveinjesus.info](http://www.aliveinjesus.info))

### Music:

- "God Is My Faithful Friend"
- "Jacob's Ladder"
- "Sabbath Song"
- "What Can I Give to the Lord?"
- "Visitor Song"
- "Happy Birthday"
- Scripture Song: "Daniel 9:9"
- "God Be With You"



*qr.aij.info\_PA2Music*

- Week 3 Program PowerPoint
- Character Card 16: Jacob's Ladder
- Angel outline
- Mission Fast Fact
- Week 3 craft template

## Additional Resources to Source

- Class Bible
- Glitter glue or sparkly pens
- Offering container
- Jar with lid, water, sand
- Tape or string
- Long fabric, tape, or string
- Large stone
- Craft materials (see above)

# Full Program Outline



**Big Idea:** God forgives me and is always with me.

## EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

**LISTEN:** Play this quarter's **Scripture Song playlist** quietly in the background as the children arrive. You may like to also include the new songs from today's song list.

**CONNECT:** Warmly acknowledge all children by name as they arrive. Share how happy you are to see them.

**DO:** Share with the children that you are also happy to welcome their angels, even though we can't see them. Tell them that there are some **paper angels** that you have hidden all around the Sabbath School room. Invite the children to find them. As an option, they can add some sparkle (glitter) to the angel, then **hide them again for others to find**.

Explain that in today's Bible story, God allows someone to see His beautiful angels at work for us.

## OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

**WELCOME:** Bring the children together and welcome them as a group.

**SING:** Introduce and sing the new songs, "**God Is My Faithful Friend**" and "**Jacob's Ladder**." Sing the prayer song, "**Sabbath Song**."

**PRAY:** Invite the children to kneel in **prayer** as you thank Jesus that He is with you today. Ask that each child have an open heart as they learn more about His sweet spirit in the room as you learn more about His wonderful love.

**SING:** Sing the offering song, "**What Can I Give to the Lord?**"

**GIVE:** Have a child collect the offering. Display your **Offering Chart** and share how much money the class has given so far this quarter. Share this week's **Mission Fast Fact**. Say a short prayer for God to bless and take the offering to where it's most needed. After the offering has been collected and counted by an adult, invite one child to color this week's section of the Offering Chart.

**SING:** Warmly welcome any visitor and sing the "**Visitor Song**." Sing "**Happy Birthday**" to a child who has had a birthday this week, and pray for God to bless them.

## FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

**J DO:** Engage the children in a "storm" in a jar **object lesson**.

1. Place the water and sand inside the jar and shake it up to create a "storm." Talk about how when we sin, tell lies, and hurt others, our lives can become chaotic, as the water is now in the jar.

2. Put the jar on a table and watch as it settles down. Talk about how when we stop and ask God to forgive our sins, He is faithful to forgive. With His forgiveness, our hearts become peaceful, as the water in the jar is now.

**EXPLAIN:** The lives of the people in Jacob's family became like this storm jar: messy and chaotic. When we sin, our life can become like the storm in the jar too. But when we pray and ask God to forgive us, only then do we have true peace.

**READ:** Read the **Big Idea** together: **God forgives me and is always with me**. In our story today we'll see an amazing sign that God showed Jacob so that he would always remember this truth.

## BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

**SHARE:** Pray, then creatively share the Bible story.



## UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

**DISCUSS:** Ask the children to **stand up**, close their eyes, and imagine what Jacob saw in his dream. The children can then sit down while you ask for a few children **to describe what they pictured** and **how they felt**.

- **How do you think Jacob felt as he lay down that night and put his head on a hard pillow?** (List some words.) **How do you think he felt when he woke up?**
- **Why did God give Jacob this dream?** (To show Jacob He still loved him, would protect him, and had forgiven him.)

Explain that there was something very special about the actual ladder in Jacob's dream. Ask:

- **Think back to your lesson this week. Who is the ladder like?** (Jesus.) **What makes you say that?**

**DO:** Clear a big space and show the children the two places you have marked out with a long space between. Explain that you are going to have a jumping competition (no run-ups) to see who can get the closest to your mark. Be inclusive of children with different abilities and adapt the challenge as needed. You (teacher) can jump first, but jump only a very small distance. Give each child a turn, affirming their efforts. Have a helper track the longest jumps.

Share with the children that you forgot to tell them that in between the two marks was a giant canyon. Stand where you jumped to (the smallest jump) and compare with the longest jump. **Did either of us make it?** (No, we both fell short.) Lay a long piece of cloth or tape across the "canyon" space and ask them to imagine that the cloth is a ladder. Invite one or two children to walk across.

Explain that sin has separated us from God. No matter how hard we try (or jump), we can't save ourselves. Like Jacob, we all make mistakes and sin. Jesus came to earth and died for our sins. He is like a ladder whose perfect love connects us back with our Father. We just need to be truly sorry for our sins and ask for His forgiveness.

**TEACHING POINT:** Jesus died to save us from sin and connect us to God. He is like the ladder in Jacob's dream. **The Bible says, "There is only one way that people can reach God. That way is through Jesus Christ" (1 Timothy 2:5, ICB).**

**DISCUSS:** • **Who else was on the ladder in Jacob's dream?** (Angels.)

- **What are they doing for you and me?** (They keep us safe, help us.)

**TEACHING POINT:** God loves us so much He sends His angels to also help us stay close to Him.

## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**MEMORY VERSE:** Give each child **Character Card 16: Jacob's Ladder** to place in their container. Discuss the picture and have the children read the **memory verse** on the back. Then sing the **Scripture Song: "Daniel 9:9."**

**MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE:** Tag-tell the memory verse. Ask for a volunteer to say the first word (or few words); they then tag a friend to say the next word (nine words). You may wish to split big classes into groups.

**MISSION STORY:** Share the **Mission Story**, "Finding Forgiveness," and discuss the follow-up question.

**CRAFT:** Show the children your **Jacob's Ladder** craft sample. Demonstrate how to glue the craft sticks together to create a "ladder." Extension: Ask them to **write one or two words** on each step of the ladder about **what they have learned about God** from Jacob's dream. (Accept all responses; point them to the Big Idea if needed.) You may like to play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist** in the background as children make their craft.

**SING:** Bring children back together to sing your closing song, "**God Be With You.**"

**MISSION CHALLENGE:** Remind the children that their challenge last week was to begin to pray for God to show them whom to invite to Sabbath School. While we pray and wait for God to show us, we can build our friendships with those around us. Our Mission Challenge this week is to **make time to listen and talk with your friends—and maybe make new ones! Focus on others more than yourself.**

# Full Program Outline Continued



## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**RESPOND:** Take the large stone from the story and invite a couple of children to try it as a pillow and share their reaction. Then turn it up as a pillar of thanks and remembrance. Invite each child to come and touch the stone and **thank God for something they have learned in today's lesson.** Invite them to look at their ladder to remind themselves of some ideas.

**PRAY:** As you conclude in prayer, thank God that Jesus is like the ladder connecting us to God. Thank Him for His beautiful shining angels that are always busy helping God with His work. Thank Him for forgiving our sins. Invite the children to contribute to your prayer by thanking God for something they just talked about or wrote on their ladder.

## Bible Story

**Big Idea:** God forgives me and is always with me.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

### Storytelling Suggestions

Show the pictures from this week's story in the **Program PowerPoint**. Ask a child to follow your cues and ► click through the images. You may like to use the following props: **a large stone, paper angels from early arrivals.**

**Pray:** Ask God to help everyone understand today's Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

### TELL THE STORY

► Jacob dragged his feet as he walked to the fields to check on the sheep. He had cheated his brother of the birthright. He had lied to his father and to God! His lies had hurt everyone—and it made him feel terrible inside.

Esau watched his brother and frowned. He was furious! *How could Jacob do this to him?* His anger grew and grew. Then one day he said, "I will kill my brother Jacob" (Genesis 27:41).

When Rebekah heard what Esau had said, she gasped with fright! She must keep Jacob safe! Quickly she called for Jacob and told him he had to leave home. He was to go to his Uncle Laban's and stay there until Esau wasn't angry anymore.

► Rebekah then hurried off to Isaac's tent. She didn't want to worry old, frail Isaac by telling him of Esau's cruel plan to kill his brother. Instead she told Isaac she was worried Jacob would marry a local Hittite woman if he stayed at home.

Isaac shook his head. He really didn't want Jacob to marry someone who didn't love God, as Esau had done. He loved Jacob and wanted the very best for his son. Even though Jacob's lies had hurt him, Isaac had forgiven him.

Father Isaac called Jacob to his side. He told his son to go and find a wife from his mother's family in Haran. Then Isaac blessed Jacob with the promises God had given to Grandfather Abraham, and said goodbye.

**How do you think Jacob felt when his father blessed him?** (Accept all responses. Some responses may be: relieved, loved, forgiven, sorry for what he had done.)

► Rebekah hugged Jacob goodbye and send him quickly on his way. Scared that Esau might hurt him, Jacob took off running. His heart pounded with fear. He felt guilty and all alone. Because of his bad choices, he had lost the trust of his family and couldn't see his father and mother again. He even believed that he had lost God as his friend.

**Do you think Jacob had lost God as his friend? What makes you say that?**

After two long days on the run, Jacob stopped. He cried out to God, telling Him how very sorry he was. He asked God to forgive him. And God did—right away!



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But Jacob didn't *feel* any better—he still didn't *feel* as though God was with him. He begged God to somehow show him that he was still his friend. ▶ Then he slumped down on the hard ground, laid his head on a stone for a pillow, and fell fast asleep (*large stone*).

God answered his prayer by giving him a beautiful dream. **What did Jacob see in the dream? Read Genesis 28:12.** (A ladder reaching from earth to heaven and angels going up and down it.)

▶ The Lord stood at the top of the shining ladder. (The ladder represented Jesus, who would come to this earth to save us from our sins and reconnect us to God.) He spoke the promises to Jacob that He had given to Abraham and Isaac! God would give him a big, blessed family—like the dust of the earth—and all families would be blessed through him because Jesus would be born into his family line.

**What very special promise did God give him next? Read Genesis 28:15.** (God would be with Jacob wherever he went.)

Jacob woke up in the stillness of the night. Oh, what a dream! He had seen God's angels. He was truly loved and forgiven. The God of heaven and earth was with him!

He jumped to his feet. His loneliness and guilt were all gone. With joy he thanked and praised God. ▶ Then he took the stone he had used as a pillow and set it up as a pillar to remember this special dream about God's love and forgiveness (*show stone*).

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## TEACHER NOTES

# Mission Story Finding Forgiveness



**Focus:** I can trust God to forgive and change me.

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**Location:** Help a child locate **Taiwan** on your **globe** or **world map**.

Yu-Ting, who lives in Taiwan, grew up without ever going to church with her parents. But then her parents sent her to live with her grandmother in a small village. Grandmother took her to church every Sabbath.

She made new friends in this new village. But they weren't good friends. They taught her many bad things. Grandmother was worried. Mother and Father were worried too.

One day the pastor said that it was important for everyone to spend special time with God every day, reading His Word and praying. Yu-Ting decided to try.

She became good friends with God. One day she read something that was very hard to read. It was about sin. She didn't want to read it, and slammed the book shut! It took her three days to have the courage to read it properly, for she knew in her heart that her sin was in the way of her friendship with her loving God.

Yu-Ting ran to her bedroom. Locking the door, she knelt down. "Please forgive me for my sins," she prayed, sobbing. "Please forgive me for the bad things that I have done."

She realized how foolish she had been to do things that hurt others and God, even though she had known better.

Yu-Ting didn't know if God had forgiven her. She cried and prayed every night for a week that He would show her. On the last day of the week, she again said to God that she was sorry, then told Him she would trust Him to guide her from now on.

When she woke up in the morning, she felt different. Her heart was filled with joy and peace. She felt like a new person. "Thank You, Lord!" she exclaimed.

When she returned to live with her parents after three years, they were amazed at the change in her. They decided to go to church with her. Then they gave their hearts to Jesus too!

Yu-Ting was so happy! God had forgiven her sins and given her and her family a new life in Him.

• **How do you know that God loves and forgives you?** (He tells us in His Word, the Bible; He gives us peace.)



## Jacob's Ladder

### What you need:

Week 3 craft template, two extra-large craft sticks, five small craft sticks, yellow marker, scissors, craft glue, gold glitter glue (1).

### Instructions:

- Glue five small craft sticks horizontally across two large craft sticks to make a ladder (2).
- While it dries, color the angels from the week 3 craft template, and cut them out (3).
- Glue the angels to the ladder (4).
- Add gold glitter glue and leave to dry (4).





## Primary

YEAR A • QUARTER 2

### God Is With Me

- WEEK 1 The Birthright Stew
- WEEK 2 Jacob Tricks Isaac
- WEEK 3 The Ladder From Heaven
- WEEK 4 **Jacob Works for Uncle Laban**
- WEEK 5 Jacob and the Midnight Wrestle
- WEEK 6 Joseph's Coat and Dreams
- WEEK 7 Joseph and His Brothers
- WEEK 8 Joseph: A Slave in Egypt
- WEEK 9 Joseph: From Prison to Palace
- WEEK 10 Joseph: Governor of Egypt
- WEEK 11 A Family Reunited
- WEEK 12 Ruth and Naomi
- WEEK 13 Ruth and Boaz

## Week 4

# Jacob Works for Uncle Laban

**Bible Reference:** Genesis 29-31

**Big Idea** Because God forgives me, I can learn to forgive others.

**Memory Verse** "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11).

**References**  
*Patriarch and Prophets*, pp. 188-194  
*The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 1, pp. 385-403  
*The Bible Story*, vol. 2, pp. 25-31

**Fundamental Beliefs**  
Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson:  
3. The Father  
7. The Nature of Humanity  
10. The Experience of Salvation  
11. Growing in Christ  
22. Christian Behavior  
23. Marriage and Family

**Word of the Week** **Steadfast:** Constant; able to be relied upon; dependable. Unchanging; unwavering.

**Lesson Summary**  
Jacob learned to forgive others, just as God forgave him. Jacob fell in love with his Uncle Laban's daughter Rachel and agreed to work seven years to marry her, but Jacob was tricked by Laban into marrying his firstborn daughter Leah instead. Jacob had to work seven more years to marry Rachel. He was steadfast, despite being cheated many times. God increased Jacob's family and flocks, showing His love and good plans for him. After 20 years of work for Laban, God told Jacob to go back to the land of his family, and then brought about forgiveness and peace between his family and Laban's.

**Learning Goals**  
The children will:  
**Know** that God has only good thoughts toward them and that they are forgiven.  
**Feel** forgiven by God.  
**Respond** by choosing to forgive others.



# A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

Peace. A future. Hope.

When God inspired His prophet Jeremiah to write the words of our memory verse, His purpose was to encourage a people who were displaced, oppressed, and enslaved. Many may have looked around at the injustice and evil in their midst and lost hope. But God reminds them: I am your hope; I can give you peace.

It is a message for you today too. “For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope” (Jeremiah 29:11).

In last week’s lesson God reminded His friend Jacob of this very same truth. Jacob’s dream revealed God’s intimate involvement in His life, and His ultimate plan of salvation. As Jacob journeyed on, changed by God’s forgiveness, God proved it. Jacob was protected and blessed.

Many challenges came his way, and Jacob didn’t escape the consequences of selfishness. But when we take a close look at how Jacob dealt with his consequences, we see that he didn’t hold on to hurt. Instead he held on to God’s plan and promises.

With God’s help we can do the same. We can appreciate the incredible gift of God’s grace and forgiveness. We can trust Him to help us forgive those who hurt us too. This is for our good. God knows that we’ll be happier and have peace when we let go of anger and keep trusting His plans.

As you explore this story with the children, may you be reminded of just how much God loves you and how He wants to give you peace, a future, and hope.



# Simple Program Outline

**Big Idea:** Because God forgives me, I can learn to forgive others.

## Primary, Year A, Quarter 2, Week 4

### EARLY ARRIVALS

- Play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist**.
- Play future charades.

### OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

- Welcome
- Songs
  - **“God Is My Faithful Friend”**
  - **“Jacob’s Ladder”**
  - **“Sabbath Song”**
- Pray.
- Sing offering song: **“What Can I Give to the Lord?”** Collect offering.
- **Offering Chart** and **Mission Fast Fact**
- **“Visitor Song”**
- **“Happy Birthday”**

### FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

- Activity: Impossible math challenge
- Share the **Big Idea: Because God forgives me, I can learn to forgive others.**

### BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

### UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

- Object lesson: **Heavy bag**—unforgiveness weighs us down
- Discuss: Think, pair, share

### TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

- **Character Card 17: Jacob’s Goats and Sheep**
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song: “Jeremiah 29:11”**
- **Nature Lesson:** “The Colorful Mandrill”
- **Craft:** Spotted Sheep
- **Mission Challenge:** Invite a friend to help you be a secret helper.
- Sing **“God Be With You.”**
- Review: Children share their favorite part, something surprising, of what they learned about God.
- Pray.

# Program Preparation



## Opening and Focus Activities

Brainstorm a list of jobs, write each one on a **small piece of paper**, and put them in a **bag** for drawing. For example: builder; violinist; dentist; hairstylist; astronaut, veterinarian; photographer; businessperson. These will be guessed quickly, so think of lots!

Update [Offering Chart](#).

Prepare [Mission Fast Fact](#).

Write the **Big Idea** on your **whiteboard** or use the **Program PowerPoint**.

## Bible Story and Unpack the Story

Source the [Program PowerPoint](#), and **cloth** for veil, **craft sample** of spotted animal, **paper heart** to later tear in two.

Source a **bag** and **heavy objects, such as rocks or books**. Label each one with a word related to unforgiveness: lying, cheating, unfairness, hurt, anger, revenge, bitterness. A simple game to play, like catch with a **ball**. **Crumpled-up paper** to pick up.

Source **small stones**.

## Tie It All Together

Source [Character Card 17: Jacob's Goats and Sheep](#) for each child.

## Craft Materials

Source the [week 4 craft template](#) for each child, **paper cups or foam balls, cotton balls, scissors, black markers, googly eyes** (optional).

# What Do I Need?

## Source From AIJ Website ([www.aliveinjesus.info](http://www.aliveinjesus.info))

- Music:
  - "God Is My Faithful Friend"
  - "Jacob's Ladder"
  - "Sabbath Song"
  - "What Can I Give to the Lord?"
  - "Visitor Song"
  - "Happy Birthday"
  - Scripture Song: "Jeremiah 29:11"
  - "God Be With You"



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- Week 4 Program PowerPoint
- Character Card 17: Jacob's Goats and Sheep
- Week 4 craft template
- Mission Fast Fact

## Additional Resources to Source

- Class Bible
- Paper: Future charades
- Paper and pen for each child, and small prize of your choice (bookmark or healthy treat)
- Offering container
- Cloth for veil, paper heart
- Pen and paper, whiteboard/marker
- Bag and heavy objects such as rocks or books
- Game: ball, crumpled-up papers
- Small stones
- Craft materials (see above)

# Full Program Outline



**Big Idea:** Because God forgives me, I can learn to forgive others.

## EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

**LISTEN:** Play this quarter's **Scripture Song playlist** quietly in the background as the children arrive.

**CONNECT:** Warmly acknowledge all children by name as they arrive. Share how happy you are to see them at Sabbath School today.

**DO:** Invite the children to play a game of **future charades** with you. Each child can take a piece of paper with a job title on it from your bag. They are to act out the job as a charade for others to guess. As the group grows, share that God has given us all different talents and has good plans for each one of us.

## OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

**WELCOME:** Bring the children together and welcome them as a group. Share that you have just been doing future charades, guessing at what some of the children may do in the future. Remind them that God has good plans for them. Trusting His good plans can help us get through hard times and treat others well along the way.

**SING:** Sing the songs you learned last week: "**God Is My Faithful Friend**" and "**Jacob's Ladder**." Sing the prayer song, "**Sabbath Song**."

**PRAY:** Open your Bible, and tell the children you are so excited to read God's Word. Read **Jeremiah 29:11**. Discuss how this verse makes the children feel, knowing God has thoughts of peace toward them and has planned a wonderful future for each of us. **Pray** and thank God for His promise.

**SING:** Sing the offering song, "**What Can I Give to the Lord?**" This is one way we can say "Thank You" to God for all He is planning for us.

**GIVE:** Have a child collect the offering. Display your **Offering Chart** and share how much money the class has given so far this quarter. Share this week's **Mission Fast Fact**. Say a short prayer for God to bless and take the offering to where it's most needed. After the offering has been collected and counted by an adult, invite one child to color this week's section of the Offering Chart.

**SING:** Warmly welcome any visitor and sing the "**Visitor Song**." Sing "**Happy Birthday**" to a child who has had a birthday this week, and pray for God to bless them.

## FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

**DO:** Tell the children you have a challenge for them. Give each child a piece of paper and pen. Write a math challenge on the board while they close their eyes. When you say, "Go," the children can open their eyes and work out the answer to the math problem on their papers. They'll have just 60 seconds to find the solution (without talking or working together). For anyone who does find the answer, there will be a special prize (bookmark or healthy treat of your choice). Set your timer, then say, "Go!"

The challenge is:  $5+9-15+7-2/3+106+9-15+23-4/5+1$ .

**TEACHING POINT:** The children won't be able to find the answer in this time. Ask the children if they would like a prize. Yes? Give each child a prize anyway. In a similar way that none of you deserved a prize, when we ask for God's forgiveness He gives it to us generously, even though we don't deserve it.

**READ:** Read the **Big Idea** together: **Because God forgives us, we can learn to forgive others**. Our story today is about Jacob being tricked by his dishonest Uncle Laban, just as Jacob was dishonest with Isaac and Esau. God helped him to forgive Laban, just as God forgave him.

## BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

**SHARE:** Pray, then creatively share the Bible Story.



## UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

**DO:** Label some heavy objects (rocks or large books) with words that relate to unforgiveness, such as: lying, cheating, unfairness, hurt, anger, revenge, bitterness. **Place the objects in a bag.** Ask a child to pick up the bag and carry it around the room. **Set up two challenges** to do while they are carrying the bag: play **a simple game** with a friend who has no bag (catch a ball); then **help a different friend** to pick up paper that is on the floor. Invite two or three children to carry the bag and share what it was like.

Explain that holding on to hurts and carrying around unforgiveness is like carrying a heavy bag. When we do this, it feels hard to do what we like to do: have good friendships, help others, or be happy in life.

Take the heavy items out of the bag and ask one of the children to carry it now and describe the difference.

**TEACHING POINT:** God can help us to let go of hurts and forgive others, even when they don't ask for our forgiveness or say they're sorry. He knows that we'll feel better and live better when we forgive others.

**DISCUSS:** Ask the children to form pairs. Explain that you are going to **think, pair, share:** think about the question on your own; discuss it with a buddy; then share your buddy's thoughts with the class.

Read each question aloud, then give 15 seconds for the kids to think, another 30 seconds to talk with their buddy, and finally, ask two different children to briefly share their buddy's thoughts with the class. Follow this quick sequence with each question. (Don't draw out this activity, as it's intended to get everyone thinking, discussing, and sharing quickly.)

- **What unfair things happened to Jacob?** (He was tricked into marrying the wrong wife and having two wives, then working without pay, being cheated of pay.)
- **What is something Jacob, because of how he was treated, could have done but didn't?** (Stayed angry at Laban, hurt Laban, gotten revenge, run away, got angry at God.)
- **What did Jacob do instead and why?** (Worked hard, forgave Laban, stayed calm and kind. God had forgiven him. God's love changed him.)
- **What can you do to try to be like Jacob this week?** (Ask God for His forgiveness and to help you be forgiving, just as He is.)

**DO:** Ask children to think of someone they need to forgive. Then give each child a stone to represent the burden unforgiveness has had on them. Invite the children to come forward with their stone and place it in a designated place as a symbol of asking God to help them forgive this person and remove their burden.

**TEACHING POINT:** God's love and forgiveness changes us. He can help us to be forgiving. The Bible tells us, "Be kind and loving to each other. Forgive each other just as God forgave you in Christ" (Ephesians 4:32, ICB).

## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**MEMORY VERSE:** Give each child **Character Card 17: Jacob's Goats and Sheep** to place in their container. Discuss the picture and have the children read the **memory verse** on the back. Then sing the **Scripture Song, "Jeremiah 29:11,"** and discuss:

- **How did God show Jacob that He had good plans for Him, for peace, hope, and a future?**

**NATURE LESSON:** Read the **Nature Lesson, "The Colorful Mandrill,"** and engage the children in the discussion question and facilitate silent prayer about forgiving others.

**CRAFT:** Show the children your **Spotted Sheep** craft sample. Distribute the outlines and materials for children to use. You may like to play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist** in the background as children make their craft.

Erase the **Big Idea** off the whiteboard ahead of your closing review.

**SING:** Bring the children back together to sing your closing song, **"God Be With You."**

# Full Program Outline Continued



## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**MISSION CHALLENGE:** Share with the children that our mission to invite others to know and love Jesus starts with friendship. Share this week's Mission Challenge: **Invite a friend to help you be a secret helper to show God's love.**

Encourage the children to do a **secret act of kindness** for a teacher, neighbor, or classmate. They can include this week's memory verse in their secret act of kindness. Then invite a friend who may not know Jesus (perhaps the one they'll invite to Sabbath School this quarter) to help them. When their friend asks why they're doing this, they can say: "To show God's love."

**REVIEW:** Ask for volunteers to share:

- Their **favorite** part of today's story
- Something that was **surprising**
- Something **they learned or loved hearing about God**

Affirm their answers.

**PRAY:** Conclude with prayer, thanking God for giving each person a hope and a future. Thank God for His forgiveness and ask for His help to forgive others.

## Bible Story

**Big Idea:** Because God forgives me, I can learn to forgive others.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

### Storytelling Suggestions

Show the pictures from this week's story in the **Program PowerPoint**. Ask a child to follow your cues and ► click through the images. You may like to use the following props: **cloth** for a veil, **craft sample** of spotted animal, **paper heart**.

**Pray:** Ask God to help everyone understand today's Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

### TELL THE STORY

Jacob's face lit up with a smile as he heard the shepherd's words. He was in Haran! After a long, long walk he'd finally made it! Jacob quickly asked about his Uncle Laban—did the shepherds know him? Yes! The shepherds pointed to a young woman on her way to the well. "Look, his daughter Rachel is coming now with his sheep," they said (Genesis 29:6, ICB).

► Jacob rushed to the well and kindly fetched water for all Laban's sheep. He hugged Rachel and cried happy tears. He was safe. God had led him to his family!

► Laban welcomed Jacob into his home with a big hug too. Right away Jacob started helping Laban with his sheep. Laban soon noticed that his nephew was a hard worker, and he asked Jacob to become one of his paid workers.

"What would you like me to pay you?" he asked Jacob (Genesis 29:15, ICB).

**Jacob didn't want money—what did he want? Read Genesis 29:18.** (To work for seven years to marry Rachel.) (Hold up paper heart.)

Laban nodded. What a good deal! Jacob worked very hard and was happy to do his best.

► Finally the seven years were over, and it was the night of the wedding. Jacob was so excited to finally marry Rachel!



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Late in the evening Laban brought the bride to Jacob. She was wearing a heavy veil over her face (**cloth over face**). A happy Jacob led her through the darkness to his tent.

In the morning Jacob opened his eyes and gasped in surprise. It wasn't Rachel lying beside him—it was her older sister, Leah! Laban had tricked him into marrying the wrong woman! (**Tear heart in two.**)

Jacob was so upset. Laban didn't even say he was sorry! Laban laid out a new mean plan: he would let Jacob also marry Rachel a week later, if he would agree to work for free for another seven years. It wasn't fair, but Jacob agreed.

**PAUSE: Had Jacob ever done anything this sneaky and deceitful? (Yes!) What? (He pretended to be his brother to get the birthright blessing from his father.)**

**How do you think he felt about his birthright trick now? (Very, very sorry!)**

Even though he had been lied to and tricked, Jacob began working hard and well for Laban for another seven years. Sadly Jacob's life at home wasn't as happy. His two wives, Rachel and Leah, jealously fought for his love. In the Garden of Eden, God had given Adam only one wife, and He never intended for men to ever have more than one.

**Do you think he had changed since he tricked his family? (Yes.) What do you think changed him? (God's forgiveness. Clue: ladder dream.)**

▶ God had great plans for Jacob. He blessed him with a big family, just as He'd promised. But after 14 years of working for sneaky Laban, Jacob was ready to go home. Laban didn't want to lose his best worker, so he offered to pay Jacob whatever he liked.

**What wages did Jacob ask for? Read Genesis 30:31-33. (All the speckled and spotted sheep and goats, and all the brown lambs.) (Show craft sample.)**

Laban smiled and agreed. Then he snuck off and took most of the speckled and spotted animals from his flock and hid them.

▶ But Laban was no match for God. God helped Jacob's flock of speckled and spotted animals grow bigger and stronger. Laban changed the rules of their agreement 10 times to try to cheat Jacob, but God continued to give Jacob good things.

After 20 years God told Jacob to go back to the land of his family. "I will be with you," God promised (Genesis 31:3, ICB). ▶ Jacob and his family quickly packed up everything and left for Canaan while Laban was away.

Three days later Laban found out, and he was furious! He, his sons, and a band of fighting men went on the chase to force them to return. But God spoke to Laban in a dream. He said "Be careful that you speak to Jacob neither good nor bad" (Genesis 31:24). God was with Jacob, keeping him safe.

When Laban caught up with Jacob, he kept his red-hot anger from bubbling over. He told him about the dream from God and suggested they make an agreement together, then go their different ways. They promised to always have peace between their families.

# Nature Lesson **The Colorful Mandrill**



**Focus:** Just as we need God's forgiveness, others need ours.

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The mandrill is a ferocious-looking baboon found mostly in the western and central parts of Africa. It has a long red nose with wide ridges of bright blue on each side.

The male is easy to spot. He has a long yellow beard and narrow, staring eyes. When he shows his huge canine teeth, he can look very mean! But his looks are deceiving. Showing his teeth is actually a behavior that shows he is submitting to the authority of other mandrills. This means he is showing them that they, rather than he, can be the boss.

Mandrills sleep in trees, but they hunt for food on the jungle floor. They live in groups, and as they hunt they grunt to each other, keeping in contact. When predators threaten the pack, the less-colorful females and the young mandrills escape into the trees. The males stay behind to protect the pack if necessary, until the danger has passed.

Grooming each other is an important activity among mandrills. They do this to remove fleas, but they also groom each other to bond and form relationships. Animals who live together and depend on each other can't afford to fight and hold grudges. So when two mandrills disagree, one will eventually start grooming the other, ending the disagreement.

We can learn from the mandrills. Next time someone does something you don't like, don't hold a grudge. Jesus is always willing to forgive us, so we in turn should forgive others.

• **How does this story of the mandrill remind you of today's Bible story?**

Ask the children to close their eyes and have a silent prayer with God about it.



## Spotted Sheep

### What you need:

Week 4 craft template, paper cup or foam ball, cotton balls, scissors, glue, black marker, googly eyes (optional) (1).

### Instructions:

- Cut out the sheep, then draw or glue on the eyes (2).
- Glue the head and legs onto a paper cup or foam ball (3).
- Draw on spots with a black marker (4).
- Pull apart cotton balls and glue them around the paper cup or foam ball to make your sheep fluffy (5 and 6).





## Primary

YEAR A • QUARTER 2

### God Is With Me

- WEEK 1 The Birthright Stew
- WEEK 2 Jacob Tricks Isaac
- WEEK 3 The Ladder From Heaven
- WEEK 4 Jacob Works for Uncle Laban
- WEEK 5 **Jacob and the Midnight Wrestle**
- WEEK 6 Joseph's Coat and Dreams
- WEEK 7 Joseph and His Brothers
- WEEK 8 Joseph: A Slave in Egypt
- WEEK 9 Joseph: From Prison to Palace
- WEEK 10 Joseph: Governor of Egypt
- WEEK 11 A Family Reunited
- WEEK 12 Ruth and Naomi
- WEEK 13 Ruth and Boaz

## Week 5

# Jacob and the Midnight Wrestle

### Bible References: Genesis 32 and 33

#### Big Idea

God gives me peace and helps me to make peace with others.

#### Memory Verse

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called Sons of God" (Matthew 5:9).

#### References

*Patriarch and Prophets*, pp. 195-203  
*The Story of Redemption*, pp. 94-99  
*The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 1, pp. 405-411  
*The Bible Story*, vol. 2, pp. 32-39

#### Fundamental Beliefs

Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson:

- 3. The Father
- 4. The Son
- 7. The Nature of Humanity
- 10. The Experience of Salvation
- 11. Growing in Christ
- 22. Christian Behavior

#### Word of the Week

**Peace:** The feeling of quiet, calm, safety, and contentment in our hearts. God's love, protection, and care can give us peace no matter what trouble we face. Peace is also a time without fighting.

#### Lesson Summary

As Jacob traveled back to Canaan, he found peace with God and the brother he had wronged. Jacob tried to make peace on his own, but his message to his brother was met with a show of force. Jacob spent the night alone praying to God, then wrestled with a Stranger who he eventually realized was Jesus. Jacob refused to let go until God blessed and forgave him, which He did. Feeling at peace with God, Jacob sent presents to Esau as he approached, then bowed humbly before him. With God's help, Esau forgave Jacob, and the brothers made peace.

#### Learning Goals

The children will:  
**Know** that peace comes from God.  
**Feel** desire to make peace with those they have wronged.  
**Respond** by asking God for His peace.



# A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

The line from a favorite worship song goes, “I’ve got peace like a river in my soul.” What a beautiful description of the way God can change our turbulent times into calm, content moments of trust. No matter the swirls that come—conflict, separation, brokenness—God can carry us through on His river of peace.

Thank you for taking the time this week to nurture the children at Sabbath School to first find peace with God and then become peacemakers for Him. “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God” (Matthew 5:9).

It’s not easy to know how to repair friendships or make peace after conflict. It was one thing for Jacob to be sorry for his deceit as he fled from home, and quite another to think of facing furious Esau again. Only God

could fill him with the courage and calm he needed to attempt to make peace. And only God could assure him that however Esau responded, Jacob would still be blessed for following His way of love.

May you seek God’s peace first and foremost this week. Fill up on the promises in His Word like one who thirsts in the desert. It is from the overflow that you will be able to teach, and model, that it’s God’s peace alone that really satisfies.

“The heart that is in harmony with God is a partaker of the peace of heaven, and will diffuse its blessed influence all around. The spirit of peace will rest like dew upon hearts weary and troubled with worldly strife” (Ellen G. White, in *Signs of the Times*, December 27, 1905).



# Simple Program Outline

**Big Idea:** God gives me peace and helps me to make peace with others.

## Primary, Year A, Quarter 2, Week 5

### EARLY ARRIVALS

- Play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist** as the children arrive.
- Clay or playdough shapes for peace gifts

### OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

- Welcome
- Songs
  - **“God Speaks to Us”**
  - **“My Help”**
  - **“A Whisper From the Heart”**
- Pray.
- Collect Offering. Sing offering song: **“What Can I Give to the Lord?”**
- **Offering Chart** and **Mission Fast Fact**
- **“Visitor Song”**
- **“Happy Birthday”**

### FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

- Game: “Who Touched Me?”
- Share the **Big Idea: God gives me peace and helps me to make peace with others.**

### BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

### UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

- **Peace** object lesson: pipe cleaners and jar of water
- Discussion questions

### TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

- **Character Card 18: Jacob Wrestles With God**
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song: “Matthew 5:9”**
- **Mission Story:** “From War to Peace”
- **Group Craft:** Bridge-Building Challenge
- Discuss the craft: We can build bridges with kind words and actions.
- Sing: **“God Be With You.”**
- **Mission Challenge:** Share music or the podcast from Sabbath School with a friend.
- Review: What did they learn about being peacemakers?
- Pray.
- Take home dough and creations.



# Program Preparation

## Opening and Focus Activities

Source **dough** or **clay** (see recipe). Zipper bags or similar for each child to take home dough or creation.

Source **blindfold**.

Update **Offering Chart**.

Prepare **Mission Fast Fact**.

Write the **Big Idea** on your **whiteboard** or use the **Program PowerPoint**.

## Bible Story and Unpack the Story

Source the **Program PowerPoint** and a **blanket**.

Source a **jar, colored pipe cleaners, water bottle filled with water, larger container** to catch the “overflow” of water.

## Tie It All Together

Source **Character Card 18: Jacob Wrestles With God** for each child.

## Craft Materials

Source a range of craft materials for the Bridge-Building Challenge. Use what is available for you. For example, **craft sticks, tape, straws, rubber bands, paper, cardboard. Toy cars** (optional). Children will work in small groups.

# What Do I Need?

## Source From AIJ Website ([www.aliveinjesus.info](http://www.aliveinjesus.info))

### Music:

- “God Speaks to Us”
- “My Help”
- “A Whisper From the Heart”
- “What Can I Give to the Lord?”
- “Visitor Song”
- “Happy Birthday”
- Scripture Song: “Matthew 5:9”
- “God Be With You”



*qr.aij.info\_PA2Music*

- Week 5 Program PowerPoint
- Character Card 18: Jacob Wrestles With God
- Mission Fast Fact

## Additional Resources to Source

- Class Bible
- Modeling dough or clay, zipper bags or similar
- Offering container
- Blindfold
- Blanket
- Jar
- Colored pipe cleaners
- Water-filled water bottle, large container
- Craft materials (see above)

# Full Program Outline



**Big Idea:** God gives me peace and helps me to make peace with others.

## EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

**LISTEN:** Play this quarter's **Scripture Song playlist** quietly in the background as the children arrive.

**CONNECT:** Warmly acknowledge all children by name as they arrive. Share how happy you are to see them. Ask them to briefly share about how last week's Mission Challenge (share an act of kindness with a friend) went for them. Encourage them to keep praying about who God would like them to invite to Sabbath School while building their friendships.

**DO:** Give each child some **modeling dough or clay** and ask them to make something they might give as a **peace gift** to someone they have quarreled with, hurt, or upset. Invite them to think about an object that represents peace.

## OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

**WELCOME:** Bring the children together and welcome them as a group. Be sure to warmly welcome any visitors and those who arrive later. Acknowledge some of the peace gifts made by those who arrived early. Tell the children that everyone will be given clay/dough to take home to create a peace gift. Share that today we'll learn about the gifts Jacob gave to Esau to show he was sorry.

**SING:** Sing the welcome song, "**Alive in Jesus**," followed by "**God Speaks to Us**." Sing the prayer song, "**Be Still, Be Silent**."

**PRAY:** Invite a child to **pray** with you and thank God for this Sabbath day and ask Him to guide everyone at Sabbath School today as you learn about His peace.

**SING:** Sing the offering song, "**What Can I Give to the Lord?**"

**GIVE:** Have a child collect the offering. Display your **Offering Chart** and share how much money the class has given so far this quarter. Share this week's **Mission Fast Fact**. Say a short prayer for God to bless and take the offering to where it's most needed. After the offering has been collected and counted by an adult, invite one child to color this week's section of the Offering Chart.

**SING:** Warmly welcome any visitor and sing the "**Visitor Song**." Sing "**Happy Birthday**" to a child who has had a birthday this week, and pray for God to bless them.

## FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

**DO:** Engage the children in a game: **Who touched me?** Choose one child to wear a **blindfold** and sit in a chair. Choose another child to quietly sneak up and touch the blindfolded child. The blindfolded child then tries to "catch" the other child and hold on to them. Repeat several times so other children can have a turn. (Note: Remind children to be respectful/gentle as they play.)

**EXPLAIN:** Ask how the children felt as they sat waiting for a hand to grab them. **Explain** that our story today is about **Jacob** and how anxious he felt as he made his way toward the brother who had wanted to kill him. One night a strong hand was laid upon him, and he **wrestled all night** with a Stranger. We'll find out more about who this special Stranger was and how Jacob found peace.

**READ:** Read the **Big Idea** together from the whiteboard or the **Program PowerPoint: God gives me peace and helps me to make peace with others**.

## BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

**SHARE:** Pray, then creatively share the Bible Story.



## UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

**DISCUSS:** Quick Talk: Ask the children to find someone wearing the same color as they are, then discuss with that person (in pairs):

- **Which moment in the story would you have most liked to have seen with your own eyes and why?**


Invite a few pairs to share their thoughts and affirm them.

**DO:** Talk about how amazing it would have been for Jacob to see angels all around him. Ask the children to describe what they imagine this might have looked like.

- **What feelings did Jacob have before this?** (Give a colored pipe cleaner to each child who answers, and ask them to shape something that represents each emotion.)
- **Why do you think God showed Jacob His angels?** (To remind him God was with him and would protect him; to help him trust God instead of his feelings.)

Ask the children to say the emotion they have shaped, and then place it into a jar. Talk about how we all feel different emotions when we make mistakes or when we have broken friendships. God invites us to bring our hurts and worries to Him. He is always with us, and He sends angels to help us, even though we may not see them. He can replace our hurts and emotions with His peace. (Take the pipe cleaners out as you fill the empty bottle with water until it overflows into your bigger container.) Point out the overflow into the bigger container.

**TEACHING POINT:** God is always with us, loving and caring for us when we face difficult things. His forgiveness fills our hearts with trust and peace. That peace overflows in our lives so that we become peacemakers, sharing His peace with others.

 **DO and DISCUSS:** Wrap your “peace” blanket around one of the children. Share that another way of thinking about peace is like a calm and comforting blanket. Let it slip down. Talk about the times Jacob let his peace “slip” and why. (Esau was coming with fighting men; wrestling in the night.)

- **What did Jacob do when he was afraid again?** (He prayed, he clung on to God, he creatively thought about ways to meet his brother and make peace.)
- **What can you remember to do if your peace starts to “slip”?** (Pray!)
- **It's unlikely that we'll meet God in a midnight wrestle. Do you have any ideas about how we might “cling to God”?** Read Deuteronomy 13:4 for some more ideas. “You shall walk after the Lord your God and fear Him, and keep His commandments and obey His voice; you shall serve Him and hold fast to Him.” (We can read our Bibles, obey, know Him as our friend each day. You may like to invite one child to draw a symbol of each of these actions in a piece of clay.)

**TEACHING POINT:** God wants us to depend on Him as our friend. We can do this by talking and listening to God, by reading and remembering His promises, and by obeying His Word. He will keep filling us with His peace, because it never runs out.

## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**MEMORY VERSE:** Give each child **Character Card 18: Jacob Wrestles With God** to place in their container. Discuss the picture and ask the children to recite the **memory verse**. Then sing the **Scripture Song** together: “**Matthew 5:9**.” Discuss:

- **How can you be a peacemaker this week?**

**MISSION STORY:** Share the **Mission Story**, “From War to Peace,” and discuss the follow-up question.

**GROUP CRAFT: Bridge-Building Challenge:** Invite the children to work in small groups to **build a long, strong bridge** using a range of craft materials such as craft sticks, tape, straws, cardboard, and paper. Allow the children to work together creatively to do this (without too much instruction). They may try to build it over a piece of (blue) paper or between two chairs. Talk about what bridges are for and why they are helpful.

Optional: Test the strength of the bridge with a toy car.

# Full Program Outline Continued



## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**DISCUSS CRAFT:** Stand on one side of the bridge and ask a child to stand on the other side. Talk about how terrible it would be to fight with each other. Explain that sometimes we might fight with a brother or sister, or even with our parents. This makes God very sad. He teaches us how to make things right. What can we learn from this week's story? Let's look closely at the story again to see what we can learn.

- **How did Jacob use words to help build a bridge of peace between Esau and himself?** (He spoke respectfully and humbly.)
- **How did he use his actions?** (He gave generous gifts, bowed low.)
- **How can we use our words and actions to build bridges and make peace with others? Think about people who might be angry with you, or people who might not like you for whatever reason.** (Speak kindly; say you're sorry; use respectful and gentle body language and expressions; give something thoughtful or be helpful.) As children share, write each of their ideas on a sticky note or craft stick and attach them to your bridge.

**Teaching Point:** We can use words and actions that are respectful and kind as we try to build a bridge with others to be a peacemaker.

**SING:** Bring the children back together to sing your closing song, “**God Bless You.**”

**MISSION CHALLENGE:** This week the children can take another step toward inviting a friend to Sabbath School. Excitedly share their challenge for the week ahead: **Share some Alive in Jesus music or the podcast from Sabbath School with a friend.** Discuss some ways they might do this safely. (For example, ask parents to help, share a card with the website details, listen to a podcast together.)

**REVIEW:** Invite three children to share what they learned today about being peacemakers. Remind them, if needed, that our peace comes from God, who will bless and help us as we make things right with others.

**PRAY:** Pray, thanking God for always being with us and sending His angels to help and protect us. Invite Him to fill our hearts with His peace as we learn to be peacemakers.

**TAKE HOME:** Give out extra dough from the early arrival activity. Encourage the children to pray before giving their peace gifts to someone this week.

## Bible Story

**Big Idea:** God gives me peace and helps me to make peace with others.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

### Storytelling Suggestions

Show the pictures from this week's story in the **Program PowerPoint**. Ask a child to follow your cues, and ► click through the images. You may like to use a **blanket** to represent peace.

**Pray:** Ask God to help everyone understand today's Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.



## TELL THE STORY

► Jacob and his big family walked slowly toward Canaan. Jacob smiled as he walked. He was happy knowing God had helped him make peace with Laban. But as he got closer to his old family home, his peace slipped away. He thought of how he had lied and tricked his brother and father long ago. He remembered that Esau had wanted to kill him! Jacob's stomach knotted with fear. *Would Esau still want to hurt him?*

Suddenly, worried Jacob looked up from the dusty road to see an army of angels! Shining angels hovered in front of him. He spun around. There were more angels behind his big family!

Jacob remembered God's ladder of angels that had given him hope when he had run away from Canaan. And now, 20 years later, God's protecting angels were guiding him safely home.

"This is God's camp," said Jacob in awe (Genesis 32:2). He would always remember how God had given him peace instead of fear in this special place.

God's peace settled over Jacob like a warm blanket (blanket). But he still felt worried as he walked. Could he make peace with his angry brother? Jacob had let God forgive and change him. What would it take to show Esau he was truly sorry?

He had an idea! ► He would send his servants to find Esau and give him a kind message. **What was the message? Read Genesis 32:4, 5.** (They were to call Esau "my Lord," and call Jacob "your servant." Jacob asked to find favor with him.)

Jacob's servants huffed and puffed as they returned. There was no message back from Esau. But there was news to share. Esau was coming their way with 400 strong men! Jacob's heart pounded with fear.

As Esau and his band of fighting men marched closer, Jacob prayed. He gave his fear to God.

After his prayer Jacob was even more desperate to have peace with his brother. So he focused on what else he could do to soften Esau's hatred. He chose some gifts for Esau. **What were they? Read Genesis 32:13-15.** (Goats, sheep, camels, cows, and donkeys: 580 animals!)

The generous gifts trotted down the road with Jacob's servants. Oh, how he hoped that the gifts would be accepted, and that he could soon be friends with his brother again.

Jacob sent his whole camp across the river while he stayed alone to pray. ► Night fell. Still, he prayed alone in the dark. He felt scared and guilty. He knew it was his sin that had put his innocent family in danger.

► A strong hand suddenly seized Jacob. A Stranger had grabbed him in the darkness! Terrified, he wrestled with the Stranger. He struggled for hours, trying to get free.

At daybreak the wrestling Stranger touched Jacob's hip. Instantly it popped out of its joint, and the muscle shrank. What power! Jacob realized this was no ordinary man! It was God!

Jacob clung to God pleading for a blessing: "I will not let You go unless You bless me!" (Genesis 32:26). God had been holding on to helpless Jacob with love. Now Jacob decided to cling on to God. God blessed him and gave him a new name: Israel.

As the new day began, Jacob's family again traveled on. Clouds of desert dust swirled in the distance—Esau was approaching with his fighting men! But Jacob wasn't the slightest bit afraid anymore. He had given all his worries to God and had accepted God's peace (blanket). He would try to pass on God's peace to His brother.

Limping bravely toward Esau, Jacob showed the utmost respect by bowing as one would to a king. His family held their breath as Jacob bent low before his brother, who still traveled toward them. They watched. And waited . . .

► "Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck and kissed him, and they wept" (Genesis 33:4). What a beautiful reunion!

Esau met Jacob's family and accepted all the gifts Jacob had sent. The brothers showered each other with kind words, smiles and hugs, forgiveness, and thoughtfulness. What a wonderful answer to Jacob's prayers. Then the two brothers said goodbye. They had made peace (blanket).

# Mission Story From War to Peace



**Focus:** Jesus gives us His abundant peace, no matter the circumstances.

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**Location:** Help a child locate **Tajikistan** on your **globe** or **world map**.

My name is Shukhrat [SHOO-khrawt], and I live in Tajikistan [tah-jih-kih-STAN].

Tajikistan is a beautiful country, with majestic mountains, lush green valleys, and crystal-clear mountain lakes and streams. But a terrible war broke out in our country, and many people were killed.

From the time that I was a small boy, I liked to read. One day my father, a soldier, brought me a small pile of books that someone had given him. I was only 11 years old, but I still remember these books. Three were Christian books: *The Bible in Pictures*, *The Gospel of Jesus Christ*, and *The Life of Jesus Christ*.

Those books changed my life. Up until that time, I knew little about God. But as I read those books, I started to love Jesus. When I found out how Jesus gave His life on the cross for me, I loved with Him with all my heart! I remember the night I knelt and prayed in my room. I gave my heart and my life to Jesus and accepted Him as my Savior! I was 12 years old.

When my father and other relatives found out that I had become a Christian, they were very angry. All I could do was bow my head and peacefully be silent.

Now another kind of war had broken out in my family. My relatives took away my Bible, but I got another one from a Christian church. They took that one too. I read another one secretly, but somehow they found out. My father beat me. My uncle even threatened to kill me. I was scared, and I didn't know what to do. But I was comforted by the words of Jesus that I had learned from the Bible.

I kept reading my Bible. When I got older, I was baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Even though it is dangerous to be a Christian, even though I could be beaten or threatened, even if I am killed, I will not change my mind. I love Jesus, and I will obey Him always. Jesus gives me peace.

• **Let's thank Jesus for His peace, even when there is war and conflict in our countries and families. How can we hold on to His peace, as Shukhrat does?**



## Bridge-Building Challenge

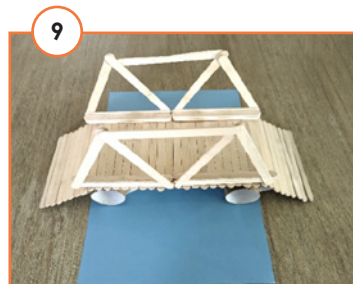
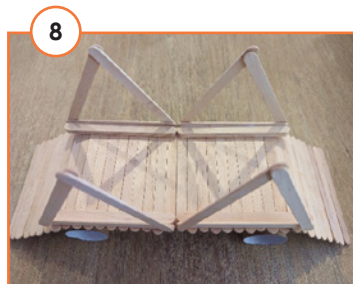
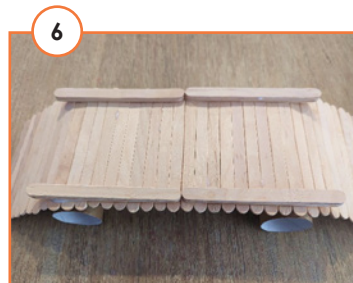
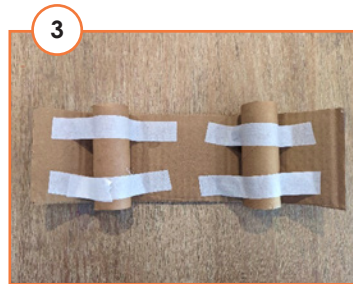
### What you need:

Recycled cardboard, blue paper, craft sticks, paper cups, cardboard cylinders, masking tape, craft glue, scissors, toy car (optional). Or other building materials available to you (1).

### Instructions:

As a group or pair, build a bridge to span a blue sheet of paper, using the materials provided. Then test each bridge with a toy car. Alternatively, you can follow the example below:

- Cut out a strip of cardboard and fold each end into the middle (2).
- In the folds, tape two cardboard cylinders to form ramps, and flip over (3 and 4).
- Glue craft sticks vertically along the length of the cardboard strip (5).
- (Optional) Add a railing by gluing four stacks of craft sticks horizontally along each side (6).
- Stick three craft sticks together to form a triangle. Repeat, till you have four triangles (7).
- Glue these to the railings, with a final craft stick across the top of each side (8 and 9).
- Test your bridge with a toy car.





## Primary

YEAR A • QUARTER 2

### God Is With Me

- WEEK 1 The Birthright Stew
- WEEK 2 Jacob Tricks Isaac
- WEEK 3 The Ladder From Heaven
- WEEK 4 Jacob Works for Uncle Laban
- WEEK 5 Jacob and the Midnight Wrestle
- WEEK 6 **Joseph's Coat and Dreams**
- WEEK 7 Joseph and His Brothers
- WEEK 8 Joseph: A Slave in Egypt
- WEEK 9 Joseph: From Prison to Palace
- WEEK 10 Joseph: Governor of Egypt
- WEEK 11 A Family Reunited
- WEEK 12 Ruth and Naomi
- WEEK 13 Ruth and Boaz

#### Week 6

# Joseph's Coat and Dreams

**Bible References:** Genesis 35:16-20 and 37:1-10

**Big Idea** God cares for me.

**Memory Verse** "How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them!" (Psalm 139:17).

**References** *Patriarch and Prophets*, pp. 208-210  
*The Story of Redemption*, pp. 100, 101  
*The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 1, pp. 428, 429

**Fundamental Beliefs** Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson:  
3. The Father  
7. The Nature of Humanity  
11. Growing in Christ  
22. Christian Behavior  
23. Marriage and Family

**Word of the Week** **Precious:** Of great worth or value; expensive or important; loved or dear to someone.

**Lesson Summary** God brought Jacob home to Haran and gave him 12 sons. Joseph loved and obeyed God. He bravely told the truth about his brothers' bad behavior. Jacob made Joseph a coat of many colors as a gift to show his love. Jacob's favoritism made his older sons jealous and hurtful toward Joseph. But God cared. He sent two dreams that showed His great plans for Joseph's life.

**Learning Goals** The children will:  
**Know** that God cares for them.  
**Feel** they are precious to God.  
**Respond** by choosing to trust God.



# A Quiet Moment . . .

## Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

Our emotions can sometimes take us on a roller coaster ride. One minute we might experience the high points of happiness as we reach a goal, discover something new, or share a wonderful experience with someone. Then comes a dip: a disappointment, rejection, or pressure—along with feelings of sadness, frustration, or jealousy. At times our emotions can seem to completely overwhelm us.

God sees and cares about all our feelings. He wants us to be open and honest about how we feel. He also wants us to make good choices about what we do with our emotions. For example, emotions, like frustration, can be important triggers for us to stand up for what is good and right. But some of our emotions—such as uncontrolled anger, jealousy, or pride—are destructive and can lead to pain for both ourselves and others.

The children in your care at Sabbath School are still developing their emotional tool kit. You can help them. At this tender age they need to feel useful and supported as they learn to master new skills on their own. Without encouragement from adults they can feel hopeless and inferior. Keep their emotions in mind

as you hand over tasks, encourage involvement, and praise their different abilities. Empathize with them when their emotions seem too big to handle.

We must be honest with ourselves as to what emotions we feel, but then we need to be willing to surrender them to God. He can help us as we navigate our emotions so that we can live peaceful and loving lives. “Our feelings, impulses, and affections must flow heavenward, not earthward” (Ellen G. White, *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 366).

Remember that God cares for you. “The relation between God and each soul is distinct. His care to you is as minute as though there were no other soul to claim His attention. . . . We should realise that we have a friend at court, one who can plead the cause of our soul, one who will be our helper in every emergency. We should be able to sing, ‘What a Friend we have in Jesus’ ” (Ellen G. White, in *The Messenger*, January 4, 1893).

What a gift to know God understands and cares about how we feel.



# Simple Program Outline

**Big Idea:** God gives me peace and helps me to make peace with others.

## Primary, Year A, Quarter 2, Week 6

### EARLY ARRIVALS

- Play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist** as the children arrive.
- Color-coded memory verse hunt

### OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

- Welcome
- Songs
  - **“Alive in Jesus”**
  - **“God Speaks to Us”**
  - **“A Whisper From the Heart”**
- Pray.
- Sing offering song: **“What Can I Give to the Lord?”** Collect offering.
- **Offering Chart** and **Mission Fast Fact**
- **“Visitor Song”**
- **“Happy Birthday”**

### FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

- Activity and Discussion: Giant thought bubble
- Share the **Big Idea: God cares for me.**

### BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

### UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

- Discuss in pairs: God's care for Joseph; Joseph's care for God
- **Emojis** to describe emotions in the Joseph story
- **Scenario cards** with different emotional responses

### TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

- **Character Card 19: Joseph's Coat**
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song: “Psalm 139:17”**
- **Mission Story:** “You Are Special”
- **Craft:** Joseph's Colorful Coat
- Sing **“God Be With You.”**
- **Mission Challenge:** Share craft and story.
- Review and Commit: Three children share prayer ideas for the week.
- Pray.

# Program Preparation



## Opening and Focus Activities

Copy the **memory verse** onto **different colored pieces of paper** and cut it into puzzle pieces. Make them all the same number of pieces so children will know how many they need to find. Make enough for each pair in your class. Hide the pieces around the Sabbath School space.

Create a **large poster** and **draw a giant thought bubble** (a cloud shape) onto the poster. Source different colored markers to use. Print or write out this Bible verse (ICB) big enough to reach across the thought bubble: "You are precious to me. I give you honor, and I love you" (Isaiah 43:4).

Update **Offering Chart**.

Prepare **Mission Fast Fact**.

Write the **Big Idea** on your **whiteboard** or use the **Program PowerPoint**.

## Bible Story and Unpack the Story

Source the **Program PowerPoint**, as well as a **stick** as staff, **colorful coat**, or **fabric/blanket** to use as a coat, pillow.

Source **markers and paper/whiteboard to draw emojis**.

Source **white paper** on which to write three scenarios, and **red and blue paper** to write three different emotional responses.

## Tie It All Together

Source **Character Card 19: Joseph's Coat** for each child.

## Craft Materials

Source the **week 6 craft template** (on white cardstock) and materials for Joseph's Colorful Coat craft: **different colored yarn, colored pencils/marker, scissors**.

# What Do I Need?

## Source From AIJ Website ([www.aliveinjesus.info](http://www.aliveinjesus.info))

### Music:

- "Alive in Jesus"
- "God Speaks to Us"
- "A Whisper From the Heart"
- "What Can I Give to the Lord?"
- "Visitor Song"
- "Happy Birthday"
- Scripture Song: "Psalm 139:17"
- "God Be With You"



[qr.aij.info\\_PA2Music](http://qr.aij.info_PA2Music)

- Week 6 Program PowerPoint
- Character Card 19: Joseph's Coat
- Week 6 craft template
- Mission Fast Fact

## Additional Resources to Source

- Class Bible
- Offering container
- Poster paper
- Markers, paper/whiteboard
- Various colors of paper, including white, red, blue
- Craft materials (see above)



# Full Program Outline

**Big Idea:** God gives me peace and helps me to make peace with others.

## EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

**LISTEN:** Play this quarter's **Scripture Song playlist** quietly in the background as the children arrive.

**CONNECT:** Warmly acknowledge all children by name as they arrive. Share how happy you are to see them and invite them to come and participate in today's activity.

**DO:** Invite the children to do a **color-coded memory verse hunt**. Hide premade color-coded memory verse puzzle pieces around the Sabbath School space. Assign each pair a particular color and ask them to find their hidden puzzle pieces and put the puzzle back together. Children can then say the verse to their partner, then see who can say the verse without looking.

## OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

**WELCOME:** Bring the children together and welcome them as a group.

**SING:** Sing the welcome song, "**Alive in Jesus**," followed by "**God Speaks to Us**." Sing the prayer song, "**A Whisper From the Heart**."

**PRAY:** **Pray** and thank God that you can all be together to worship Him. Thank Him for His thoughts of love and kindness toward us.

**SING:** Sing the offering song, "**What Can I Give to the Lord?**"

**GIVE:** Have a child collect the offering. Display your **Offering Chart** and share how much money the class has given so far this quarter. Share this week's **Mission Fast Fact**. Say a short prayer for God to bless and take the offering to where it's most needed. After the offering has been collected and counted by an adult, invite one child to color this week's section of the Offering Chart.

**SING:** Warmly welcome any visitors and sing the "**Visitor Song**." Sing "**Happy Birthday**" to a child who has had a birthday this week, and pray for God to bless them.

## FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

**DO:** Show your **poster** of a **giant thought bubble**. Sit down on the floor, if appropriate, with the poster in front of you, along with your colored markers. Explain that this is a thought bubble that you will fill in together. **Ask them to share thoughts they have about God**. You may like to leave the question open, or use the prompt: "**God, You are . . .**"

Affirm their answers where possible and invite each child to **choose a colored marker** for you to write their descriptions in the thought bubble to fill it.

**EXPLAIN:** Explain that although we can't see God, we can know Him. We love Him because He first loved us. Open your Bible and share that the Bible tells us what God thinks about us. Share **Isaiah 43:4** and read the first part of the verse: "You are precious to me. I give you honor, and I love you" (ICB).

Invite one child to come forward. Give them a piece of paper with this verse and ask them to place it in the center of your thought bubble. (Keep the poster close by for when you unpack the lesson story.)

Explain that this is just one thought, but the Bible tells us many more thoughts God has about us. Together, say or sing this week's **memory verse, Psalm 139:17**.

## BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

**SHARE:** **Pray, then creatively share the Bible Story.**




## UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

**DISCUSS:** Invite the children to pair up with someone they don't usually talk to (for uneven class numbers, form groups of three). Give each pair 60 seconds to discuss the following questions, with one person answering the first question, and the other person sharing their thoughts on the second question:

- **What in the story showed you that God cared for Joseph?** (God looked after Joseph's family, gave him a loving father and good home, and showed Joseph encouraging dreams about his future.)
- **What in the story showed you that Joseph cared for God?** (Joseph cared about God and chose to be honest, loving, and obedient.)


Together, invite a few children to share what they discussed, and affirm their answers.

 **DO and DISCUSS:** Invite volunteers to come and **draw an emoji of an emotion from today's story** on the whiteboard or some paper. **Have the children guess which character from the story felt the emotion.** Add some emojis of your own. Consider: the sadness felt when Rachel died; the love between Jacob and Joseph; praying hands for Joseph's faith.

Invite the children to look at all the emojis and ask them to quietly reflect on these questions (without discussion):

- **When have you felt emotions similar to those Jacob and his sons experienced?**

**Explain that when we have feelings such as these, we should remember that God is very close to us,** and no matter how we feel, He cares and understands. We can ask Him to help take those negative feelings away and give us forgiveness and peace. We can remember that He wants to help us manage our emotions.

 **DO:** Share three situations (either the three below or three that are relevant to your children) to explore possible ways we respond with our feelings and actions. Show the children the three types of cards: (1) scenario; (2) red emotion card with possible thoughts/response; (3) how my emotion might change if I remember that God loves and cares for me.

First, read and show each scenario card. Invite the children to first match the red emotion card to each situation, followed by the blue emotion card. Then discuss the situations. God has given us the power to choose our response. Discuss what red emotion responses could lead to, and the benefits/results of blue emotion responses.

**Scenario 1:** I gave a silly answer in class to a simple question that everyone else knew.

**Red emotion:** Embarrassed and ashamed.

**Blue emotion:** I know God loves me and accepts me even when I do something silly, so I can laugh at my mistake and not worry about what others think.

**Scenario 2:** I have a difficult science test tomorrow. Science isn't my best subject.

**Red emotion:** Stressed, can't sleep, worried.


**Blue emotion:** Feel a little worried, but also calm, because I've studied, and I know God will help me do my best.

**Scenario 3:** My older brother gets to go more places and do more things than I do.

**Red emotion:** Jealousy, frustration.

**Blue emotion:** Peace, knowing that when I am older, I'll be able to do new things too.

## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

 **MEMORY VERSE:** Give each child **Character Card 19: Joseph's Coat** to place in their storage container. Discuss the picture and ask the children to recite the **memory verse**. Then sing the **Scripture Song** together: **"Psalm 139:17"** and discuss:

- **What might some of God's "precious thoughts" toward you be?**
- **Why does God have so, so many of these precious thoughts about you—more than the sand in all the oceans?**
- **How does this make you feel toward God?**

# Full Program Outline Continued



## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**MISSION STORY:** Read the **Mission Story**, “You are Special,” and engage the children in the discussion question.

**CRAFT:** Show the children your **Joseph’s Colorful Coat** craft sample, explaining and demonstrating how to wind the yarn onto the card template. Distribute the outlines and colored yarn. Children can give their “Joseph” a happy face.

Play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist** quietly in the background as children make their craft.

**SING:** Bring the children back together to sing your closing song, “**God Be With You.**”

**MISSION CHALLENGE:** Remind the children of last week’s challenge to share Sabbath School music with a friend. This week’s Mission Challenge is to: **Use your craft to share this week’s lesson story with a friend.** Invite the children to tell this week’s story to a friend who may not know the story or the friend they are hoping to invite to Sabbath School.

**REVIEW** and **COMMIT:** Ask three children to share what they might pray about in the week ahead, knowing with confidence that God cares for them. Say together, with joy and enthusiasm, “God cares for me!” Read some of the phrases from the Bible verses to remind the children of this.

**PRAY:** Conclude with a final prayer, thanking God that He truly cares for each child.

## Bible Story

**Big Idea:** God gives me peace and helps me to make peace with others.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

### Storytelling Suggestions

Show the pictures from this week’s story in the **Program PowerPoint**. Ask a child to follow your cues and ► click through the images. You may like to use the following props: **stick** for staff, **colorful blanket or cloth** as a coat, **pillow**.

**Pray:** Ask God to help everyone understand today’s Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

### TELL THE STORY

► Jacob waved to his son Joseph as he ran off to join his brothers in the fields (**wave**). Jacob had 12 sons, but he wrongly loved Joseph best of all. Like little Benjamin, Joseph was Rachel’s son, born when Jacob was old. Sadly, Mother Rachel had died on the way home to Hebron in Canaan.

Joseph lifted his shepherd’s staff and waved it back to his father with a grin (**wave stick**). Then he ran to find his brothers and their flocks.

The teenager was very close to his father. He had grown up listening to Jacob’s stories of God’s love, care, and special promises. He knew God had brought them safely back to Hebron to live, and had given them lots of animals and a good home. Joseph had chosen to be God’s friend and to obey Him. This made him happy and honest.

► Joseph’s 10 older brothers didn’t much care for the ways of God. They weren’t thoughtful. They lied, were rude, and caused trouble with their neighbors.

Out in the fields Joseph carefully looked after his father’s sheep. He noticed the bad things his brothers said and did while his father wasn’t looking. He felt sad to see them sinning against God.



- PAUSE and DISCUSS:**
- **What do you think Joseph should do about what he saw and heard in the fields?** (Accept all answers.)
  - **What did Joseph do about it? Read Genesis 37:2.** (Told his father.)
  - **Would it have been hard or easy for Joseph to tell his father about his brothers? Why?** (Hard; Jacob would be disappointed; his brothers would be angry.)

Jacob's heart was full of love for his honest son. ► He decided to give him a gift that showed how much he loved him (colorful coat).

Jacob smiled with pride as he carefully carried his gift to Joseph's tent—a beautiful coat, woven with brilliant colors. It wasn't like a shepherd's coat; it was like a robe that rich and important people wore.

Joseph was so excited! He hugged the coat to his chest. It was stunning! Carefully he put it on and spun around (put on colorful coat).

His brothers were not happy. They didn't have beautiful robes like that! Here was proof their father was playing favorites. The Bible says, "But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him" (Genesis 37:4).

The brothers no longer smiled at Joseph as they passed his tent. Out in the fields their mean words must have hit Joseph like stinging arrows.

► One night Joseph lay his weary head down on his bed. All was quiet and still. No older brothers spoke nasty words to him or shot him angry glares. Soon he was fast asleep.

In the night God sent Joseph a vivid dream. **What happened in his dream? Read Genesis 37:7.** (Joseph's sheaf of wheat stood tall while all his brothers' sheaves bowed down to his sheaf.)

Joseph woke up and rubbed his eyes. What a surprising dream! Scratching his head in wonder, he went and told his brothers all about it.

His brothers stared back at their little brother and clenched their fists. They were furious! They replied, "Do you really think you will be king over us? Do you truly think you will rule over us?" (Genesis 37:8, ICB).

The brothers had been jealous. But now they were angry—really angry!

As the stars twinkled above their tent one night, God sent Joseph another amazing dream. ► Against a jet-black sky, 11 stars, the bright silver moon, and the fiery sun all bowed down to him.

The dream felt too big to keep to himself, so once again he shared it with his family.

**How did Joseph's father respond to this dream? Read Genesis 37:10, 11.** (His father scolded him for thinking he would be better than everyone else in the family.)

Jacob believed God had sent Joseph the dream. It clearly showed Joseph ruling over his whole family. But Jacob spoke sharply to Joseph, for he knew the dream would upset Joseph's older brothers.

Jacob was right. "Joseph's brothers were jealous of him" (Genesis 37:11, ICB).

Joseph quietly treasured the precious dreams in his heart, wondering what they could mean. He remembered the wonderful dream father Jacob had been given about an angel ladder. He might not know today what the dreams meant, but he knew he would understand one day, for he trusted God, his caring and faithful friend.

# Mission Story **You Are Special**



**Focus:** I can tell others that I am special because God cares for me, and they are special too.

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**Location:** Help a child locate **the Arctic Circle** on your **globe** or **world map**.

Late one night 9-year-old Sasha slipped into her house in a city located right on the Arctic Circle. She had been playing outside in the cold snow, and now she wanted to warm up. It was also time for bed.

As Sasha entered the room, she heard someone speak to her. Sasha didn't hear the voice with her ears; she heard it in her head, almost like a thought.

"You are special," said a warm and kind voice.

How was Sasha special? Was it because she lived in a Far North region of Russia called Yamal, which means "end of the land"? Her home did not seem to be at the end of the land, perched at the top of the world.

Or was Sasha special because she was a member of an indigenous (people who lived on the land from earlier times) group of people called the Khanty?

Sasha wasn't sure why she was special. But she liked being told that she was. Joy filled her heart.

But then Sasha began to have problems. At school other children were mean to her. At home her much older sister, Olga, started drinking. Father and Mother also began to drink. It wasn't fun being at home or at school.

Sasha wondered if she really was special. She wondered where people came from and what is their purpose.

Several years passed, and Sasha kept wondering. Then she met a new friend named Alyona. She was happy and smiled often. Sasha wanted to be happy, as Alyona was. She was surprised to find out that Alyona was happy even though she hadn't had a happy life. She didn't know her parents. She had lived in an orphanage for many years. Then she had been adopted by a Seventh-day Adventist family.

Alyona introduced Sasha to her family. They welcomed her, loved her, and taught her about God. Through her new friend, Sasha learned that people live because God created them. She realized that she is special because God created her and has a purpose for her life..

Today Sasha is happier than ever before. She knows why she is special. God cares for her. She is a child of God.

"I live for God," she said.

- **How could Alyona be happy even though she had an even harder life than Sasha?**
- **What did Alyona do, that you could do too, to show Sasha that God cared for her?**

Please note that because of this week's Big Idea, a mission story has been included instead of a nature lesson.



## Joseph's Colorful Coat

### What you need:

Week 6 craft template (on white cardstock), colorful yarn, colored pencil/marker, scissors (1).

### Instructions:

- Color and cut out the picture of Joseph (2).
- Tape the end of a piece of yarn to the back (3).
- Wind the yarn around the cardstock (4).
- When you get to the arm, wind the yarn diagonally across, then do the same for the other arm (5).
- Once finished, cut the end of the yarn and loop it through a couple of strands before making a knot (5).





## Primary

YEAR A • QUARTER 2

### God Is With Me

- WEEK 1 The Birthright Stew
- WEEK 2 Jacob Tricks Isaac
- WEEK 3 The Ladder From Heaven
- WEEK 4 Jacob Works for Uncle Laban
- WEEK 5 Jacob and the Midnight Wrestle
- WEEK 6 Joseph's Coat and Dreams
- WEEK 7 **Joseph and His Brothers**
- WEEK 8 Joseph: A Slave in Egypt
- WEEK 9 Joseph: From Prison to Palace
- WEEK 10 Joseph: Governor of Egypt
- WEEK 11 A Family Reunited
- WEEK 12 Ruth and Naomi
- WEEK 13 Ruth and Boaz

## Week 7

# Joseph and His Brothers

**Bible Reference:** Genesis 37:12-25

**Big Idea** I can trust God to be with me.

**Memory Verse**

"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand" (Isaiah 41:10).

**References**

*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 210-214  
*The Story of Redemption*, p. 101  
*The Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 1, pp. 130, 131  
*The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 1, pp. 429-432, 1096  
*The Bible Story*, vol. 2, pp. 43-50

**Fundamental Beliefs**

Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson:  
3. The Father  
7. The Nature of Humanity

**Word of the Week**

**Trustworthy:** Reliable and honest; able to be trusted.

**Lesson Summary**

Jacob sent Joseph to check on his brothers, who had taken the sheep to find green grass. When his jealous brothers saw him coming, they plotted to get rid of him. They threw Joseph into a pit and took his beautiful, colorful coat. The brothers then sold him as a slave to Ishmaelite traders on their way to Egypt. Scared and alone, Joseph chose to trust God with his future, knowing that God was with him.

**Learning Goals**

The children will:  
**Know** that they can trust God to be with them.  
**Feel** God's presence in their lives, strengthening them.  
**Respond** by choosing to trust God, even when they feel alone.



# A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

Joseph found himself in a challenging situation. One moment he was an honored son, the next, a slave on his way to a foreign land. He had to make a choice: would he allow discouragement to completely overwhelm him, or would he draw his strength from God? He'd watched his father, Jacob, trust in God, and he made the choice to do the same. We see that God blessed and sustained Joseph through these very challenging times, as later described in this promise to Jeremiah:

"But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit" (Jeremiah 17:7, 8, NIV).

Because Joseph trusted in the Lord, he could face the future bravely, knowing that God was with him.

God is with you too. Whether things are going well, or whether life is difficult and you feel as though you've landed in a deep, dark pit, as Joseph did, remember that God is with you and has a plan for your future. Don't be discouraged. You are never alone, because our faithful God is your Father, and you are His beloved child.

May you and the children be encouraged by this story to fully trust God through the challenging times of life, knowing He is with you.



# Simple Program Outline

**Big Idea:** I can trust God to be with me.

## Primary, Year A, Quarter 2, Week 7

### EARLY ARRIVALS

- Play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist** as the children arrive.
- Color the memory verse coloring page.

### OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

- Welcome
- Songs
  - **“My Help”**
  - **“God Is My Faithful Friend”**
  - **“Sabbath Song”**
- Pray.
- Sing offering song: **“What Can I Give to the Lord?”** Collect offering.
- **Offering Chart** and **Mission Fast Fact**
- **“Visitor Song”**
- **“Happy Birthday”**

### FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

- Activity: Hidden items that reveal God knows all
- Share the **Big Idea: I can trust God to be with me.**

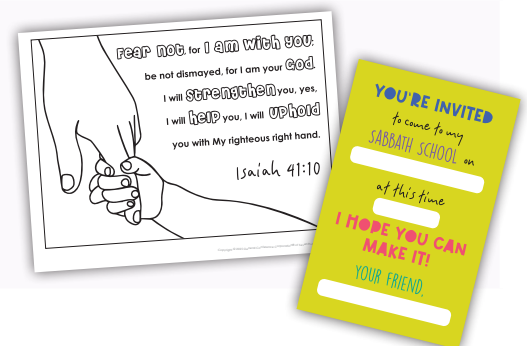
### BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

### UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

- Game of **“Hot and Cold”** to find hidden items
- Discussion questions

### TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

- **Character Card 20: Joseph in a Pit**
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song: “Isaiah 41:10”**
- **Mission Story:** “Trusting God, No Matter What”
- **Craft:** Joseph in a Pit
- Sing **“God Be With You.”**
- **Mission Challenge:** Invite someone to Sabbath School for Week 9 (or 10).
- Review.
- Pray.





# Program Preparation

## Opening and Focus Activities

Print the [memory verse coloring page](#).

Source items for focus activity: **clock**, a small **artificial plant**, a **picture of a person**, a **coin/paper money**, a **map**, and a **locked diary**.

Update [Offering Chart](#).

Prepare [Mission Fast Fact](#).

Write the **Big Idea** on your **whiteboard** or use the **Program PowerPoint**.

## Bible Story and Unpack the Story

Source the [Program PowerPoint](#).

Source **colorful fabric** that can be torn, **sweet spices** (cinnamon sticks, citrus peel, cardamom, etc.), and a **bag of coins** or a bag filled with things that might sound like coins clinking together.

**Write out the first part of Psalm 145:18**—half on one piece of paper and half on another. Fold a couple of times and label 1 and 2 so children will know which one to read first. Do enough for each pair in the class to have both halves. 1. "The Lord is close to . . ."; 2. ". . . everyone who prays to him" (Psalm 145:18, ICB).

## Tie It All Together

Source [Character Card 20: Joseph in a Pit](#) for each child.

## Craft Materials

Source the [week 7 craft template](#), as well as materials for the Joseph in the Pit craft: **colored pencils**, **craft sticks**, **paper cups**, **black paper**, **brown paper**, **scissors**, **glue**, **tape**.

# What Do I Need?

## Source From AIJ Website ([www.aliveinjesus.info](http://www.aliveinjesus.info))

- Music:
  - "My Help"
  - "God Is My Faithful Friend"
  - "Sabbath Song"
  - "What Can I Give to the Lord?"
  - "Visitor Song"
  - "Happy Birthday"
  - Scripture Song: "Isaiah 41:10"
  - "God Be With You"



[qr.aij.info\\_PA2Music](http://qr.aij.info_PA2Music)

- Week 7 Program PowerPoint
- Character Card 20: Joseph in a Pit
- Memory verse coloring page
- Week 7 craft template
- Mission Fast Fact

## Additional Resources to Source

- Class Bible
- A clock, small artificial plant, picture of a person, coin/paper money, map, locked diary
- Offering container
- A colorful piece of fabric you don't mind tearing
- Sweet spices (cinnamon sticks, citrus peel, cardamom, etc.)
- Bag of coins (or something in a bag to sound like coins)
- Folded Bible verses
- Crayons
- Craft materials (see above)

# Full Program Outline



**Big Idea:** I can trust God to be with me.

## EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

**LISTEN:** Play this quarter's **Scripture Song playlist** quietly in the background as the children arrive.

**CONNECT:** Warmly acknowledge all children by name as they come into Sabbath School.

**DO:** Invite children to color the **memory verse coloring page**.

## OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

**WELCOME:** Bring the children together and welcome them as a group. Share how happy you are to see them. Make visitors feel especially welcome. Ask the children if they shared their craft and story with a friend last week, and what that was like (Mission Challenge).

**SING:** Sing "My Help," followed by "God Is My Faithful Friend." Then sing the prayer song, "Sabbath Song."

**PRAY:** Invite the children to kneel and be reverent for **prayer**. Thank Jesus that He is with you today as you learn more about Him. Thank God that He can be trusted to give us help and strength.

**SING:** Sing the offering song, "What Can I Give to the Lord?"

**GIVE:** Ask one child to collect the offering. Display your **Offering Chart** and share how much money the class has given so far this quarter. Share this week's **Mission Fast Fact** about this quarter's mission project. Say a short prayer for God to bless and take the offering to where it's most needed. After the offering has been collected and counted by an adult, invite one child to color this week's section of the Offering Chart.

**SING:** Warmly welcome any visitor and sing the "Visitor Song." Sing "Happy Birthday" to a child who has had a birthday this week, and pray for God to bless them.

## FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

**DO:** Stand beside the table with your mystery items (covered by a cloth). Explain that each of the items under the cloth symbolizes how God knows everything. Invite a child, one at a time, to reach under the cloth, take an item, and **share what it tells us about what God knows**. Items include:

A **clock**: He knows what will happen in the future.

A **plant**: He knows everything about nature.

A **picture of a person**: He knows us, our feelings, favorite foods, friends, and more.

A **coin/paper money**: He knows our needs.

A **map**: He knows where we're going.

A **locked diary**: He knows our thoughts and everything about us.

**DISCUSS:** Ask for some children to show the class the memory verse page they colored before Sabbath School.

• **How does it make you feel to know that God (who knows everything about you and the whole world) made this promise to you?**

Tell the children that today you'll learn more about a young man named Joseph. He learned to trust our all-powerful, all-knowing God, and knew God would help him, even when he was hurt by his own brothers.

**READ:** Read the **Big Idea** together from the whiteboard or the **Program PowerPoint: I can trust God to be with me**.

## BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

**SHARE:** Pray, then creatively share the Bible Story.



## UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

 **DISCUSS:** Invite the children to **form pairs** and sit together, facing you.

**Draw a deep pit (U shape) on the whiteboard or on a poster.** Ask the children to close their eyes and imagine what it felt like to be Joseph, having just landed at the bottom of a pit with a thud. In pairs, have the children very briefly discuss these questions:


- **How might Joseph have felt to be thrown into the pit by his brothers?** (Scared, sad, betrayed, lonely, hurt.)
- **What problems can arise when we deal unjustly with others?**
- **What would be a better way to deal with someone who is favored and you are not?**

Sometimes people upset, reject, or hurt us. **Draw a stick figure at the bottom of the pit.** Explain that in these moments it can feel as though we are in the bottom of a pit too. But God has good news for us.

**DO:** Explain that to discover this good news, we're going to play a game of "**Hot and Cold**" in our pairs. Show the children the two, numbered, folded pieces of paper, each containing half of a Bible treasure (Psalm 145:18, ICB). One child will hide one Bible treasure, while the other searches for the other piece. They'll then swap roles to find the second treasure. The **hider** can help the **seeker** by saying "cold," "warm," or "hot," depending on how close the seeker is to finding the paper. As soon as one pair is finished, they are to sit down on the floor to show they are done.

**DISCUSS:** Invite the pair who finishes first to open their two papers, and each read their portion of Psalm 145:18. Then briefly discuss:

- **What promise does God give to those who call upon Him?** (That He is near to them.)


 **Teaching Point:** Draw a heart around your drawing of a person in a pit. Explain that God is always with us, no matter where we are. We don't have to search blindly for God—He doesn't play "hot and cold" with us. We can pray to Him, knowing He is there for us.

Share that God was already helping Joseph through those around him.

- **How did God use Reuben to help Joseph?** (He convinced his brothers to throw Joseph into the pit, rather than kill him.)
- **How did God use the traders to help Joseph?** (They took Joseph away from his brothers, who may have hurt or killed him. God led the traders to the place they took Joseph to.)
- **What could you do during the week ahead that will help you to notice that God is with you?**

**TEACHING POINT:** God can work through our tough times to help us. We can trust Him even when it seems nothing will get easier. Our all-knowing, all-powerful, and all-loving God knows everything and is with us.

## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

 **MEMORY VERSE:** Give each child **Character Card 20: Joseph in a Pit** to place in their container. Discuss the picture and ask the children to recite the **memory verse**. Then sing the **Scripture Song** together: "**Isaiah 41:10.**" Discuss:

- **Which part of this verse is your favorite promise?**
- **Which part would you share with Joseph if you could? Why?**

**MISSION STORY:** Display your **world map** or globe and identify **Thailand**, where this week's mission story comes from. Share the **Mission Story**, "Trusting in God, No Matter What" and discuss the follow-up questions.

**CRAFT:** Show the children your **Joseph in a Pit** craft sample. Distribute the outlines and place craft resources on the tables for children to use. Play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist** in the background as children make their craft. Ensure today's memory verse is part of the selection.

**SING:** Bring the children back together to sing your closing song, "**God Be With You.**"

# Full Program Outline Continued



## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**MISSION CHALLENGE:** Remind the children that your special Sabbath School for friends is coming up soon. Give each child a “Save the Date” card for them to place in a prominent place at home to remind them of this important Sabbath. Encourage children to think and pray about who they can invite and then ask them. This week’s Mission Challenge is to: **Invite a friend to Sabbath School in week 9.** (If another week is better for your church schedule, plan accordingly.)

**REVIEW:** Thank the children for learning about God’s close presence with you today. **Ask for two children to remind us why Joseph knew he could trust God when he was alone and afraid.** We are so blessed to know we can trust God!

Repeat the **Big Idea together: I can trust God to be with me.**

**PRAY:** Conclude with a final prayer, thanking God that we can trust He is always with us. Thank Him that we don’t need to be afraid and that He promises to strengthen us and help us in every situation.

## Bible Story

**Big Idea:** I can trust God to be with me.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

### Storytelling Suggestions

Show the pictures from this week’s story in the **Program PowerPoint**. Ask a child to follow your cues and ► click through the images. You may like to use the following props: **a colorful piece of fabric** to tear; **sweet spices; bag of coins** or something in a bag to sound like coins.

**Pray:** Ask God to help everyone understand today’s Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

### TELL THE STORY

Father Jacob rubbed his hands with worry. His 10 oldest sons had been gone a long time. They had taken the sheep far away to the grassy fields of Shechem. Were they well? Were they safe? Jacob needed to know! ► He called for his son Joseph and said, “Please go and see if it is well with your brothers and well with the flocks, and bring back word to me” (Genesis 37:14).

Joseph set off, happy to help his father. After a long search he finally spotted their camp in the distance. Excitedly he hurried to meet his brothers, his brightly colored coat flapping behind him (*fabric*).

The brothers looked up. *It’s Joseph! No one else has a colorful coat like that! Here comes our father’s favorite son. Here comes the younger brother who dreamed that one day we would bow down to him.*

Their jealousy and hatred bubbled up into rage. The brothers said to each other, “Here comes that dreamer. Let’s kill him. . . . Then we will see what will become of his dreams” (Genesis 37:19, 20, ICB).

Such murderous words made big brother Reuben feel uneasy. As the eldest son, he was responsible for Joseph, and he didn’t want him to die. But he didn’t want to go totally against his brothers. So he came up with a halfway kind of plan.

**What was his idea? Read Genesis 37:21, 22.** (Not to kill Joseph but to put him into a pit instead, then free him later.)

► Joseph trotted happily toward his brothers. But his smile quickly faded when he noticed their angry glares. Whatever was happening? These were the brothers he loved and trusted!



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They grabbed him roughly, tore his coat, and stripped it from him (**tear fabric**). Confused and terrified, Joseph begged them to stop. But it was no use. ► Strong arms gripped him and hurled him into the depths of a deep, dark pit.

*Thud.* Joseph hit the bottom.

While poor Joseph lay in the dark pit, his brothers talked together and sat down to eat. Suddenly they heard a sound in the distance. “When they looked up, they saw a group of Ishmaelites. They were traveling from Gilead to Egypt. Their camels were carrying spices, balm and myrrh” (Genesis 37:25, ICB). (**Smell spices.**)

Brother Judah watched the traveling traders as they came closer. He had an idea! **What did Judah suggest? Read Genesis 37:26, 27.** (To sell Joseph to the Ishmaelite traders.)

Brother Reuben was far off in the fields, away from the rest. The other brothers agreed to the cruel plan. ► They quickly pulled Joseph up from the pit and sold him to the traders for 20 shekels of silver (**bag of coins**).

Joseph begged his brothers not to sell him as a slave, but they ignored his cries. The deal was done. The traders, their camels packed with spices, and poor Joseph soon disappeared in a cloud of dust.

Brother Reuben returned to the pit, just as he had planned. But there was no Joseph! Fearing that his brothers had killed him, Reuben tore his clothes and cried, “The boy is not there! What will I do?” (Genesis 37:30, ICB).

His brothers quickly confessed to selling Joseph as a slave. ► Then they took Joseph's torn coat, dipped it in goat's blood, and took it to their father (**fabric**). They lied, saying they had found it, and let him believe that Joseph had been killed by a wild animal.

► Meanwhile, Joseph traveled farther and farther away from home. Tears spilled down his cheeks as he thought of his father, Jacob, and his little brother, Benjamin. He wondered if he would ever see them again. He was scared to think of going to a strange land all alone.

Then right there, on the road to Egypt, Joseph's heart turned to God. The God who had always loved and cared for him. He prayed that God would be with him in the strange new land he was headed to. He decided to fully trust God. The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob would be his God too.

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## TEACHER NOTES

# Mission Story **Trusting in God, No Matter What**



**Focus:** I can trust God through sad times.

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**Location:** Help a child locate **Thailand** on your **globe** or **world map**.

KK came from a non-Christian family, and learned about God and prayer at an Adventist school she attended. When she was 8, she prayed for God to heal her mother from cancer.

"She was in pain and suffering," KK said. "I prayed that He would heal the pain and that she would get better."

At the school, Teacher Lynn taught KK to pray and read the Bible. "Pray and trust in God," she said.

Teacher Lynn prayed with KK every day for four months. Whenever KK felt that she needed to pray, the two knelt and prayed. Sometimes the whole class prayed together.

Mother didn't say anything about the prayers, but she was happy and grateful that her daughter was receiving encouragement from her classmates and Teacher Lynn.

The children made greeting cards and gifts for KK and Mother. KK's favorite card read, "Cheer up!" But Mother grew weaker and weaker.

KK told her classmates, "If it is God's plan for Mother to go and for me to live without her, I have to believe and trust in Him." Then Mother died.

KK was very sad, and she wondered why God had allowed her mother to die. But as time passed, she learned more about God. She learned that it made God sad when her mother died, and that evil and sin were what made that happen.

"God knows what will happen in my future," she said. "I trust in Him."

Today KK prays when she wakes up and before she goes to bed. She prays during the day at school. "I thank God for bringing students to the school and ask Him to send His holy angels to protect each one of us," she said.

- **How does this story remind you of this week's Big Idea, "I can trust God to be with me"?**
- **What are ways you can trust God in your life right now?**



## Joseph in a Pit

### What you need:

Week 7 craft template, colored pencils, craft stick, paper cup, black paper, brown paper, scissors, glue, tape (1).

### Instructions:

- Color and cut out the picture of Joseph (2).
- Tape a craft stick to the back of the picture of Joseph (2).
- Glue a strip of black paper around a paper cup (3).
- Cut stone shapes out of the brown paper and glue onto the black cup to make a "pit" (4).
- An adult can use scissors to make a hole in the top of the cup. Slide the craft-stick puppet of Joseph into the hole and move up and down inside the "pit" (5 and 6).





## Primary

YEAR A • QUARTER 2

### God Is With Me

- WEEK 1 The Birthright Stew
- WEEK 2 Jacob Tricks Isaac
- WEEK 3 The Ladder From Heaven
- WEEK 4 Jacob Works for Uncle Laban
- WEEK 5 Jacob and the Midnight Wrestle
- WEEK 6 Joseph's Coat and Dreams
- WEEK 7 Joseph and His Brothers
- WEEK 8 **Joseph: A Slave in Egypt**
- WEEK 9 Joseph: From Prison to Palace
- WEEK 10 Joseph: Governor of Egypt
- WEEK 11 A Family Reunited
- WEEK 12 Ruth and Naomi
- WEEK 13 Ruth and Boaz

## Week 8

# Joseph: A Slave in Egypt

### Bible Reference: Genesis 39:1-29

<b>Big Idea</b>	Others may see that God is with me when I live to honor Him.
<b>Memory Verse</b>	"You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power" (Revelation 4:11).
<b>References</b>	<p><i>Patriarchs and Prophets</i>, pp. 214-218  <i>The Story of Redemption</i>, pp. 101-103  <i>Education</i>, pp. 51, 52  <i>The Youth's Instructor</i>, March 11, 1897  <i>The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary</i>, vol. 1, pp. 437-443,  <i>The Bible Story</i>, vol. 2, pp. 51-53</p>
<b>Fundamental Beliefs</b>	<p>Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. The Father</li> <li>7. The Nature of Humanity</li> <li>8. The Great Controversy</li> <li>11. Growing in Christ</li> <li>22. Christian Behavior</li> </ul>
<b>Word of the Week</b>	<p><b>Honor:</b> To show great respect for someone; to treat them as special and important. The Bible says to "honor your father and your mother" (Exodus 20:12).</p>
<b>Lesson Summary</b>	<p>After being sold by his brothers to Ishmaelite traders, Joseph was taken to Egypt and sold as a slave to Potiphar, captain of the king's guard. God was with Joseph and blessed him. Joseph honored God by doing his work carefully and with excellence, and he remained faithful to God in everything he did. When Potiphar's wife tried to seduce Joseph, he remained faithful and refused to sin against God, even though it resulted in being falsely accused and thrown into jail.</p>
<b>Learning Goals</b>	<p>The children will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Know</b> that God is worthy of honor.</li> <li><b>Feel</b> the desire to honor God.</li> <li><b>Respond</b> by honoring God through their actions, even when pressured not to.</li> </ul>



# A Quiet Moment . . .

**Dear Sabbath School Teacher,**

The King of the universe sits on a grand, majestic throne, a rainbow encircling Him. Peace and joy radiate all around, and in His holy presence angels bow and sing to Him. The Bible tells us, “You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created” (Revelation 4:11). As you imagine the scene, how might you honor your Creator, Redeemer, Lord, and King?

We don't need to wait for eternity to show our adoration, reverence, and love to our God. We can do it daily through the life choices we make, just as Joseph did. He resolved in his heart to honor God, no matter his circumstances. He honored God's faithfulness by being faithful in his daily work. He honored God's righteousness through his moral choices. He honored

God's goodness by showing integrity. He honored God in doing his assigned work with dedication, perseverance, and excellence.

We too can honor God in how we act, what we say, and how we treat others. You can honor Him by using your finances wisely, by working faithfully despite feeling unappreciated in a job, or by giving your time to a friend who is lonely. Through these ways and many others you honor God and reflect a little of His character to others.

God truly deserves our honor, and when we see Him face-to-face, we'll be drawn to praise Him, to fall in adoration at His feet, in love toward Him. May you and the children be inspired this week to show God the honor He deserves.



# Simple Program Outline

**Big Idea:** Others may see that God is with me when I live to honor Him.

## Primary, Year A, Quarter 2, Week 8

### EARLY ARRIVALS

- Play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist** as the children arrive.
- Complete a Joseph word search or build a pyramid.

### OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

- Welcome
- Songs
  - **“My Help”**
  - **“God Is My Faithful Friend”**
  - **“Sabbath Song”**
- Pray.
- Sing offering song: **“What Can I Give to the Lord?”** Collect offering.
- **Offering Chart** and **Mission Fast Fact**
- **“Visitor Song”**
- **“Happy Birthday”**

### FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

- Activity: Attribute cards
- Share the **Big Idea: Others may see that God is with me when I live to honor Him.**

### BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

### UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

- Discussion questions, sticky notes
- Peer pressure **scenario cards**: four groups

### TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

- **Character Card 21: Joseph in Jail**
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song: “Revelation 4:11”**
- **Nature Lesson:** “How Elephants Show Honor”
- **Craft:** Joseph in Jail
- Sing **“God Be With You.”**
- **Mission Challenge:** Pray with your family for the friend you have invited to Sabbath School.
- Review honoring ideas and choose one.
- Pray.

# Program Preparation



## Opening and Focus Activities

Source the **Joseph word search**.

Source **plastic/paper cups** or other building materials for making a pyramid.

Source **Attribute Cards and Matching Pictures**. Print out the attribute cards. Choose to print or display the matching pictures.

Update **Offering Chart**.

Prepare **Mission Fast Fact**.

Write the **Big Idea** on your **whiteboard** or use the **Program PowerPoint**.

## Bible Story and Unpack the Story

Source the **Program PowerPoint**.

Source a **whiteboard** or **poster board** and **markers**.

Source a **rope** and a **broom**.

Source and prepare **two sticky notes** to add to the discussion at the end: God is faithful; God was with Joseph.

Source **scenario cards**.

## Tie It All Together

Source **Character Card 21: Joseph in Jail** for each child.

## Craft Materials

Source materials for Joseph in Jail: **Week 8 craft template** on white cardstock, **craft sticks, craft glue, scissors, 4 pieces of twine or string, tape**.

# What Do I Need?

## Source From AIJ Website ([www.aliveinjesus.info](http://www.aliveinjesus.info))

### Music:

- "My Help"
- "God Is My Faithful Friend"
- "Sabbath Song"
- "What Can I Give to the Lord?"
- "Visitor Song"
- "Happy Birthday"
- Scripture Song: "Revelation 4:11"
- "God Be With You"



*qr.aij.info\_PA2Music*

- Attribute of God Cards and matching pictures
- Week 8 Program PowerPoint
- Character Card 21: Joseph in Jail
- Week 8 craft template
- Scenario cards
- Mission Fast Fact

## Additional Resources to Source

- Class Bible
- Collection device for the offering
- Plastic/paper cups and other building materials for making a pyramid
- Whiteboard or poster board/markers
- A rope and a broom
- Sticky notes
- Craft materials (see above)

# Full Program Outline



**Big Idea:** Others may see that God is with me when I live to honor Him.

## EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

**LISTEN:** Play this quarter's **Scripture Song playlist** quietly in the background as the children arrive.

**CONNECT:** Warmly acknowledge all children by name as they arrive. Share how happy you are to see them.

**DO:** Invite the children to complete a **Joseph word search** or **build a pyramid**. They may like to rotate through both options before Sabbath School begins.

**Word search:** How many words can they find relating to the story?

**Pyramid building activity:** Using plastic/paper cups, show them how to build a pyramid shape. Talk about how Joseph was taken as a slave to Egypt, where the Egyptians built amazing pyramids.

## OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

**WELCOME:** Bring the children together and welcome them as a group. Be sure to warmly welcome any visitors who may arrive later. Point out the pyramids built by the children and explain that today's story will take place in Egypt, where there are many pyramids, and where Joseph was taken as a slave. There he chose to remain faithful to God, even when he faced difficult temptations.

**SING:** Sing "My Help," followed by "God Is My Faithful Friend." Then sing the prayer song, "Sabbath Song."

**PRAY:** Repeat some of the lyrics of "My Help" and reinforce that God is our help. Then ask the children if they have any prayer requests. List the needs mentioned. Then either invite children to **pray for a particular need** or pray as a class for each of the needs. Invite Jesus to be in each person's heart today as they learn more about Him in today's Bible story.

**SING:** Sing the offering song, "What Can I Give to the Lord?"

**GIVE:** Ask one child to collect the offering. Display your **Offering Chart** and share how much money the class has given so far this quarter. Share this week's **Mission Fast Fact** about this quarter's mission project. Say a short prayer thanking God for the way He will use the offering to share His love. After the offering has been collected and counted by an adult, invite one child to color this week's section of the Offering Chart.

**SING:** Warmly welcome any visitor and sing the "Visitor Song." Sing "Happy Birthday" to a child who has had a birthday this week, and pray for God to bless them.

## FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

**DO:** Engage the children in a picture-word matching game. Place the printed pictures on the floor or use the digital slideshow. Invite a child to **select an Attribute of God Card** (which declares a little of what He is like). They should then match the attribute to one of the pictures. (There are no wrong answers.)

When the children have matched all the words and pictures, point out that God is mighty and deserves honor.

**Praise Him with a prayer of thanks** for being so good, kind, powerful, and wonderful in every way.

**DISCUSS:** Discuss with the children how they can honor God—by spending time with Him, reading the Bible, praying, obeying their parents, visiting the sick, giving offerings to help the needy, choosing to do the right thing even when others around them don't, etc. Write these ideas on a whiteboard or poster to refer to later. Invite two children to act out one idea from the list and see if anyone can guess what it is.


**READ:** Read the **Big Idea** together from the whiteboard or the **Program PowerPoint: Others may see that God is with me when I live to honor Him**. Our story today continues with Joseph. He chose to honor God, even in difficult times.

## BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

**SHARE:** Pray, then creatively share the Bible Story.



## UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

 **DO and DISCUSS:** (Play some quiet music while the children do this activity.) **Draw a large heart** on your whiteboard or poster. Explain that Joseph chose to trust God with his whole heart.

**Hand out sticky notes and pens.** Ask the children to write answers to this question:

- **Why could Joseph trust God?**

Invite them to run and stick their sticky notes inside the large heart on the whiteboard when finished. Read out the answers and affirm them.

**DISCUSS:** • **How was God faithful to Joseph's big family?** (Abraham, Isaac, Jacob?)


- **How had God looked after Joseph?** (Kept him from being hurt by his brothers; kept him from being hurt or killed by Potiphar.)

Hand out one more sticky note to each child and ask them to respond to the question below, and then stick it on the large heart:

- **How did Joseph show he honored God?**

**DISCUSS:** Joseph couldn't bring himself to dishonor His loving God, or his master, by doing something he knew was wrong.

- **When we are pressured to do something wrong, what should we do?** (Ask the children to share their thoughts with the person beside them.)


 **DO:** Divide the children into four groups. Place the **peer pressure scenario cards** in a basket in front of the room. Invite a child from each group to come to the front to choose one card (without looking at it), then take it back to their group to then show and discuss.

Give each group one to two minutes to talk about their scenario and their response to the situation. An adult helper can guide each group. Then invite one child from each group to share their scenario and the group's response. Affirm answers.

**TEACHING POINT:** Joseph faced pressure from Potiphar's wife to do the wrong thing. If he'd given in, no one might have known. But Joseph knew that God would know, and He chose to honor God.

**We honor God and those around us when we choose to do what's right—even when no one else is watching us.**

## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

 **MEMORY VERSE:** Give each child **Character Card 21: Joseph in Jail** to place in their container. Discuss the picture and ask the children to recite the **memory verse**. Then sing the **Scripture Song** together: "**Revelation 4:11.**" Discuss:

- **Why is Jesus worthy to receive glory, honor, and power? What might glory, honor, and power look like as a gift?**
- **What do you admire and love about Jesus? Why does He deserve to receive glory, honor, and power/worship?** (Encourage children to spontaneously share their responses.)

**Memory Verse Challenge:** If time allows, write the memory verse on sticky notes (one word per note). Place the notes on the children's heads. Then see if they can line up in the correct order of the memory verse. They will need to work together, without taking the word off their heads. For large classes, you may want to do this more than once and time the children to see how quickly they can complete the task. How did you show honor to God as you worked together to do this task? (Comment on encouraging words you heard the children say.)

**NATURE LESSON:** Read the **Nature Lesson**, "How Elephants Show Honor," and engage the children in the discussion questions.

# Full Program Outline Continued



## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**CRAFT:** Show the children your **Joseph in Jail** craft sample. Distribute the outlines and place the craft resources in the middle of the tables for children to use. Play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist** in the background as children make their craft.

**SING:** Bring the children back together to sing your closing song, “**God Be With You.**”

**MISSION CHALLENGE:** Ask the children how their Mission Challenge went during the week. Whom have they invited to Sabbath School next week? Encourage other children to use this week to invite a friend if they haven't yet done so. This week's Mission Challenge is to: **Pray with your family for the friend you have invited to Sabbath School.**

**REVIEW and COMMIT:** Ask a couple of children to read out the ideas for honoring others that are written on the whiteboard. Give them a moment to silently choose one to do in the week ahead.

**PRAY:** Pray for the children, asking God to help the children honor God in the ways they have chosen this week—and in their lives every day. Thank God for displaying His might and power and being so worthy of honor.

## Bible Story

**Big Idea:** Others may see that God is with me when I live to honor Him.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

### Storytelling Suggestions

Show the pictures from this week's story in the **Program PowerPoint**. Ask a child to follow your cues and ► click through the images. Prepare the following props to use throughout the story when prompted: a **rope** and a **broom**.

**Pray:** Ask God to help everyone understand today's Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

### TELL THE STORY

► Joseph was no longer the free, respected son of a wealthy leader—he was a slave with his arms bound with a rope! (Loosely tie a rope around the hands of a volunteer, but don't leave them tied.) Arriving in Egypt, he was sold as a slave to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh and captain of the guard.

► Joseph still felt a special closeness with God in this land where everything was so different. While everyone around him worshipped false Egyptian gods and idols, Joseph worshipped God in his heart. God was working powerfully to give him a cheerfulness that others could see. Bad things often happen to good people in a sinful world, but Joseph chose to trust God through it all.

**What did Potiphar notice about Joseph? Read Genesis 39:2, 3.** (The Lord was with Joseph and made him prosper in all he did.)

► Joseph never tried to hide his love for God. Whether he was sweeping the floor (give a child the broom) or scrubbing the pots, he always did his work well. Potiphar was watching the young slave closely. He noticed that “the Lord made Joseph successful in everything he did” (Genesis 39:3, ICB).



Joseph did so well in his work that after a while he was given an important new job as the head of Potiphar's house. It is amazing to think that a stranger in a foreign land was given such responsibility. Potiphar the master and Joseph the slave truly honored each other.

► Joseph was not just hardworking and cheerful; he was also a good-looking guy. Potiphar's wife noticed how handsome he was, and this caused a big problem. When Potiphar was away from home, she tried to get Joseph to be close to her in a way that only her husband should.

**How did Joseph respond? Read Genesis 39:8, 9.** (He refused, and said he could not dishonor God or his master by sinning in this way.)

Joseph wouldn't dishonor his God or his master, no matter how important his master's wife was. But like a dripping tap, Potiphar's wife kept asking, and asking, and asking . . . and Joseph refused, day after day (wave finger, "no"). Joseph loved God too much to hurt Him by doing something that was clearly very wrong.

► One day, when no one else was around, Potiphar's wife did more than just ask. She grabbed Joseph's coat as he walked by, trying to force him to do what she wanted. At that moment Joseph knew his whole future depended on how he responded.

He "left his garment in her hand, and fled and ran outside" (Genesis 39:12). Joseph would not be pressured or pushed into doing the wrong thing.

Potiphar's wife was furious! How dare a Hebrew slave reject a powerful woman like her? Trouble would surely follow. But Joseph knew that whatever happened, he had done the right thing.

When Potiphar arrived home, his wife was still furious with Joseph. **What did she do? Read Genesis 39:16-18.** (She lied to Potiphar, saying that Joseph had tried to mistreat her but had fled when she called out.)

Potiphar felt angry! What a terrible story to come home to. But deep down he probably doubted his wife's story. He had watched Joseph work as a slave at the bottom and at the top; Joseph had always been trustworthy. ► So instead of having him put to death, as the custom was for such crimes, Potiphar had Joseph thrown into prison.

Locked in that gloomy prison cell, Joseph felt discouraged by the unfairness of it all. But once again he chose to trust God. He knew that even in prison he could say, "You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power" (Revelation 4:11).

Joseph suffered for honoring God in Egypt, but the story doesn't end there. God had a very important work for Joseph to do in the future.

# Resources

## Attribute Cards



## Peer Pressure Scenario Cards



# Nature Lesson **How Elephants Show Honor**

**Focus:** Just as elephants honor the leaders of their herd, we can learn how to show honor to those around us. By doing so, we also honor God.

Elephants are the largest land mammals. They are social creatures who live in herds. An elephant herd is usually made up of:

- the matriarch, a female and leader of the herd. She is often the oldest, biggest, and strongest of the herd.
- several related females (known as elders) and their offspring.
- young adults between 10 and 20 years old who are still living at home with their mother and siblings (therefore often sisters and cousins).

The matriarch is the most respected elephant in the herd, followed by the elders. Young elephants are expected to show honor to their matriarch and elders by greeting, touching trunks, and making friendly noises. God created elephants with an instinct to honor their elderly.

The young elephants rely on the matriarch for food, water, protection, and the well-being of the herd. If there is ever a threat to the herd (from poachers or predators), the young elephants look to the matriarch to get them to safety. They show respect and follow their matriarch's decisions, and they follow the rules of the herd, providing the harmony they need to live together happily.

- **Who are people that we can show honor to?** (Parents; grandparents; teachers; civil workers, such as police officers, government officials, etc.)
- **Can you think of ways to show honor to these different people?** (Addressing them by respectful names, doing what they ask us to do, etc.)

[www.elephantguide.com](http://www.elephantguide.com)

## Craft

### Joseph in Jail

#### What you need:

Week 8 craft template (on white cardstock), 16 craft sticks, craft glue, scissors, 4 pieces of twine or string, tape (1).

#### Instructions:

- Cut out the template and glue two craft sticks on opposite sides (2).
- Glue two more craft sticks to the other sides to make a square frame (2).
- Continue to glue on four layers of craft sticks.
- Once dry, thread a piece of twine through the frame at the top and tie a knot (3).
- Repeat with the remaining pieces of string (4).
- Thread the end of each string through the frame at the bottom and tape to the back.







## Primary

YEAR A • QUARTER 2

### God Is With Me

- WEEK 1 The Birthright Stew
- WEEK 2 Jacob Tricks Isaac
- WEEK 3 The Ladder From Heaven
- WEEK 4 Jacob Works for Uncle Laban
- WEEK 5 Jacob and the Midnight Wrestle
- WEEK 6 Joseph's Coat and Dreams
- WEEK 7 Joseph and His Brothers
- WEEK 8 Joseph: A Slave in Egypt
- WEEK 9 **Joseph: From Prison to Palace**
- WEEK 10 Joseph: Governor of Egypt
- WEEK 11 A Family Reunited
- WEEK 12 Ruth and Naomi
- WEEK 13 Ruth and Boaz

## Week 9

# Joseph: From Prison to Palace

**Bible References:** Genesis 39:21-23; 40, 41

<b>Big Idea</b>	God is real, and He works in my life to show this truth to others.
<b>Memory Verse</b>	"The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth" (Exodus 34:6).
<b>References</b>	<i>Patriarchs and Prophets</i> , pp. 218-223 <i>The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary</i> , vol. 1, pp. 440-448 <i>The Bible Story</i> , vol. 2, pp. 53-60
<b>Fundamental Beliefs</b>	Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson: 3. The Father 8. The Great Controversy 11. Growing in Christ 22. Christian Behavior
<b>Word of the Week</b>	<b>Character:</b> All the qualities that make a person who they are. A person's character will be shown by how they act, think, and feel. A person with a good character will act, think, and feel in good ways, such as being honest, respectful, responsible, caring, kind, and fair.
<b>Lesson Summary</b>	In jail Joseph displayed a godly character by looking for ways he could be a blessing to those around him. One day God enabled Joseph to interpret the dreams of two prisoners, a baker and a butler, and his interpretations came true. The baker lost his life; the butler returned to work for Pharaoh. Two years later Pharaoh had a dream and was anxious to know the meaning. The butler remembered Joseph and told Pharaoh about him. As a result, Joseph was brought out of jail to interpret Pharaoh's dream and gave him wise counsel. Pharaoh saw that God was with Joseph, and put him second in command over Egypt.
<b>Learning Goals</b>	The children will: <b>Know</b> that God is real. <b>Feel</b> a desire to spend time with God. <b>Respond</b> by allowing God to work in their lives to help them develop a beautiful character.



# A Quiet Moment . . .

**Dear Sabbath School Teacher,**

When we read the Bible, we see God's character revealed:

God is love.  
God is faithful.  
God is merciful.  
God is gracious.  
God is longsuffering.  
God is good.  
God is patient.

And this is the character God wants to grow in us too. He wants us to become like Him.

On life's journey each of us will face difficult times, which happen because we live in a sin-filled world. Thankfully, God can use those trials for our good. Through them He can correct our flaws and develop in us a well-rounded character that reflects His. This

is what God did in the life of Joseph. God proved Himself faithful, and, in so doing, also proved Joseph's faithfulness to Him.

While our lesson story is found in Genesis, take some time this week to read through one of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John) in your devotional time with God. Here you will see Jesus up close in all His love and selflessness. Fix your eyes on Him. Journal the new things you notice and the prayers the Holy Spirit impresses upon you. For "as the flower turns to the sun, that the bright beams may aid in perfecting its beauty and symmetry, so should we turn to the Sun of Righteousness, that heaven's light may shine upon us, that our character may be developed into the likeness of Christ" (Ellen G. White, *Steps to Christ*, p. 68).

May you and the children draw closer to God this week as you reflect upon His beautiful character.



# Simple Program Outline

**Big Idea:** God is real, and He works in my life to show this truth to others.

## Primary, Year A, Quarter 2, Week 9

### EARLY ARRIVALS

- Play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist** as the children arrive.
- Memory verse paper chain

### OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

- Welcome
- Songs
  - **“God Speaks to Us”**
  - **“I Will Go”**
  - **“A Whisper From the Heart”**
- Read Exodus 34:6.
- Pray.
- Sing offering song: **“What Can I Give to the Lord?”** Collect offering.
- **Offering Chart** and **Mission Fast Fact**
- **“Visitor Song”**
- **“Happy Birthday”**

### FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

- Object lesson: Lemons to lemonade
- Share the **Big Idea: God is real, and He works in my life to show this truth to others.**

### BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

### UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

- Small group discussion
- **Act out dreams** and discuss.

### TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

- **Character Card 22: Joseph Interprets Dreams**
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song: “Exodus 34:6”**
- **Mission Story:** “The Mystery Book”
- **Craft:** Joseph the Interpreter
- Sing **“God Be With You.”**
- **Mission Challenge:** Share what you have made or the activity you learned about with someone older than you.
- Review activity with lemons: From sour to sweet with God.
- Pray.



# Program Preparation

## Opening and Focus Activities

Source **gray paper** and cut into strips to create a memory verse paper chain, as well as pencils/crayons, glue, memory verse card, stapler.

Prepare ingredients for the lemonade object lesson, as well as a bigger batch of lemonade to share with the class after Sabbath School. Make **homemade lemonade** with **water, lemons, and sugar or honey**. Have the same ingredients in smaller quantities for the object lesson. You will need a **jug** and **cups** for both. Cut up **pieces of lemon** for the children to try.

Provide extra **coins** for visitors to give as offering.

Update **Offering Chart**.

Prepare **Mission Fast Fact**.

Write the **Big Idea** on your **whiteboard** or use the **Program PowerPoint**.

## Bible Story and Unpack the Story

Source the **Program PowerPoint**.

Source **grapes**, a **cup**, a **basket**, and some **bread** (fake or real), **toy cow** or **picture** of one, **corn** (if available).

**Write out Philippians 2:13, ICB, and put it in your Bible:** "Yes, God is working in you to help you want to do what pleases him. Then he gives you the power to do it."

Source **Animal Trait Cards**.

## Tie It All Together

Source **Character Card 22: Joseph Interprets Dreams** for each child.

## Craft Materials

Source the **Joseph Interprets Dreams: Week 9 craft template** for each child. Provide **pencils/crayons** for drawing.

# What Do I Need?

### Source From AIJ Website ([www.aliveinjesus.info](http://www.aliveinjesus.info))

#### Music:

- "God Speaks to Us"
- "I Will Go"
- "A Whisper From the Heart"
- "What Can I Give to the Lord?"
- "Visitor Song"
- "Happy Birthday"
- Scripture Song: "Exodus 34:6"
- "God Be With You"



*qr.aij.info\_PA2Music*

- Week 9 Program PowerPoint
- Character Card 22: Joseph Interprets Dreams
- Week 9 Craft Template
- Mission Fast Fact
- Memory verse card
- Animal Trait Cards

### Additional Resources to Source

- Class Bible
- Pencils/crayons, glue, gray paper, stapler
- Offering container
- Grapes
- A cup
- A small basket (that could be balanced on someone's head)
- Some bread (fake or real)
- Toy cow or picture of one
- Corn
- Homemade lemonade for class to share
- Cups, cut-up lemon to try
- A jug or container, some sugar or honey, water
- Craft materials (see above)

# Full Program Outline



**Big Idea:** God is real, and He works in my life to show this truth to others.

## EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

**LISTEN:** Play this quarter's **Scripture Song playlist** quietly in the background as the children arrive.

**CONNECT:** Warmly acknowledge all children by name as they arrive. Share how happy you are to see them. Invite extra adult helpers to welcome the children's friends to this special Sabbath School and make them feel welcome. You may also like to greet them with something that's meaningful in your culture.

**DO:** Remind children that we finished last week's story with Joseph being thrown into jail. You may ask a child to share with the others a bit more about Joseph's story, especially for the visitors. Using gray strips of paper, invite them to make a **simple paper chain**.

**Share:** I wonder how God will work in Joseph's life in the story this week.

Staple their chains together. **Staple the card with the memory verse to the end of the chain.**

## OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

**WELCOME:** Bring the children together and welcome them as a group. Be sure to warmly welcome and involve all visitors whom the children have invited as part of the Mission Challenge. Keep in mind that they may not be familiar with some words common to Adventists, so try to use clear, simple language.

**SING:** Explain that we like to sing to God in Sabbath School. Sing "**God Speaks to Us,**" followed by "**I Will Go.**" Finish with the prayer song, "**A Whisper From the Heart.**" Welcome visitors and celebrate those who have had a birthday.

**PRAY:** Invite one of the children who made a paper chain to read the memory verse (at the end of the chain) aloud (**Exodus 34:6**). Talk about some of the difficult words together. Discuss: • **What does this verse tell us about God and what He is like?**

**Pray** and thank God for His beautiful character. Thank God for all the new friends who have come to Sabbath School today, and for His amazing love for each one of them.

**SING:** Sing the offering song, "**What Can I Give to the Lord?**"

**GIVE:** Have a child collect the offering. Your team may like to have a few extra coins on hand to give to visitors so they can participate. Display your **Offering Chart** and share how much money the class has given so far this quarter. Share this week's **Fast Fact** about this quarter's mission project. Pray for a special blessing on each child and for those who will benefit from the offering. After the offering has been collected and counted by an adult, invite one child to color this week's section of the Offering Chart.

## FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

**J DO:** Hand out some small slices of fresh lemon for the children to try. Ask them how it tastes (sour!). Share that sometimes things happen in life that we don't like. They can be very sour experiences.

• **What are some examples of "sour" times?** (Getting hurt, a toy breaks, we get in trouble for something, etc.)

Share that being friends with our sweet God makes all the difference in how we get through these sour times. When we trust God and spend time with Him as our friend, He can change our characters to be sweet, like His.

• **What are some words to describe a sweet character?** (Helpful, kind, giving, patient, cheerful.)

Remind the children that these are words that describe our Best Friend, God. When we spend time with Him, we become like Him.

Mix the lemons with some water and sugar/honey. Pour the water into some cups for the children to taste. Explain that you can enjoy more lemonade together after Sabbath School. God has the power to change us and can make the sour times turn sweet.



## FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

Share that in today's true story from the Bible we will learn more about Joseph. (Point to the Wall Mural and briefly share an overview of Joseph's life for the visitors who may not know the story.) Joseph patiently trusted God, and God helped him to be kind and patient throughout his time in prison. God used Joseph to show others that He is real and cares about everyone.

**READ:** Read the **Big Idea** together from the whiteboard or the **Program PowerPoint: God is real, and He works in my life to show this truth to others.**

Our story today is about when God helped Joseph to interpret dreams, showing that God is real and was working in Joseph's life. He wants to work in your life too.

## BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

 **SHARE:** Pray, then creatively share the Bible Story.

## UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

 **DO:** Place the Animal Trait Cards on the floor in front of the children.

• **Of these characteristics, which ones would you use to describe Joseph?** (Invite each child to select one.) **Are there any that do not describe Joseph?**

Ask the children to read and show the card they chose and discuss:

• **When and how did Joseph show this character trait?**

Then ask all the children:

• **Why do you think Joseph had these character traits? What made him different from those around him?** (He was friends with God. God's love was in Joseph's heart, changing him to be like God.)

Share that we can learn about God through His Word, the Bible. Write the following verse on the board and invite the children to read it together: **Philippians 2:13:** "Yes, God is working in you to help you want to do what pleases him. Then he gives you the power to do it" (ICB).

**DO:** Explain that God's character is perfect. When we make Him our loving friend, He starts to change our hearts. (Show the children a bowl of water. Add some red food coloring as you talk, demonstrating that He slowly makes our lives different when we come to know Him.) He can give us the power to do the right thing and have characters like His. God can help us to have open eyes for the people around us so that we can see where they need help.

## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**MEMORY VERSE:** Give each child **Character Card 22: Joseph Interprets Dreams** to place in their storage container. Discuss the picture and ask the children to recite the **memory verse**. Then sing the **Scripture Song** together: "**Exodus 34:6.**"

**MISSION STORY:** Display your **world map** or **globe** and identify the Middle East, where this week's mission story comes from. Share the **Mission Story**, "The Mystery Book," and discuss the follow-up questions.

**CRAFT:** Show the children your **Joseph the Interpreter** sample. Explain that they are going to color each of the dreams we learned about in our story today inside the dream bubbles. Distribute the template and place the craft materials in the middle of the tables for children to use.

Play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist** in the background as children make their craft.

**SING:** Bring the children back together to sing your closing song, "**God Be With You.**"

# Full Program Outline Continued



## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**MISSION CHALLENGE:** Invite the children to: **Share your craft, and what you have learned, with someone older than you this week.** Encourage them to share the story of Joseph and how God enabled him to interpret dreams, showing that God is real and was working in Joseph's life.

(If your children will bring a friend to Sabbath School next week, remind them to keep praying for the person they invited to Sabbath School.)

**REVIEW ACTIVITY:** There is so much to love about God! Ask the children the following two questions to remind us what we learned today.

- **What did you learn about God today? What do you love about Him?**
- **How can we become more like our loving God this week?** (Spend time with Him, read His Word, ask Him to come into our hearts.)

**PRAY:** Thank God for His love and for being our very best friend. Ask God to work in each person's life to give them a beautiful, loving, kind character like His. Pray that all the children and their families will come to know that God is real and cares for them.

**CONNECT:** Share some of the homemade lemonade together, if appropriate, and take time to connect with the visitor children who came today. Ask them about their school, favorite things to do, and families. Ask them if they have any questions for you. Tell them how wonderful it was to have them in Sabbath School today, and that you'd love to see them come again.

## Bible Story

**Big Idea:** God is real, and He works in my life to show this truth to others.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

### Storytelling Suggestions

Show the pictures from this week's story in the **Program PowerPoint**. Ask a child to follow your cues and ► click through the images. Prepare the following props to use throughout the story when prompted: **grapes** (fake or real), a **cup**, a **basket**, and some **bread** (fake or real), **toy cow** or picture of one, **corn**.

**Pray:** Ask God to help everyone understand today's Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

### TELL THE STORY

► The prison door slammed with a loud clang. Joseph had lost his freedom yet again, and this prison would be his home for the next three years.

But Joseph knew God's beautiful character, so he chose to keep trusting Him. ► Instead of sitting in a dark corner grumbling, he looked for ways to be like a light in the darkness. The prison keeper noticed.

**What did the prison keeper do? Read Genesis 39:21-23.** (Put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners.)

God was making Joseph a wise and caring leader. "And whatever he did, the Lord made it prosper" (Genesis 39:23). Through his actions Joseph showed everyone that God is kind and good.



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One morning Joseph noticed that two of the prisoners looked particularly sad. ► One was Pharaoh's chief butler, and the other was Pharaoh's baker. They told Joseph, "We both had dreams last night. But no one can explain the meaning of them to us" (Genesis 40:8, ICB).

Dreams . . . Joseph knew about dreams! He told them, "God is the only One who can explain the meaning of dreams. So tell me your dreams" (Genesis 40:8, ICB).

The butler dreamed that he saw a vine with three branches. It budded with blossoms, shooting out with clusters of ripe grapes. He had Pharaoh's cup in his hand and squeezed grapes into the cup (**grapes**). Joseph interpreted the three branches as three days. In three days the butler would return to his job serving Pharaoh.

Next the baker told his dream to Joseph. In his dream he had three white baskets on his head. In the topmost basket were all kinds of baked goods for Pharaoh, but the birds came and ate them up (**basket of bread**). Joseph interpreted the three baskets as three days. In three days the baker would die.

Sure enough, that's exactly what happened!

Once he was back working in the palace, Joseph had asked the butler to mention him to Pharaoh. He had done nothing wrong and hoped that perhaps somehow he could get out of prison. But the butler forgot all about kind Joseph. Poor Joseph remained in prison for two more years.

► One morning Pharaoh awoke, deeply troubled by two dreams. **What were Pharaoh's dreams? Read Genesis 41:2-7.** (First, seven fat cows came out of the river. Then seven ugly, skinny cows came out of the river and ate up the seven fat cows. Next, seven plump heads of grain came up; then seven tiny heads. The seven thin heads ate the seven fat heads of grain.) (Show toy cow or picture of a cow, and corn.)

When the chief butler heard about the dreams, he remembered Joseph. He shared with Pharaoh how Joseph had interpreted his dreams while he was in prison.

Pharaoh had his guards fetch Joseph from the prison right away! Then he asked Joseph to explain his dream to him.

"I am not able to explain the meaning of dreams. God will do this for the king," Joseph said (Genesis 41:16, ICB).

► God explained the dreams to Joseph, and Joseph explained them to Pharaoh. The fat cows and the plump ears of corn in Pharaoh's dreams meant that for seven years there would be plenty of food in Egypt because the crops would grow very well. The seven skinny cows and the seven tiny ears of corn meant there would then be seven hard years of famine because of a terrible drought.

This was very bad news! But Joseph had some wise advice on what to do. **What was that advice? Read Genesis 41:33-36.** (To appoint a wise man over Egypt, and officers to collect one fifth of the produce in the seven plentiful years and store them for the famine.)

Pharaoh knew Joseph was right: he would need a wise man to help Egypt through this crisis. But where would he find a man like this? Ah-ha! He knew! ► He said, "Can we find a better man than Joseph to take this job? God's spirit is truly in him!" (Genesis 41:38, ICB).

Joseph's beautiful character, his wise words, and his God-given ability to interpret dreams had convinced the king that God was real and that He was working in Joseph's life. Soon all of Egypt would know of Joseph's God too.

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## TEACHER NOTES

# Mission Story **The Mystery Book**



**Focus:** God's true character is revealed by reading His Word.

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**Location:** Help a child locate the **Middle East** on your **globe** or **world map**.

Fourteen-year-old Anahita\* was bored one day and went to the bookshelf in her father's library to find something to read. As she searched through the books, one in particular attracted her attention. It had a cross on it. When she asked her father what it was, he told her it was a Bible.

Anahita was surprised. She didn't know much about the Bible. But she did know that the leader of the country in which they lived wouldn't approve of their owning one. "Where did you get it?" she asked hesitantly.

Anahita discovered that about a year before, a stranger had handed the book to her mother at a nearby park. "I didn't think too much about it," her mother told her. "I set it on the shelf and eventually forgot it was there."

Anahita curled up with the mysterious book and began reading a chapter in the Old Testament. But she didn't get very far, because the words were difficult to understand. She was tired, so she went to bed.

The next morning after a refreshing sleep, she tried to read the Bible again. This time she started with the book of John and continued through to the book of Revelation. She read nonstop for five hours!

Anahita couldn't understand many things that she read, but what she did understand deeply touched her heart.

"I read many amazing things about God that day," she said. "I believed, I asked for forgiveness, and I told Him that I wanted to follow Him." Anahita realized that she'd never known God's true character. "I thought God was someone who would become angry and punish me if I sinned. After reading the Bible, I knew that He was loving and kind."

- **Have you ever read those books (John through Revelation)? What questions did you have?**
- **What are some other character qualities you can think of that describe God?**
- **How can you learn more about God's true character?** (Do you want to do that?)

\*Name has been changed.



## Joseph the Interpreter

### What you need:

Week 9 craft template, scissors, markers, a split pin (1).

### Instructions:

- Color in the pictures (2).
- Cut out each circle.
- Place the Joseph circle on top of the other circle, then push a split pin through the middle to join them together (3).
- Show the spinner to a friend or family member and ask them to guess who had each dream and what its interpretation was.





## Primary

YEAR A • QUARTER 2

### God Is With Me

- WEEK 1 The Birthright Stew
- WEEK 2 Jacob Tricks Isaac
- WEEK 3 The Ladder From Heaven
- WEEK 4 Jacob Works for Uncle Laban
- WEEK 5 Jacob and the Midnight Wrestle
- WEEK 6 Joseph's Coat and Dreams
- WEEK 7 Joseph and His Brothers
- WEEK 8 Joseph: A Slave in Egypt
- WEEK 9 Joseph: From Prison to Palace
- WEEK 10 **Joseph: Governor of Egypt**
- WEEK 11 A Family Reunited
- WEEK 12 Ruth and Naomi
- WEEK 13 Ruth and Boaz

## Week 10

# Joseph: Governor of Egypt

**Bible References:** Genesis 41:46-57; 42

**Big Idea** God loves everyone, and He wants all people to have the opportunity to know Him.

**Memory Verse** "For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:3, 4).

**References** *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 224-227  
*The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 1, pp. 449-453  
*The Bible Story*, vol. 2, pp. 61-65

Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson:

**Fundamental Beliefs**

- 3. The Father
- 8. The Great Controversy
- 10. The Experience of Salvation
- 22. Christian Behavior

**Word of the Week** **Opportunity:** An experience or a time that makes it possible to learn, know, or do something new. For example: Ethan had the opportunity to learn about Jesus when he stayed with his Christian friend.

**Lesson Summary**

Joseph became the governor over Egypt and worked to gather food during the seven years of plenty, to prepare for the seven years of famine. Through Joseph a whole nation was given the opportunity to know that the God of heaven is real and can be trusted. Back in the land of Canaan, Joseph's family ran out of food, so Jacob sent 10 of his sons to Egypt to buy grain. Joseph recognized his brothers but didn't tell them who he was. Then he tested them to find out whether their characters had changed, so he accused them of being spies and demanded they bring Benjamin to Egypt to prove they were not spies.

**Learning Goals**

The children will:

- Know** that God loves everyone.
- Feel** valued by God.
- Respond** by accepting God's invitation to show and tell others about His love.



# A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

God is love. He loves us so much that He was willing to die and take our sins as His own. He wants to give everyone the opportunity to know Him and accept His gift of eternal life. The Bible says He is “patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish” (2 Peter 3:9, ESV). Every day God draws people to Himself.

What a wonderful promise to know that God wants every person to know Him. He “desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth” (1 Timothy 2:4). It doesn’t matter what they own, where they live, their occupation, or the color of their hair. God desires for *all* to be saved and to know Him.

Our story this week demonstrates how much God wants to reach everyone. He showed the Egyptians

that He cared for them by using Joseph to provide food for them during the seven years of famine. “Through Joseph the attention of the king and great men of Egypt was directed to the true God” (Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 222).

God wants to use you to share His love with others and give them the opportunity to be saved too! Ask Him to work through your life right now. Commit to praying each day for the Holy Spirit to guide you to those whom God has already drawn toward Him and also toward you.

Like Joseph, may you and the children in your Sabbath School class be willing to be used by God to give others the opportunity to know Him.



# Simple Program Outline

**Big Idea:** God loves everyone, and He wants all people to have the opportunity to know Him.

## Primary, Year A, Quarter 2, Week 10

### EARLY ARRIVALS

- Play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist** as the children arrive.
- Activity: Corn in a sack outline

### OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

- Welcome
- Songs
  - **“Love My Enemies”**
  - **“I Will Go”**
- Pray after singing **“A Whisper From the Heart.”**
- Sing: **What Can I Give to the Lord?”**
- Collect Offering.
- **Offering Chart** and **Mission Fast Fact**
- **“Visitor Song”**
- **“Happy Birthday”**

### FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

- Object Lesson: We can spread God's love to others.
- Share the **Big Idea: God loves everyone, and He wants all people to have the opportunity to know Him.**

### BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

### UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

- Discussion and brainstorm: **Ways to share God's love**
- **Snowflake** object lesson

### TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

- **Character Card 23: Joseph as Governor**
- **Nature Lesson:** “God Is Love”
- **Craft:** Joseph the Governor
- Sing **“I Will Go.”**
- **Mission Challenge:** Give the friend you invited to Sabbath School something to keep learning about Jesus.
- Review: Repeat Big Idea.
- Pray.



# Program Preparation

## Opening and Focus Activities

Source [outline of a sack](#) for each child, and **dried corn, glue, pencils/crayons**.

Source a **plate with raised sides, milk or soy milk, food coloring (four colors), dishwashing liquid, cotton swabs/balls**.

Update [Offering Chart](#).

Prepare [Mission Fast Fact](#).

Write the **Big Idea** on your **whiteboard** or use the **Program PowerPoint**.

## Bible Story and Unpack the Story

Source the [Program PowerPoint](#). Have a **map** available to show the children the journey Jacob's sons took from Canaan to Egypt.

Source and prepare the following props to use throughout the story when prompted: **kernels of grain or corn in a small sack or paper bag**.

Source **paper** and **scissors** to create a snowflake.

Source a **whiteboard** or **poster board** and **markers**.


## Tie It All Together

Source [Character Card 23: Joseph as Governor](#) for each child.

## Craft Materials

Source materials for Joseph the Governor: [Week 10 craft template](#), **colored crayons, scissors, glue**.

# What Do I Need?

Source From AIJ Website ( <a href="http://www.aliveinjesus.info">www.aliveinjesus.info</a> )	Additional Resources to Source
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Music:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Love My Enemies"</li> <li>- "I Will Go"</li> <li>- "A Whisper From the Heart"</li> <li>- "What Can I Give to the Lord?"</li> <li>- "Visitor Song"</li> <li>- "Happy Birthday"</li> <li>- Scripture Song: "1 Timothy 2:3, 4"</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Outline of a sack</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Week 10 Program PowerPoint</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Character Card 23: Joseph as Governor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Mission Fast Fact</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Week 10 craft template</li> </ul> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><i>qr.aij.info_PA2Music</i></p> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Class Bible</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dried corn, glue, pencils/crayons</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Offering container</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A plate with raised sides, milk or soy milk</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Whiteboard or poster board and markers</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Food coloring (four colors)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dishwashing liquid</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Cotton swabs/balls</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Map showing the journey of Joseph's brothers</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Kernels of grain or corn in a small sack</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Craft materials (see above)</li> </ul>



# Full Program Outline

**Big Idea:** God loves everyone, and He wants all people to have the opportunity to know Him.

## EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

**LISTEN:** Play this quarter's **Scripture Song playlist** quietly in the background as the children arrive.

**CONNECT:** Warmly acknowledge all children by name as they arrive. Share how happy you are to see them.

**DO:** Give each of the children a **piece of paper with the outline of a sack**. Provide **dried corn** for them to glue onto their sack to show how God used Joseph to provide food for the years of famine, giving the people of Egypt the opportunity to learn about God's love. Children can also write this week's **Big Idea** on the page.

(Explain last week's story to any visitors so that they'll understand the craft.)

## OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

**WELCOME:** Bring the children together and welcome them as a group. Be sure to warmly welcome and involve all visitors.

**SING:** Sing "Love My Enemies" and "I Will Go." Then sing the prayer song, "A Whisper From the Heart."

**PRAY:** Invite the children to tell you what their favorite thing is in nature (flowers, mountains, rivers, rocks, a particular animal). God made all of nature for us to enjoy, so thank Him that He is with you today. Nature shows His creativity, love, and power. **Pray** together, thanking God for all His creation, and invite Him to be with us today. You might like to invite the children to contribute to the prayer by saying their favorite thing and thanking God for it.

**SING:** Sing the offering song, "What Can I Give to the Lord?"

**GIVE:** Have a child collect the offering. Display your **Offering Chart** and share how much money the class has given so far this quarter. Share this week's **Mission Fast Fact** about this quarter's mission project. Then invite the children to pray with you as you ask God to use their gifts to share His love with others. After the offering has been collected and counted by an adult, invite one child to color this week's section of the Offering Chart.

**SING:** Warmly welcome any visitor and sing the "Visitor Song." Sing "Happy Birthday" to a child who has had a birthday this week, and pray for God to bless them.

## FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

**J DO: Object Lesson: God wants all people to have the opportunity to know Him. We are His messengers.**

Follow these steps:

1. Pour milk onto a plate and dot different colors of food coloring around the edge of the plate (in the milk). Explain that many people in the world live without knowing God. It can be a lonely and dark life without God.
2. God helps us to tell others about His love. Explain that the cotton swab/ball represents us, and the dishwashing liquid represents God. Dip the cotton swab/ball in the dishwashing liquid, then use it to touch the dots of food coloring. Watch the small colored dots of food coloring swirl around and touch other colors. One person tells another the good news about God's love, who then tells another, and so on. The plate becomes a beautiful swirly rainbow of colors! God asks us to tell His love to everyone!

**READ:** Read the **Big Idea** together from the whiteboard or the **Program PowerPoint: God loves everyone, and He wants all people to have the opportunity to know Him**.

Our story today is about God giving the Egyptians the opportunity to know Him. He used Joseph, a follower of God, to interpret Pharaoh's dream about a famine, a time of no rain and no food. Pharaoh appointed Joseph to gather enough food in the years of plenty to make sure there was enough food in the years of famine.



## BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

 **SHARE:** Pray, then creatively share the Bible Story.

## UNPACK THE STORY (10 MINUTES)


**DO:** Ask the children to stand up and pair with someone wearing the same color they are. In their pairs they are to pretend to be Egyptians. Give them 60 seconds to say to each other:


• **What do you think of Joseph's God (and why)?**

Ask a few children to share what they talked about.

**READ:** After the children have returned to their seats, **read together Galatians 6:10.**

Just as God used Joseph to show how He was with the people in Egypt, sometimes God calls us to do jobs so that others will learn that God loves them.

 **DISCUSS: Brainstorm** together (on a whiteboard or poster) different ways we can share God's love with others. (Ideas might include: encourage others; tell others what God has done for you; tell others what you learned in Sabbath School; help others; give what you can to those in need; write out Bible verses to give to others; be a reliable, trustworthy, kind person.)

 **DO:** Share that God wanted the whole nation of Egypt to know Him. He helped save them through the famine through His friend Joseph. In the same way, God also wants you and your family to know Him.

**Snowflake Object Lesson:** Show the children a piece of paper. Highlight how perfect it is, with no cuts or folds or creases. Begin to fold the paper, and as you are folding it and cutting it, explain how each fold or cut might seem like a bad thing. When you are finished, unfold the paper to show the children a beautiful snowflake. The folds and cuts created something beautiful.

 **DISCUSS:** Together, read **Romans 8:28.**

Discuss how sometimes things happen to us that are disappointing or make us sad. God can help us grow through hard times, even though they make Him sad too.

• **How can you hold on to God in both the good and hard times?** (Trust that God won't ever leave you; believe that He will help you in His time and way; read His Word; pray to Him.)

• **What bad things happened in our story that would eventually lead to good?** (Bad things happened to Joseph; a famine came to the land. Joseph's brothers also thought bad things were happening to them. But God brought good out of all these situations.) **What can you remember to do the next time you are going through a tough time?** (Talk to God; ask Him to help you trust Him.)

**TEACHING POINT:** Because our loving God wants everyone to have the opportunity to know Him, He works in ways we sometimes may not understand. We can trust that He has a good reason for everything He does.

## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**MEMORY VERSE:** Give each child **Character Card 23: Joseph as Governor** to place it in their container. Discuss the picture and ask the children to recite the **memory verse**. Then sing the **Scripture Song** together: **"1 Timothy 2:3, 4."**

**DISCUSS:** Ask the children: • **Why does God want everyone to be saved?**

**NATURE LESSON:** Read the **Nature Lesson**, "God Is Love," and engage the children in the discussion questions.

# Full Program Outline Continued



## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**CRAFT:** Create the **Joseph the Governor** craft.

Play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist** quietly in the background as children make their craft.

**SING:** Bring the children back together to sing again “**I Will Go.**” What are your favorite words in this song? What does this say to you personally? Then sing the chorus again.

**MISSION CHALLENGE:** This week’s Mission Challenge is to: **Give something to the friend you invited to Sabbath School last week that helps them continue to learn about Jesus.** Talk with the children about what this might be: perhaps a book, a pamphlet, or a Bible.

**REVIEW:** Repeat the **Big Idea** together: **God loves everyone, and He wants all people to have the opportunity to know Him.**

**PRAY:** Thank God for all the friends who are at Sabbath School today, and for making each one special. Ask God to bless each child as they share His love with those around them. Pray that others will come to know Him too.

## Bible Story

**Big Idea:** God loves everyone, and He wants all people to have the opportunity to know Him.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

### Storytelling Suggestions

Show the pictures from this week’s story in the **Program PowerPoint**. Ask a child to follow your cues and ► click through the images. Have a **map** available to show the children the journey Jacob’s sons took to Egypt. Prepare the following props to use throughout the story when prompted: **kernels of grain or corn in a small sack or paper bag.**

**Pray:** Ask God to help everyone understand today’s Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

### TELL THE STORY

► Joseph’s powerful God had freed him from a deep pit, slavery, and prison. Now, at the age of 30, he was the governor of Egypt!

But in his heart he was still God’s trusting child. Now he needed God’s help to do the massive job ahead of him. A terrible famine was coming, so “Joseph gathered all the food produced in Egypt during those seven years of good crops” (Genesis 41:48, ICB). These were busy years of planning, organizing, building barns, and storing grain (**show sack of grain**).

Seven years later Joseph’s huge barns were full, all because God loved the Egyptians enough to show Pharaoh the future. God is so kind!

► Then the famine began, just as God had told Joseph it would. Crops withered, garden plants shriveled in the scorching sun, and the ground grew cracked and hard. It wasn’t long before the hungry Egyptians began buying the grain Joseph had stored. Now all the people had the opportunity to see the wisdom and goodness of Joseph’s God close up. God was keeping them alive in a terrible famine. Surely He must love them too.

Back in the land of Canaan, Joseph’s family was also experiencing the famine when Jacob heard some amazing news—there was grain for sale in Egypt (**sack of grain**).



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**What did Jacob do? Read Genesis 42:2.** (He told his sons to go and buy grain in Egypt.)

▶ Go to Egypt? (Show map and refer to it as you tell about their journey.) The brothers no doubt remembered how they had sold Joseph many years earlier. But they saddled up their donkeys and headed south to Egypt, leaving their youngest brother, Benjamin, at home with Jacob.

▶ Imagine Joseph's shocked surprise when one day he saw his brothers approaching! Of course, they didn't recognize him, for he dressed and spoke like a true Egyptian. Before he knew it, they were bowing down before him. And that's when it hit Joseph: his dreams of long ago were coming true!

Joseph quickly counted them (count to 10) and noticed that Benjamin was missing. Had his brothers hurt him too?

Joseph didn't tell them who he was. He wanted to be sure they weren't the same mean brothers who had sold him as a slave. To test them, he accused them three times of being spies, and each time their reply told him a little more. He learned that his father and his brother Benjamin were still well. What a relief!

He continued to test his brothers to see if they were being honest. **What was Joseph's plan? Read Genesis 42:15, 16.** (To prove they weren't spies, one brother was to go and get Benjamin and bring him back to Egypt.)

▶ The brothers were thrown into prison for three frightening days. In prison they thought about how terribly they had treated Joseph so long ago, and felt very guilty. They were sure that was why they were in this terrible mess in Egypt.

Joseph told the men that one brother would remain in prison while the others took grain to their hungry families and brought Benjamin back to Egypt to show they were not lying. The brothers agreed to this plan. As they talked, Joseph listened in.

**What did Joseph hear? Read Genesis 42:21, 22.** (How guilty they felt for what they had done to Joseph all those years ago, and they were being punished for it.)

Joseph ran from the room and cried. He dried his eyes and returned to his older brothers. He chose Simeon to stay behind in prison.

▶ After loading up their donkeys, the worried brothers began their long trek home. When they finally reached home, their anxious families heard their frightening story. Father Jacob was so distressed that he said, "Joseph is no more, Simeon is no more, and you want to take Benjamin. All these things are against me" (Genesis 42:36).

Poor Father Jacob. If only he knew Joseph was safe in Egypt. God loved Jacob's sons enough to keep them alive in a famine and give them another opportunity to choose Him.

## Resource

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### Grains of Sand





# Nature Lesson **God is Love**

**Focus:** Nature reveals God's love, giving everyone the opportunity to know Him.

**“Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good” (Genesis 1:31).**

Have you ever lain on the grass at night and looked up into the starry heavens? Have you ever picked a flower and smelled its fragrant perfume? Maybe you have skipped rocks across a beautiful shining pond, watching as they bounced along. Or maybe you have hiked up a mountain and looked down to the valley below, amazed at the beauty of the view. It was Jesus who created our beautiful world. It was His hand that hung the stars in the sky and the moon in its place. It was His hand that formed the delicate flowers and tall, majestic mountains.

Nature is all around us, revealing God's love. And God created us with our five senses so we could have the opportunity to know Him better.

We can feel the wet dew on the grass under our feet, smooth pebbles in our hands, or a soft feather being tickled under our chin.

We can hear the birds as they sing their morning songs and the leaves as they rustle on the trees in the wind.

We can see the vivid colors of a rainbow arc across the sky and the flash of bright blue from a flapping butterfly's wings as it lands on a yellow flower.

We can smell the perfume of a freshly picked rose, a zesty orange, or the woody scent of a forest.

We can taste the sweet, sweet honey that the busy bees make, and the crunchy carrot picked fresh from the garden (or marketplace or store).

God's love is revealed through nature and reminds us that He wants to make His children happy. Through nature He wants everyone to have the opportunity to know Him. If ever you're feeling distant from God, go outside and spend some time in His nature.

- **What are some of your favorite things God created?**
- **How do those things help you know His love better?**

## Craft

### Joseph the Governor

**What you need:**

Week 10 craft template, crayons, scissors, split pin (1).

**Instructions:**

- Cut out the bowing person on page 2.
- Line the dots up with the legs on page 1 and push a split-pin through to join them (2).
- Draw an Egyptian landscape in the background, such as a desert, pyramids, and palm trees (3).
- Move the person up and down to show how the brothers bowed to Joseph.







## Primary

YEAR A • QUARTER 2

### God Is With Me

- WEEK 1 The Birthright Stew
- WEEK 2 Jacob Tricks Isaac
- WEEK 3 The Ladder From Heaven
- WEEK 4 Jacob Works for Uncle Laban
- WEEK 5 Jacob and the Midnight Wrestle
- WEEK 6 Joseph's Coat and Dreams
- WEEK 7 Joseph and His Brothers
- WEEK 8 Joseph: A Slave in Egypt
- WEEK 9 Joseph: From Prison to Palace
- WEEK 10 Joseph: Governor of Egypt
- WEEK 11 **A Family Reunited**
- WEEK 12 Ruth and Naomi
- WEEK 13 Ruth and Boaz

## Week 11

# A Family Reunited

**Bible Reference:** Genesis 43-50

### Big Idea

God sees the end from the beginning and can turn difficult experiences into blessings.

### Memory Verse

"And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19).

### References

*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 227-240  
*The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 1, pp. 454-487  
*The Bible Story*, vol. 2, pp. 65-72

### Fundamental Beliefs

Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson:

- 3. The Father
- 7. The Nature of Humanity
- 22. Christian Behavior
- 23. Marriage and the Family

### Word of the Week

**Providence:** God's guidance and care for us, and His wise preparation for our future needs. We see God's providence in our lives when we don't know what we need or how our needs will be met.

### Lesson Summary

Through the seven years of famine in Egypt and the surrounding lands, God had wisely prepared a way to supply for Jacob and his family's needs through the leadership of Joseph in Egypt. Joseph's brothers returned to Egypt to buy more grain, and Joseph continued to test them to see whether they had allowed God to change their hard hearts. When Joseph saw their changed hearts, he revealed who he was and how God had put him in his position so that he could provide for their needs. Jacob, his sons, and their families then journeyed from Canaan to Egypt, and Joseph was finally reunited with his father.

### Learning Goals

The children will:

- Know** that God sees that their needs can turn something bad into something good.
- Feel** that they can trust God to take care of them.
- Respond** by giving their hearts and lives to God because He cares for them.



# A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

The young man rubbed the small key between his fingers. He'd forgotten all about this key. His grandpa had given it to him when he was just 9 years old. "For when you need it," he'd said. Now the boy was 19. And Grandpa had passed away.

Sadly he began to try the key in all Grandpa's old locks. But it was too small. With a glimmer of hope he ran to the old shed out back. Grandpa had always kept it locked and closed. Suddenly . . . his little key was the perfect fit! Pulling open the rusty door, the young man gasped to see . . . a car. A beautifully restored vintage car, with the keys in the door and a sign under the wipers that said, "With love, from Grandpa."

God knows the needs you have, will soon have, and will have far into the future. In providence, God provides for your needs. What a relief and comfort to know that God has plans within plans—far beyond

what you can see—to ensure you make it into His arms for eternity.

Take a moment to consider His ultimate plan for you and pray to Him now, giving your life into His care and providence.

Joseph lived his life and trusted in God's providence. When things were tough and didn't make sense, he looked heavenward to his source of comfort and strength, knowing that God knows the end from the beginning. He told his brothers, "But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive" (Genesis 50:20).

As you and the children spend one more week exploring the story of Joseph together, may you too put your trust in God, knowing that He has amazing things in store for you.



# Simple Program Outline

**Big Idea:** God sees the end from the beginning and can turn difficult experiences into blessings.

## Primary, Year A, Quarter 2, Week 11

### EARLY ARRIVALS

- Play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist** as the children arrive.
- Activity: Children write their names in Egyptian hieroglyphics

### OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

- Welcome
- Songs
  - “**God Is My Faithful Friend**”
  - “**My Help**”
  - “**A Whisper From the Heart**”
- Pray.
- “**What Can I Give to the Lord?**”
- Collect Offering.
- **Offering Chart** and **Mission Fast Fact**
- “**Visitor Song**”
- “**Happy Birthday**”

### FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

- Story Revision: Word jigsaw
- Share the **Big Idea: God sees the end from the beginning and can turn difficult experiences into blessing.**

### BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

### UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

- Discuss: **Promise Reminders of God’s faithfulness** (star, heart, ladder)
- Jigsaw puzzle activity
- Discuss how God sees the big picture of our lives when we see only one piece.

### TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

- **Character Card 24: Joseph’s Family Reunion**
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song: “Philippians 4:19”**
- **Mission Story:** “God Provides”
- **Craft:** Fan-Fold Booklet
- Sing “**God Be With You.**”
- **Mission Challenge:** Ask your friend who visited Sabbath School what they thought of the gift you gave them.
- **Review:** Three children share what they have learned about God.
- Pray.



# Program Preparation

## Opening and Focus Activities

Source the [Hieroglyphics printout](#) for each child; as well as **pencils/crayons**.

Print out enough [word jigsaw pieces](#) so that each child can have one piece each. You may need to give some children more than one piece, depending on your group size.

Update [Offering Chart](#).

Prepare [Mission Fast Fact](#).

Write the **Big Idea** on your **whiteboard** or use the **Program PowerPoint**.

## Bible Story and Unpack the Story

Source the [Program PowerPoint](#).

Source **three or four small sacks or paper bags** with some **grain, a cup covered in aluminum foil**.

Source **three sticky notes** or small pieces of paper. Draw one of these three symbols on each: **heart, star, ladder**. You will hide these in the sacks during the Unpack the Story section.

Source a **small jigsaw puzzle** that doesn't have too many pieces (about 10-20).

## Tie It All Together

Source [Character Card 24: Joseph's Family Reunion](#) for each child.

## Craft Materials

Source the [week 11 craft template](#) for each child. Source **markers, scissors, glue**.

# What Do I Need?

## Source From AIJ Website ([www.aliveinjesus.info](http://www.aliveinjesus.info))

### Music:

- "God Is My Faithful Friend"
- "My Help"
- "A Whisper From the Heart"
- "What Can I Give to the Lord?"
- "Visitor Song"
- "Happy Birthday"
- Scripture Song: "Philippians 4:19"
- "God Be With You"



*qr.aij.info\_PA2Music*

- Hieroglyphics printout
- Word jigsaw
- Week 11 Program PowerPoint
- Character Card 24: Joseph's Family Reunion
- Week 11 craft template
- Mission Fast Fact

## Additional Resources to Source

- Class Bible
- Pencils/crayons
- Offering container
- Three or four small sacks or paper bags with some grain
- A cup covered in aluminum foil.
- A small jigsaw puzzle (20-30 pieces)
- Sticky notes
- Craft materials (see above)



# Full Program Outline

**Big Idea:** God sees the end from the beginning and can turn difficult experiences into blessings.

## EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

**LISTEN:** Play this quarter's **Scripture Song playlist** quietly in the background as the children arrive.

**CONNECT:** Warmly acknowledge all children by name as they arrive. Share how happy you are to see them.

**DO:** Explain to the children how **Egyptian hieroglyphs** were the formal writing system used in ancient Egypt. Show children the printout of the different symbols and the letters they represent. Then invite the children to see if they can write their name in hieroglyphics.

## OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

**WELCOME:** Bring the children together and welcome them as a group. Point out the hieroglyphs written by the children who arrived early and ask an adult if they can guess where today's story took place.

**SING:** Sing "**God Is My Faithful Friend**" and "**My Help.**" Sing the prayer song, "**A Whisper From the Heart.**" Invite the children to share their favorite words in this prayer song.

**PRAY:** Remind the children that Jesus loves to hear us pray and talk to Him. Invite several children to **pray** a short prayer welcoming Jesus into our hearts as we learn of His love and care today.

**SING:** Sing the offering song, "**What Can I Give to the Lord?**"

**GIVE:** Have a child collect the offering. Display your **Offering Chart** and share how much money the class has given so far this quarter. Share this week's **Mission Fast Fact** about this quarter's mission project. Pray and thank God for the children's generosity, asking Him to use their gifts to bless others. After the offering has been collected and counted by an adult, invite one child to color this week's section of the Offering Chart.

**SING:** Warmly welcome any visitor and sing the "**Visitor Song.**" Sing "**Happy Birthday**" to a child who has had a birthday this week, and pray for God to bless them.

## FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

**J DO:** Ask if any of the children remember whose story we've been studying the past few weeks. Encourage them to share any details they remember.

**Word Jigsaw Match:** Give each child one piece of the word jigsaw and invite them to go to each other and try to match the difficult situation in Joseph's life to the solution God provided. Depending on the group size, you may need to give children more than one piece. For large classes, you will need to print all 14 pieces more than once.

**EXPLAIN:** Ask:

• **Did Joseph see the solution (matching jigsaw piece) to his trials right away?** (No, he didn't see the result of some situations until many years later.) Discuss the fact that we may not understand how some things fit together in our lives for good until we get to heaven.

Explain that our story today is about how God cared for Joseph through good and bad times and provided for his needs in advance.

**READ:** Read the **Big Idea** together from the whiteboard or the **Program PowerPoint: God sees the end from the beginning and can turn difficult experiences into blessings.**

## BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

**SHARE:** Pray, then creatively share the Bible Story.



## UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

**DO:** Show the children your **three sacks of grain**, in which you've hidden the star, heart, and ladder **symbol cards**. Invite three children to come forward to search for the cards within the sacks. Place these on the floor in three different places around the classroom.

Ask the children, in pairs, to move from one symbol card to the next to discuss what each one has taught us so far in the stories of Abraham, Jacob, and Joseph. Specifically, they should discuss God's leading of this family.

Then, as a group, invite the children to briefly share their ideas before reading the following verses and discussing the questions together.

1. **Star.** Genesis 15:5. **What did God promise this family?** (To multiply their descendants like the stars.)
2. **Heart.** Genesis 12:2, 3: **What did God promise Abraham?** (To bless him and all people through his family.)
3. **Ladder.** Genesis 28:13-15: **What was the purpose of Jacob's ladder?** (The ladder represented Jesus, who would one day come to earth to save us and connect us with God. God would bless the world through Jacob's family—through Jesus!)

 **DISCUSS:** Together with all the children, discuss:

- **Did God keep His promises?** (Yes. All of them.)
- **Think about Joseph's life. What were the hardest moments for him?**
- **Where, in Joseph's life, can you see that God was always faithful?**

God is always faithful, even when it seems as if He's silent through the hard times in our lives. For Joseph, those hard times lasted years (while he was in prison, for example), yet when he looked back over his life, God so clearly led Joseph through the valleys (hard) and mountaintops (good) experiences.

Ellen White says, "God never leads His children otherwise than they would choose to be led, if they could see the end from the beginning, and discern the glory of the purpose which they are fulfilling as coworkers with Him" (*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 224, 225).

God had a BIG plan for His chosen people, the Israelites, and He worked through Joseph's life to make some of those plans happen. God wants for all people to know and love Him. He's wanted this all throughout the ages of time . . . way down to you, now. (Hold up your open Bible.) God's Bible is full of stories and promises that are true and trustworthy. We can depend on God. He will always keep His promises.

Invite the children to **recite their memory verse**, if they can.

**DO:** Invite the children to stand up again. Give each child a puzzle piece without showing them a picture of the finished puzzle. Give the children a few minutes to see if they can put the puzzle together.

- **Was it hard to do the puzzle without seeing the picture?**

**DISCUSS:** • **Did Joseph know how his life was going to turn out and what it was going to look like?** (No.)

• **Why was he able to stay cheerful and kind while going through the ups and downs?** (He trusted God. He knew God is faithful.)

## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**MEMORY VERSE:** Give each child **Character Card 24: Joseph's Family Reunion** to place in their container. Discuss the picture and have the children read the **memory verse** on the back. Then sing the **Scripture Song, "Philippians 4:19."**

Invite the children to recite the memory verse to a partner. Ask:

- **Whom might you share the memory verse with this week?**

# Full Program Outline Continued



## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**MISSION STORY:** Display your **world map** or **globe** and identify **Zimbabwe**, where this week's mission story comes from. Share the **Mission Story**, "God Provides," and discuss the follow-up questions.

**CRAFT:** Show the children the **Fan-Fold Booklet**. Talk about how God wants to provide for us in all situations. Invite children to think about and then write or draw ways God provides for them at home, at school, at play, and in every other way. Challenge the children to use their craft to share the story and its message with at least one other person.

**SING:** Bring the children back together to sing your closing song, "**God Be With You.**"

**MISSION CHALLENGE:** This week's Mission Challenge is a chance for the children to follow up with the friend they may have brought along to Sabbath School in week 9. This week's Mission Challenge is to: **Ask the friend you invited to Sabbath School what they thought about the gift you gave them.** Encourage them to talk with their friend about what they liked or didn't like, and any questions they might have.

**REVIEW and COMMIT:** Ask three children to share what they learned about God today. Affirm their answers joyfully and invite them to share these truths with their family today.

**PRAY:** Thank God for His providence and for supplying all our needs. Thank Him that we can trust Him in all things, as He sees the end from the beginning, and turns bad things into good, in His perfect time. Pray for each of the children in the classroom and the friends they're sharing Jesus with.

## Bible Story

**Big Idea:** God sees the end from the beginning and can turn difficult experiences into blessings.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

### Storytelling Suggestions

Show the pictures from this week's story in the **Program PowerPoint**. Ask a child to follow your cues and ► click through the images. You may like to use the following props: **three or four small sacks or paper bags** with some **grain**, a **"silver" cup** (cup covered in aluminum foil).

**Pray:** Ask God to help everyone understand today's Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

### TELL THE STORY

► Joseph's brothers looked at the sacks of grain they had brought back from Egypt. There was hardly any grain left! The famine had gotten worse. They needed more food! Finally, with Jacob's blessing, the brothers—and Benjamin—set off for Egypt to free brother Simeon and buy more grain.

When the brothers arrived in Egypt, they once again bowed low before the governor of Egypt. They still didn't know it was their brother Joseph! Joseph was so excited to see Benjamin at last! He hurried from the room and wept.

► Simeon was released from prison, and lunch was served to all the brothers at Joseph's house. To test them again, Joseph had Benjamin given five times more food than the others. Joseph listened closely to his brothers. Would they be jealous of Benjamin's big meal? No! Joseph didn't hear one jealous word. The brothers talked happily together as they ate.



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Joseph was almost convinced his brothers had truly changed, but he decided to test them one more time.

**What did he do? Read Genesis 44:1, 2.** (He commanded his steward to fill the brothers' sacks with food, put each man's money in his sack, and put his silver cup in Benjamin's sack.) (Ask a volunteer to put a silver cup into one sack of grain.)

The brothers left Egypt, happy to take their grain and brother Benjamin home.

But their happiness didn't last long. Joseph's steward raced after them and stopped them. ► He accused them of stealing the governor's silver cup! He asked angrily, "Why have you paid back evil for good?" (Genesis 44:4, ICB).

The servant searched the men's sacks and found Joseph's cup in Benjamin's sack. (Mix up the sacks of grain and have the children try to find the one with the cup.)

► The brothers were taken back to Egypt. As punishment, Joseph demanded that Benjamin become his slave, while the others could go free. Judah shook his head. His father would be so upset! He begged to take Benjamin's place.

Joseph knew, without a doubt, that his brothers were truly sorry. He could see that God had changed their hard hearts. With tears in his eyes, he said, "I am Joseph" (Genesis 45:3).

The brothers gasped, amazed! Joseph! Could this man be their little brother? Then they became very afraid. This was the brother they had thrown into a pit. This was the brother they had sold to the traders.

Joseph realized how they felt. **What did he say to his brothers? Read Genesis 45:4-8.** (Joseph told them not to be sad, because God sent him ahead to become ruler of Egypt and to save lives.)

The brothers could hardly believe their ears. Joseph was forgiving them! And he was telling them how God overturned their cruelty and used him to save them from the famine.

But Joseph had still more good news for them.

**What was that good news? Read Genesis 45:9-12.** (Come and live in Egypt, and I will provide for you.)

► The brothers sped home with the news. Father Jacob was shocked, but so excited. "Joseph my son is still alive. I will go and see him before I die," he said (Genesis 45:28).

As Jacob's wagon train rolled into Egypt, Joseph sprang from his chariot and raced to meet his precious father. He threw his arms around Jacob's neck and wept for a long time.

► Jacob was so happy to see Joseph, and God gave him another 17 peaceful years with his long-lost son and his reunited children in Egypt. God had looked after his children, just as He'd promised.

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## TEACHER NOTES

# Mission Story **God Provides**



**Focus:** John trusts God to provide for his school fees.

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**Location:** Help a child locate **Zimbabwe** on your **globe** or **world map**.

John was worried. He looked at his empty wallet and knew his bank account was empty too. He had arrived back at his university after the holidays, but he had no money to pay the fees. The head of the school had let him stay in a room for a night. But John would need to find the money by 5:00 p.m. the next night, or he'd have to leave.

John believed God really wanted him to study to become a minister. He went to the room, knelt down, and asked for God's help.

John went to visit a friend and pray with him too. Instead of asking for God's help, they thanked God for what He would do to help John. The money didn't come that day, but John left it with God and went to sleep.

The next morning John met a friend on campus. "How are you? Is everything OK?" his friend asked him.

"Yes, everything is OK. God is in control," said John.

"How's your mom?" the friend asked.

"She's fine," John answered. Then without thinking, he added, "But she's worried about my school fees."

"How much do you need?" the friend asked. "Fifty thousand [Zimbabwean] dollars."

His friend pulled out half of what he needed and gave it to him, on the spot! John thanked his friend warmly.

John hurried to a phone to tell his mother what God had done. "Mom," he said, "can you please send my sister Mercy to the bank in town to put the rest of the money in my account?"

"John, you know I don't have the money," his mother said.

"Just send Mercy to town," John said. "God will provide the money."

A little while later he called his mother back. "I've been trying to reach you!" she said. "Mercy met a friend of yours in town who had planned to give you some money, but you had already left for school." He gave John's sister Z\$25,000—the exact amount of money he needed!

John's eyes filled with tears as he heard how God had answered his prayer and provided what he needed.

- **How does John remind you of the story of Joseph and how God worked in his life?**
- **What does it look like in your life to show you trust God?**



## Fan-Fold Booklet

### What you need:

Week 11 craft template, markers, scissors, glue (1).

### Instructions:

- Color in the pictures and cut around the outside of each template (2). (Be careful not to cut in between each octagon.)
- Glue along the tab and stick the rows together (3).
- Fold along each vertical line back and forth like an accordion (4).
- Write the ways that God cares for you (at home, at school, etc.) on the lines provided.

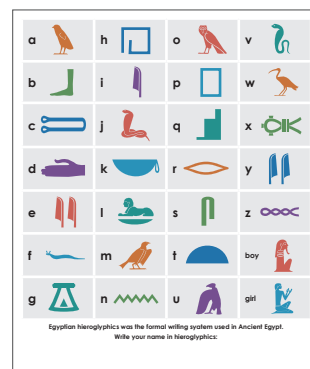


## Resources

### Jigsaw Pieces



### Write your name in hieroglyphics





## Primary

YEAR A • QUARTER 2

### God Is With Me

- WEEK 1 The Birthright Stew
- WEEK 2 Jacob Tricks Isaac
- WEEK 3 The Ladder From Heaven
- WEEK 4 Jacob Works for Uncle Laban
- WEEK 5 Jacob and the Midnight Wrestle
- WEEK 6 Joseph's Coat and Dreams
- WEEK 7 Joseph and His Brothers
- WEEK 8 Joseph: A Slave in Egypt
- WEEK 9 Joseph: From Prison to Palace
- WEEK 10 Joseph: Governor of Egypt
- WEEK 11 A Family Reunited
- WEEK 12 **Ruth and Naomi**
- WEEK 13 Ruth and Boaz

## Week 12

# Ruth and Naomi

### Bible Reference: Ruth 1-4

**Big Idea** God can heal broken hearts.

**Memory Verse** "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds" (Psalm 147:3).

**References** *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 2, pp. 428-434  
*The Bible Story*, vol. 3, pp. 137-140

**Fundamental Beliefs** Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson:

- 3. The Father
- 8. The Great Controversy
- 23. Marriage and the Family
- 26. Death and Resurrection

**Word of the Week** **Commitment:** To give yourself fully to someone or something, even when it may be difficult to do so.

**Lesson Summary** After traveling to Moab from famine-stricken Israel, Naomi lost her husband and two sons. However, Naomi was close to God. She also had two daughters-in-law, Ruth and Orpah, who loved her. When Naomi set out to return to her home in Bethlehem, Ruth determined to go with her, saying, "Where you go I will go. . . . Your people shall be my people, and your God my God" (Ruth 1:16, ESV). Ruth was committed to both Naomi and Naomi's God. God was able to comfort both women through their love and friendship.

**Learning Goals** The children will:  
**Know** that God can heal broken hearts.  
**Feel** comforted knowing God understands when we go through difficult times.  
**Respond** by committing to have a friendship with God.



# A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

Have you ever had a time in your life you felt as though you were in a deep pit of pain with no clear way out? Perhaps you grieved the loss of a loved one or felt wounded by someone you love.

Naomi was well acquainted with this kind of sorrow. Because of a famine in the land, she, her husband, and her two sons left their home and their people. However, 10 years later she returned as a widow with no husband or children. Yet through this wounded time God was with her. He provided special comfort through her daughter-in-law Ruth, who stood by her side, accepting Naomi's people and Naomi's God.

Like Naomi, you can have hope in whatever difficult season you're currently facing. God's Word offers you beautiful truths of hope. Jesus is with you (Isaiah 41:10), and you have a heavenly Father who cares deeply for you. He grieves with you, and He promises to heal the brokenhearted! (Psalm 147:3.)

As you explore the story of Naomi and Ruth with the children this Sabbath, may you feel comforted knowing that God still heals hearts today.



# Simple Program Outline

**Big Idea:** God can heal broken hearts.

## Primary, Year A, Quarter 2, Week 12

### EARLY ARRIVALS

- Play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist**.
- Play animal charades.

### OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

- Welcome
- Songs
  - **“My Help”**
  - **“I Will Go”**
  - **“Sabbath Song”**
- Pray.
- Sing offering song: **“What Can I Give to the Lord?”** Collect offering.
- **Offering Chart** and **Mission Fast Fact**
- **“Visitor Song”**
- **“Happy Birthday”**

### FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

- Activity: First-aid kit
- Share the **Big Idea: God can heal broken hearts.**

### BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

### UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

- **Button** object lesson
- **Bible promise match-up** activity
- Discussion

### TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

- **Character Card 25: Naomi and Ruth**
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song, “Psalm 147:3”**
- **Nature lesson:** “The Bald Eagle Shows Commitment”
- **Craft:** Medical Kit
- Sing **“God Be With You.”**
- **Mission Challenge:** Invite a friend to come again to Sabbath School or join in family worship.
- **Respond:** Silent prayer
- Pray.



# Program Preparation

## Opening and Focus Activities

Prepare to play animal charades by writing the names of different animals on **small pieces of paper**. Include these animals (that are committed to each other): beaver, swan, penguin, monkey, seahorse, lion, ant, elephant, bee, wolf, dolphin.

Source a **first-aid kit** with a variety of items (**bandage, thermometer, sling, disinfecting solution**, etc.)

Update **Offering Chart**.

Prepare **Mission Fast Fact**.

Write the **Big Idea** on your **whiteboard** or use the **Program PowerPoint**.

## Bible Story and Unpack the Story

Source the **Program PowerPoint**.

Source props for the story: **tissue** for wiping eyes, **map**.

Source **colorful buttons** (enough to give one to each child).

Download and print the **Bible promise match-up cards**.

## Tie It All Together

Source **Character Card 25: Naomi and Ruth** for each child. Source a ball.

## Craft Materials

Source the **week 12 craft template** for each child, **scissors, glue sticks, crayons/pencils/markers, Band-aid/plaster** (optional).

# What Do I Need?

## Source From AIJ Website ([www.aliveinjesus.info](http://www.aliveinjesus.info))

### Music:

- "My Help"
- "I Will Go"
- "Sabbath Song"
- "What Can I Give to the Lord?"
- "Visitor Song"
- "Happy Birthday"
- Scripture Song: "Psalm 147:3"
- "God Be With You"



[qr.aij.info\\_PA2Music](http://qr.aij.info_PA2Music)

- Week 12 Program PowerPoint
- Bible promise match-up cards
- Character Card 25: Naomi and Ruth
- Week 12 craft template
- Mission Fast Fact

## Additional Resources to Source

- Class Bible
- Animal charade prompts on pieces of paper
- First-aid kit with a variety of items (bandage, thermometer, sling, disinfecting solution, etc.)
- Offering container
- Ball
- Tissues for wiping eyes, map
- Colorful buttons (enough to give one to each child)
- Craft materials (see above)

# Full Program Outline



**Big Idea:** God can heal broken hearts.

## EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

**LISTEN:** Play this quarter's **Scripture Song playlist** quietly in the background as the children arrive.

**CONNECT:** Warmly acknowledge all children by name as they arrive. Share how happy you are to see them, and invite them to join in today's activity.

**PLAY:** Play a game of **animal charades** using the prompts you have prepared on small pieces of paper. Children will act out animals who are committed to each other (without talking).

## OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

**WELCOME:** Bring the children together and welcome them as a group. Talk about the game that you were just playing and point out some of the animals who stick with their mate for life (penguins, some monkeys), and those who are committed to caring for each other in a group (lions, dolphins). Share that today we'll learn about God's commitment to us, and how His love helped a young woman be loyal to her family when they were very sad.

Hold up your class Bible. Share that so far this year we have learned about God's care for the first people who lived on our world, recorded in the book of Genesis. **Show them the book of Genesis in your Bible. Turn to the book of Ruth,** where today's story will be from. Share that Ruth's story came soon after, shared in one short book in the Bible.

**SING:** Sing **"Alive in Jesus"** and **"He's Able."** Share that God is able to heal the brokenhearted. Then sing the prayer song, **"Sabbath Song."**

**PRAY:** **Pray**, thanking God that He is with you in your Sabbath School today. Invite children who would like to thank God for something from the past week to also pray a short prayer.

**SING:** Sing the offering song, **"What Can I Give to the Lord?"**

**GIVE:** Have a child collect the offering. Display your **Offering Chart** and share how much money the class has given so far this quarter. Share this week's **Mission Fast Fact** about this quarter's mission project. Then pray for a special blessing over the offering and those it will help. After the offering has been collected and counted by an adult, invite one child to color this week's section of the Offering Chart.

**SING:** Warmly welcome any visitor and sing the **"Visitor Song."** Sing **"Happy Birthday"** to a child who has had a birthday this week, and pray for God to bless them.

## FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

**J DO:** Bring in a **first-aid kit** and talk about the different items found in the kit and what they are used for: a brace for a twisted ankle, a thermometer for taking someone's temperature, Band-aids for cuts and scrapes, and a sling for a broken arm. Ask the children if they've used these items before to help someone else, or if someone has used them to help them.

**DISCUSS:** Discuss how in a sinful world, bad things can happen to us. We may get hurt. The items in the first-aid kit are useful for a physical problem.

- **But will any of these items heal a broken heart?** (No.)
- **What does it mean to have a broken heart?** (We feel very sad because of something hard that has happened in our life, i.e., someone dying, a pet dying, our best friend moving away.)

Explain that today's story will remind us of who can heal our broken hearts.

**READ:** Read the **Big Idea** together from the whiteboard or the **Program PowerPoint: God can heal broken hearts.**



## BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

 **SHARE:** Pray, then creatively share the Bible Story.

## UNPACK THE STORY (8 MINUTES)


**DO:** Show the children some buttons. Ask:

- **What are buttons for?**

Accept all answers, then explain that buttons bring two parts together (like two sides of a shirt) and keep them together.

Explain that **commitment is a little like buttons: it brings us together and keeps us together.** God is committed to us when we are hurting. His promises in the Bible remind us of this.

Open your Bible and **read the promise from Psalm 34:18:** "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted. He saves those whose spirits have been crushed" (ICB).

 Invite the children to discover, through a game of **Bible Promise Match-up**, Bible promises that give encouragement. Ask them to **get into groups of three.** They may like to give their group a name that fits their group. Then invite the children to **sit down on the floor** so they can place the promises and scenarios out around them. They should **read a scenario** and then **find the Bible promise** that gives comfort for that situation. When they have matched all their promises, they can **choose a favorite** and prepare to share why it's their favorite. When ready, they can **stand up**, so you'll know they're done. Spend time listening to each group. Affirm their favorite promises. You may like to also add your own.

**TEACHING POINT:** God loves us and will always be there for us. He has given us promises in the Bible to comfort and encourage us, and to give us hope.

 **DISCUSS:** Ask the children to reflect back to the story of Ruth and Naomi:

- **Which promise would you have shared with them?**
- **How can a broken heart be healed?** (Through prayer; reading God's promises; allowing time to heal; God working through people around us to comfort us.)
- **How can we relate to others when we see that they are sad? How would you like to be treated by others when you are sad?**

**TEACHING POINT:** God can see your heart and knows when it is hurting. He understands and wants to heal our hearts when we're sad. We can also pray for and encourage others.

## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**MEMORY VERSE:** Give each child **Character Card 25: Ruth and Naomi** to place in their storage container. Discuss the picture and have the children read the **memory verse** on the back. Then sing the **Scripture Song, "Psalm 147:3."**

Engage the children in a memory verse challenge. Invite them to sit on the floor in a circle. The first child will say the first word of the verse, then will roll a ball on the floor to someone else in the circle. The child receiving the ball will say the second word of the verse and so on until the verse is complete. Repeat the activity with different children if time allows.

**NATURE LESSON:** Read the **Nature Lesson**, "The Bald Eagle Shows Commitment," then discuss it.

# Full Program Outline Continued



## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**CRAFT:** Show the children your **medical kit craft** sample. Children cut out the medical kits and the items, and then paste each item into the medical kit. Then they can write the memory verse, **Psalm 147:3**, inside. Remind children that God's promises in the Bible comfort and guide us in difficult times. You may like to play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist** in the background as children make their craft.

Invite the children to show their craft to someone this week and share the story of Naomi and Ruth and how God helped heal their hearts by bringing them together to comfort each other and become committed to each other and God.

**SING:** Bring the children back together to sing your closing song, **"God Bless You."**

**MISSION CHALLENGE:** Encourage the children to continue reaching out to the friend they invited to Sabbath School. This week the Mission Challenge is to: **Invite your friend to come again to Sabbath School, or to share family worship with you.**

**RESPOND:** Invite the children to put their hands on their hearts and have a silent prayer to give their hearts to Jesus and thank Him for His care for them.

**PRAY:** Conclude with a final prayer, thanking God for being committed to us, and for understanding and healing broken hearts.

## Bible Story

**Big Idea:** God can heal broken hearts.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

### Storytelling Suggestions

Show the pictures from this week's story in the **Program PowerPoint**. Ask a child to follow your cues and ► click through the images. You may like to include a **map** to show the children where Elimelech and his family traveled from Bethlehem to Moab. Prepare the following prop to use throughout the story when prompted: **tissues** for wiping eyes.

**Pray:** Ask God to help everyone understand today's Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

### TELL THE STORY

God had kept His promise and blessed the children of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. They had become a large people group: the children of Israel.

► But generations later Elimelech, a man from the tribe of Judah, lived during a time the Israelites were facing a terrible famine. He saw that the fields of grain in his home of Bethlehem were withered, the ground was cracked and dry, and the animals were dying from hunger. His wife, Naomi, had little to feed their sons, Mahlon and Chilion. What would he do?

He decided to move to the land of Moab until the famine in Canaan was over. Elimelech, Naomi, Mahlon, and Chilion loaded their belongings and traveled to the land of Moab. Here the family lived and had plenty to eat. All around them the Moabites worshipped idols, but the little family from Bethlehem continued to worship the true God.

► Then came the very saddest of days. Elimelech died. Naomi was heartbroken (**pretend to wipe tears with a tissue**).



Life became a little easier after her sons were married. They brought their wives, Ruth and Orpah, to their family home. As Ruth and Orpah lived with God's family, they came to learn that the God of heaven is a God of love, so very different from the idol gods their families worshipped. And they were truly happy.

▶ But one day Mahlon and Chilion died. Poor Ruth and Orpah had lost their husbands, and Naomi had lost her precious sons. Sadness filled their hearts and their little home in Moab. The three widows cried together (tissue). They understood each other's sorrow and supported each other. Through it all they clung to God.

In this very saddest of times God had good news for Naomi. The famine in Canaan was over! Naomi decided to return home to Bethlehem and her relatives who still lived there.

▶ Ruth and Orpah began the long walk with Naomi, but along the way Naomi thought about how things might be for the two young widows in a strange land so different from Moab. She sadly but kindly told them to go back to their own land and families.

Orpah kissed Naomi goodbye, but Ruth clung to her mother-in-law. Ruth had made up her mind.

**What did she say to Naomi? Read Ruth 1:16.** (She would go wherever Naomi went and serve Naomi's God.)

Ruth was willing to give up family, friends, and everything familiar. She loved not only her mother-in-law but also the God of heaven. Their loving commitment to each other was deep and true. So the two women continued on their journey together.

▶ Upon their arrival, the whole of Bethlehem was abuzz! Naomi was home! In the midst of the excitement, some of the women said, "Is this Naomi?" (Ruth 1:19).

Yes, it was Naomi, but not the same Naomi who had left home with Elimelech and her sons. The years away had been hard ones.

**What did Naomi say to the women? Read Ruth 1:21.** ("I went out full, and the Lord has brought me home again empty.") (Tissue.)

Naomi was being honest about how she felt. Sometimes her life still seemed empty without her husband and sons, for God heals broken hearts over time. But in the midst of the pain, Ruth brought gladness to Naomi's broken heart. God had used her to comfort Naomi, and God would comfort Ruth too.

# Resource

## Bible Promise Match-ups

<p>I don't know what to do or which thing to choose.</p>	<p><i>ISAIAH 30:21</i> Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," whenever you turn to the right hand or whenever you turn to the left.</p>	<p>My dad lost his job, and I am afraid we will run out of food.</p>	<p><i>PSALM 27:1</i> The Lord is my shepherd: I shall not want.</p>	<p>I am afraid of some of the kids at school who are quite bossy and sometimes a bit mean.</p>	<p><i>PSALM 27:1</i> The Lord is my light and salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid?</p>
<p>I feel sad, and sometimes I don't feel useful to anyone.</p>	<p><i>PSALM 51:12, 13</i> Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me by Your generous Spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners shall be converted to You.</p>	<p>I am scared of the dark.</p>	<p><i>ISAIAH 26:3</i> You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.</p>	<p>I am worried that I won't be in heaven.</p>	<p><i>PSALM 139:23, 24</i> Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my anxieties; and see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.</p>



# Nature Lesson The Bald Eagle Shows Commitment

**Focus:** God is committed to His children and wants us to commit our lives to Him.

The bald eagle is a magnificent bird of prey that lives in North America near seas, rivers, large lakes, and oceans. It is a large bird with a huge wingspan that allows it to fly super-fast. It can move at speeds of 34 to 43 miles per hour (56 to 70 kilometers per hour)!

The bald eagle isn't really bald. It is called a bald eagle because its head and neck are white, while its body is brown. It has a hooked yellow beak that is perfect for catching fish, and large, sharp talons on its yellow feet.

When hunting fish, the bald eagle swoops down and uses its powerful talons to snatch the fish out of the water. It has special things on its toes called spicules, which help the eagle hold on to the fish more easily.

These birds are beautiful to watch as they soar through the sky and dive into water. The really special thing about bald eagles is their commitment to family. When a bald eagle is 4 or 5 years old, it chooses a mate, and they start a family. Once together, the birds will stay bonded for life. They are committed to each other and to raising their young together. The mother eagle will lay up to three eggs a year, and both parents will take turns keeping the eggs warm. The mother eagle spends most of the time with the chicks while the father brings food for the mother and babies. In the first three weeks the baby eagles, called eaglets, are never left alone. Again, the parents show commitment to each other and their babies.

God is committed to us, His children. He is committed to loving and caring for us. Just as the bald eagle commits to its mate for life, He wants us to commit our lives to Him too.

- How does this nature lesson remind you of today's story?
- How can you live out your commitment to God, even in difficult times?

## Craft

### Medical Kit

**What you need:**

Week 12 craft template (medical kit printed on red paper), crayons/pencils, scissors, glue, a Band-aid or plaster (optional) (1).

**Instructions:**

- Cut out the medical kit along the lines and fold in half (2).
- Color and cut out the pictures of medical supplies (3).
- Glue the pictures inside the medical kit and stick on a Band-aid or plaster (optional) (4).
- Write the memory verse inside the medical kit (5).







## Primary

YEAR A • QUARTER 2

### God Is With Me

- WEEK 1 The Birthright Stew
- WEEK 2 Jacob Tricks Isaac
- WEEK 3 The Ladder From Heaven
- WEEK 4 Jacob Works for Uncle Laban
- WEEK 5 Jacob and the Midnight Wrestle
- WEEK 6 Joseph's Coat and Dreams
- WEEK 7 Joseph and His Brothers
- WEEK 8 Joseph: A Slave in Egypt
- WEEK 9 Joseph: From Prison to Palace
- WEEK 10 Joseph: Governor of Egypt
- WEEK 11 A Family Reunited
- WEEK 12 Ruth and Naomi
- WEEK 13 **Ruth and Boaz**

### Week 13

# Ruth and Boaz

**Bible Reference:** Ruth 1-4

**Big Idea** God notices my needs.

**Memory Verse** "For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him" (Matthew 6:8).

**References** *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 2, pp. 433, 444

**Fundamental Beliefs** Some aspects of the following fundamental beliefs are reflected in this lesson:  
3. The Father  
4. The Son  
11. Growing in Christ

**Word of the Week** **Notice:** See, pay attention to, or take note of.

**Lesson Summary** Having committed her life to Naomi and to Naomi's God, Ruth followed Naomi to Bethlehem. Naomi was without money or means, and the women struggled to find food. God noticed Ruth's needs and rewarded her loyalty. He sent her to the field of Boaz, a relative of Naomi's, who noticed her and helped her. Boaz was in a position to restore Naomi's land and her family's legacy by marrying Ruth, which he did. God honored Ruth's commitment to Him through marriage and security.

**Learning Goals** The children will:  
**Know** that God notices their needs.  
**Feel** cared for and loved by God.  
**Respond** by trusting that God will provide for their needs.



# A Quiet Moment . . .

Dear Sabbath School Teacher,

Isn't it wonderful that God notices every detail of our lives? The things that go unnoticed by others don't miss the eye of our heavenly Father.

When we're having a difficult day and when nobody else notices, God does. And He helps us through it. He might encourage us through His Word, a song, a conversation, thought, or memory. Or He may direct our attention to the signs that He is in control—the rising of the sun, the falling of rain, or the giggle from a happy child. His encouragement may seem insignificant to others, but to us His every gift is a reminder that we are loved and cared for.

"Our heavenly Father has a thousand ways to provide for us of which we know nothing" (Ellen G. White, *The Ministry of Healing*, p. 481). What's more, He knows our needs even before we ask! (Matthew 6:8.)

This week's story of Ruth demonstrates God's great love for His children and how He notices our needs. As a widow from a foreign land, Ruth had many needs. But God didn't leave her. He was always with her, and He provided for her.

God notices what you need too. He notices what you need both now and in the future. Matthew 10:29 tells us that not a single sparrow can fall to the ground without our heavenly Father knowing it. If He notices a small sparrow when it falls to the ground, He definitely notices, and cares about, what happens to you.

As you and the children explore the story of Ruth together, may you feel so loved knowing that our God is a God who notices each and every detail of our lives. He will provide and care for you.



# Simple Program Outline

**Big Idea:** God notices my needs.

## Primary, Year A, Quarter 2, Week 13

### EARLY ARRIVALS

- Play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist**. Acknowledge children as they arrive.
- Have a variety of grains for the children to explore and guess the name of each type.

### OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

- Welcome
- Songs
  - **“Alive in Jesus”**
  - **“My Help”**
  - **“Sabbath Song”**
- Pray.
- Sing offering song: **“What Can I Give to the Lord?”** Collect offering.
- **Offering Chart** and **Mission Fast Fact**
- **“Visitor Song”**
- **“Happy Birthday”**

### FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

- Activity: Show a variety of items, then cover them up.
- Discuss what they noticed.
- Share the **Big Idea: God notices my needs.**

### BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

### UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

- **Hidden questions** to notice and discuss
- A **variety of flowers to look at**: God cares for them and me.

### TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

- **Character Card 26: Ruth in the Fields**
- **Memory Verse** and **Scripture Song, “Matthew 6:8”**
- **Mission Story**: “God Provides”
- **Craft**: Ruth’s Basket
- Sing **“God Be With You.”**
- **Mission Challenge**: Find out what would help your friend learn more about Jesus.
- **Respond**: Three children share what they have learned; kick worry out the door and trust God.
- Pray.



# Program Preparation

## What Do I Need?

### Opening and Focus Activities

Source a **variety of grains** (wheat, barley, rice, oats, corn, quinoa, etc.) for children to experience. Use **containers** to hold the different grains. Source **scoops and cups**. Make some **labels** with the different names of the grains and hide them within the grain containers.

Write these Bible verses (ICB) on **small pieces of paper** and hide within the containers for the children to “notice” and find:

- “God even knows how many hairs are on your head” (Matthew 10:30).
- “Before I made you in your mother’s womb, I chose you” (Jeremiah 1:5).
- “Lord . . . you know all about me” (Psalm 139:1).
- Lord, “you know my thoughts before I think them” (Psalm 139:2).
- Lord, “you have put your hand on me” (Psalm 139:5).
- “I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep, and my sheep know me” (John 10:14).
- “Your Father knows the things you need before you ask him” (Matthew 6:8).

Source a **tray** with a **variety of items** of your choice and a **tea towel** to cover the items.

Update **Offering Chart** and prepare **Mission Fast Fact**. Write the **Big Idea** on your **whiteboard** or use the **Program PowerPoint**.

### Bible Story and Unpack the Story

Source the **Program PowerPoint**.

Source a **pillowcase** or sack stuffed with **fabric** or **towels** (to use as a sack full of grain).

Write the following discussion questions on **six different pieces of paper**, fold, and place in discrete places around your Sabbath School room for the children to later find, then read and discuss. Questions:

1. What needs did God notice in this story?
2. What did Boaz notice in this story?
3. What did Naomi notice in this story?
4. How did God show His kindness and care to Ruth and Naomi?
5. What attributes of God did Boaz show to others?
6. What kind of things might you do for others to show that you notice their needs?

Find a variety of **flowers** to show the children.

### Tie It All Together

Source **Character Card 26: Ruth in the Fields** for each child.

### Craft Materials

Source the **week 13 craft template** for each child, **twine** or **yarn**, **scissors**, and **grain stalks**.

#### Source From AIJ Website ([www.aliveinjesus.info](http://www.aliveinjesus.info))

- Music:
  - “Alive in Jesus”
  - “My Help”
  - “Sabbath Song”
  - “What Can I Give to the Lord?”
  - “Visitor Song”
  - Scripture Song: “Matthew 6:8”
  - “Happy Birthday”
  - “God Be With You”
- Mission Fast Fact
- Week 13 Program PowerPoint
- Character Card 26: Ruth in the Fields
- Week 13 craft template



[qr.aij.info\\_PA2Music](http://qr.aij.info_PA2Music)

#### Additional Resources to Source

- Class Bible
- A variety of grains and containers with labels
- Scoops and cups
- Offering container
- A tray, tea towel
- A variety of items of your choice to “notice”
- Pillowcase/sack stuffed with fabric or towels
- Variety of flowers
- Craft materials (see above)

# Full Program Outline



**Big Idea:** God notices my needs.

## EARLY ARRIVALS (10 MINUTES BEFORE SABBATH SCHOOL BEGINS)

**LISTEN:** Play this quarter's **Scripture Song playlist** quietly in the background as the children arrive.

**CONNECT:** Warmly acknowledge all children by name as they arrive. Share how happy you are to see them, and invite them to participate in today's activity.

**DO:** Provide containers to hold a variety of **grains** for the children to explore. You may want to **include scoops and cups** to encourage the children to touch and feel the grains by scooping and pouring. Label each grain and **see if the children can guess the name of the grain**. Talk about how in today's lesson, Ruth gathered stalks of grain from a field.

(**Beforehand, hide some little slips of paper** containing Bible verses in the grain and **see if the children notice them**. Encourage them to discover all the hidden papers.)

## OPENING ACTIVITIES (10 MINUTES)

**WELCOME:** Bring the children together and welcome them as a group. Warmly welcome any visitors and take time to acknowledge children who may arrive late.

**SING:** Sing "**Alive in Jesus**" and "**My Help**." Point out that last week we were reminded that God "**heals the brokenhearted**." This week we'll learn how He is able to "**carry me through**." Sing the prayer song, "**Sabbath Song**."

**PRAY:** **Ask** the children if anyone would like to **share how God has helped them** during the past week. Be prepared to share if no one volunteers. Pray and thank God for being with us and helping us in both big and small ways.

**SING:** Sing the offering song, "**What Can I Give to the Lord?**"

**GIVE:** Have a child collect the offering. Display your **Offering Chart** and share how much money the class has given so far this quarter. Share this week's **Mission Fast Fact** about this quarter's mission project. Say a short prayer, asking God to bless and take the offering to where it's most needed. After the offering has been collected and counted by an adult, invite one child to color this week's section of the Offering Chart.

**SING:** Warmly welcome any visitors and sing the "**Visitor Song**." Sing "**Happy Birthday**" to a child who has had a birthday this week, and pray for God to bless them.

## FOCUS ACTIVITIES (5 MINUTES)

**J SHARE:** Show the children the **different grains** and talk about how the children noticed Bible treasures in the different sacks of grain. Share that today we'll be talking more about Ruth's story, and how **God noticed Ruth and Naomi's need for food and how He provided for them**.

**DO:** Display a **tray** with several **different items** on it. When the children have had a look, take the tray away or cover it up with a tea towel. Ask the children if they noticed what was on the tray and have them try to tell you what they noticed. If they did not notice many of the items, give them another opportunity to try.

**EXPLAIN:** • **How easy/hard was it to notice all the items on the tray and remember them?**

• **Do we always notice everything around us?**

God notices everything and everyone, and He notices our needs. He wants us to notice the needs of those around us too.

**READ:** Read the **Big Idea** together from the whiteboard or the **Program PowerPoint: God notices my needs**.



## BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

 **SHARE:** Pray, then creatively share the Bible Story.

## UNPACK THE STORY (5 MINUTES)

**DO and DISCUSS:** Invite the children to stand and walk around your Sabbath School space to see what they notice. (They should notice your six folded papers, each with a question inside.)

Have a child read out the question marked with a number 1 (with help if needed). Discuss together before moving to question 2, until you've moved through all six questions. The six questions are:

1. **What needs did God notice in this story?** (Ruth and Naomi's need for food, land, money. Ruth's need for a husband, family, and home.)
2. **What did Boaz notice in this story?** (Ruth's kindness to Naomi, and her faith in God.)
3. **What did Naomi notice in this story?** (That Boaz was a good man, that Ruth needed a husband, that God had led them to Boaz.)
4. **How did God show His kindness and care for Ruth and Naomi?** (He gave them food, led them to Boaz, gave them a new family and home. Included them in Jesus' family.)
5. **How was Boaz like God?** (He was kind and caring, protected Ruth, saved her family.)
6. **What kind things might you do for others to show that you notice their needs?**

**DO:** Invite the children to return to their seats. Show the class a variety of flowers. Pass the flowers around and allow the children to touch and smell them.

 **DISCUSS:** Ask the children:

- **What do these flowers do to get what they need? Do they go to work?**
- **Do they go to the food market? Do they go shopping for clothes? (No.)**

And yet God says that even Solomon in all his glory wasn't clothed as magnificently as a lily (Matthew 6:28, 29). Our Father in heaven knows what we need, even before we ask Him. Just as God provided for Ruth and Naomi's needs, He'll provide for your needs too. You can be confident of this truth.

**TEACHING POINT:** We don't need to worry, because our loving Father God promises to care for us. We can trust Him and live with peace instead.

## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**MISSION STORY:** Give each child **Character Card 26: Ruth in the Fields** to place in their storage container. Discuss the picture and ask the children to recite the **memory verse**. Then sing the **Scripture Song** together: "**Matthew 6:8.**"

 **DISCUSS:** Ask the children: • **What good things has God given you this week, without even asking for them?** (Sunshine, water, somewhere to live, a family, etc.)

- **What might you say to God in return?**
- **How could you share with others who might be in need?**

Invite the children to join in groups of two or three to pray a prayer of thanks to God.

**MISSION STORY:** Show the children **Vanuatu** on a **map** or **globe**. Explain that this is where this week's **Mission Story** is located. Read the Mission Story, "God Provides," and engage the children in the discussion questions.

# Full Program Outline Continued



## TIE IT ALL TOGETHER (20 MINUTES)

**CRAFT:** Show the children the **Ruth's Basket** craft sample and share instructions for making it. Distribute the craft materials. You may like to play the quarterly **Scripture Song playlist** in the background as the children work.

**SING:** Bring the children back together to sing your closing song, "**God Be With You.**" Reinforce that the God who is with us is our God who also notices everything we need.

**MISSION CHALLENGE:** Discuss with the children how they might notice and be encouraging to the friend they brought to Sabbath School. Their Mission Challenge this week is to: **Find out what would help your friend learn more about Jesus.** Encourage them to be good listeners (an important part of "noticing"), then talk with their families about how they can help their friend in small, practical ways. Share that their friend may need a ride to Sabbath School or the opportunity to come to their home to hear Bible stories.

**RESPOND:** Ask three children to share what they have learned from today's lesson. Affirm their answers and the **Big Idea: God notices my needs.** God can use us to notice other's needs and to show them care and practical help. Share that because **God knows what we need** and gives it to us, we don't need to worry. Invite the children to physically "kick" worry out the door (kick the air) and instead trust in God this week to take care of all their needs.

**PRAY:** Conclude by praying, thanking God that He cares for each person and notices all our needs.

## Bible Story

**Big Idea:** God notices my needs.

As you prepare to share this story, please read the student guide for the full, detailed narrative. To maximize engagement, avoid reading the story to the children. See the storytelling suggestions at the front of this publication.

### Storytelling Suggestions

Show the pictures from this week's story in the **Program PowerPoint**. Ask a child to follow your cues and ► click through the images. You may like to stuff a **pillowcase or sack with fabric or towels** to look like a heavy sack of grain. A **bowl of grain**.

**Pray:** Ask God to help everyone understand today's Bible story. By doing this, you will model how important it is to pray to invite God to teach us from His living Word before we read the Bible.

### TELL THE STORY

Settling into her new home in Bethlehem, Ruth knew she needed to provide food for herself and Naomi. They had come back from Moab as poor widows, with no land, work, or money. What would they do?

► Ruth noticed the farmers harvesting the beautiful fields of ripe barley and wheat. Ah-ha! With a bright idea in mind, she rushed to Naomi. She asked, "Let me go to the fields. Maybe someone will be kind and let me gather the grain he leaves in his field" (Ruth 2:2, ICB). This was called "gleaning."

Naomi knew this was God's way of providing for them, because He had given Israel a law that said, "Do not harvest all the way to the corners of your fields. If grain falls onto the ground, don't gather it up" (Leviticus 19:9, ICB).

So in the morning Ruth found a field and began to pick up the leftover grain. Soon Boaz, the landowner, arrived. He noticed Ruth and asked his workers who she was. Then he walked over and spoke kindly to her.

**What did Boaz say? Read Ruth 2:8, 9.** (He told her not to glean in another field, but to stay in his field. He would make sure she was safe and provide her with water.) **How can we show similar attentiveness to others in need?**



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Boaz had noticed how much Ruth, a foreigner, loved and trusted God. He told her the Lord would reward her for her kindness to Naomi. He said, "You have come to [God] as a little bird finds shelter under the wings of its mother" (Ruth 2:12, ICB). He knew God would protect and provide for her.

Boaz wanted to protect Ruth too. He told her to pick up grain only in his fields so she would be safe. Then secretly he told his men to drop lots of grain for her to pick up (*show a bowl of grain*).

▶ At the end of the day Ruth rushed home with a big heavy sack, full of grain (*big sack*). Naomi's mouth dropped open in surprise! She asked, "Where have you gleaned today?" (Ruth 2:19).

Ruth told her mother-in-law all about Boaz's kindness. Clapping her hands, Naomi told Ruth to keep going to Boaz's field every day. God had noticed them and blessed them!

One day Naomi noticed that Ruth needed a new husband. Boaz would be the perfect man! He was kind and caring. He was also her husband's closest relative.

Naomi told Ruth about the law in Israel to protect widows. It said that if a woman's husband died before they had a son, she could ask her husband's closest relative to buy the land that had belonged to her husband. If the relative bought the land, he would also marry her.

There was a very unusual custom Ruth would need to follow to ask Boaz to become her husband. **What did Naomi tell Ruth to do? Read Ruth 3:3, 4.** (*To wear her best garment, and go secretly to the threshing floor. When Boaz lay down, she was to uncover his feet and lie down and wait until he told her what to do.*)

▶ That night Ruth crept to where Boaz slept on a bed of straw, lay down, and uncovered his feet. Then she waited . . .

In the night Boaz woke up and turned over. Suddenly he noticed a woman lying in the darkness at his feet. He was so surprised! "Who are you?" he asked (Ruth 3:9).

Ruth answered softly, "I am Ruth, your maidservant." Boaz understood why she had come. Yes, he wanted to marry her! He was so happy she had noticed him and chosen him to care for her.

There was a relative who was closer to Naomi. In the morning he would find him and talk to him.

Before daylight Ruth quietly crept home. She soon had good news. The other relative had decided not to buy the land and marry her. ▶ Boaz was free to marry Ruth! Now he would always be with her to love and protect her, as would our faithful God.

▶ In time God gave them a baby boy they named Obed. Obed became the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of King David. And one day Jesus would be born into her family! You never know how an act of kindness that you show toward others in need might lead to a great blessing in the future. How wonderful that so many needs were met for Ruth, Naomi, and even Boaz!

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## TEACHER NOTES

# Mission Story God Provides



**Focus:** God notices our needs and provides.

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**Location:** Help a child locate **Vanuatu** on your **globe** or **world map**.

Lana lives on an island in the nation of Vanuatu. Lana loves to share God's love with others. Every week she, her parents, and her sister and brothers go to her father's home village to share God's love.

There weren't any Adventists in her father's village, so the family decided to start a Sabbath School. Father started a class for the adults, and Mother and Lana led the children's group. They sang songs and listened to Bible stories. At first Lana helped her mother by leading the singing. Sometimes she told a Bible story. On days Mother couldn't go to the village with the family, Lana led the entire children's program.

"When we arrive in the village, the children come running to our cousin's house, where we meet," Lana says. "I welcome them, and we start singing. The children like the songs with actions the best. They sing lots of songs while more children arrive.

"After prayer we sometimes have a mission story, then I tell the Bible story," Lana explains. "We use the new Bible story flipchart that the past Thirteenth Sabbath Offering helped to buy. The children love the pictures, and the older ones can read the Bible verse printed at the bottom. Many of the children don't have a Bible of their own, so we review the Bible verse several times to help them remember it."

The family prayed for supplies to make the Sabbath School more fun for the children. Then Mother found some Bible felts at a yard sale. She was excited! When the woman learned that Mother wanted to use the felts to teach children about Jesus, she gave Mother lots of books, craft items, pictures, and Bible coloring books too.

God notices the needs of everyone. Isn't it wonderful how He provides for His children? Lana has been leading the Sabbath School for a year now, and she enjoys it. "I miss going when we can't be there," she says. "I learn a lot by teaching the children."

- **How does this story remind you of this week's Big Idea: God notices my needs?**
- **How can you help other people and give them what they need?** (When we do this, we share Jesus' love with them.)



## Ruth's Basket

**Note for teacher:** Hide small pictures of grain stalks around the room for children to collect after the craft.

**What you need:**

Week 13 craft template, twine or yarn, scissors (1).

**Instructions:**

- Cut out the basket template.
- Tie a piece of twine or yarn around one of the tabs (2).
- Bend the bottom of each tab slightly inward, along the fold lines (3).
- Wind the string under and over each tab, alternating each time (4).
- When you get to the top, cut the string and loop the end through a couple of times before tying a knot (5).
- Use your basket to collect "grain stalks" hidden around the room.

