



L.I.G.H.T.

Kingdom Kids®



FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS,
FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS, SELF-CONTROL

Kids' Character Formation Series

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GOD-CENTERED CHARACTER FORMATION



- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Patience
- Kindness
- Goodness
- Faithfulness
- Gentleness
- Self-Control

“Fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5:22-23



Overview: Love (John the Apostle)



Story:

St. John the Apostle (not to be confused with John the Baptist) was the son of Zebedee (a Galilean fisherman) and Salome. He is the third disciple considered to be part of Jesus' "inner circle" with James (his brother) and Peter. According to Christian tradition, John is the author of three letters (1 John, 2 John, 3 John), the Gospel of John, and possibly the book of Revelation.

Key Bible Verses:

- Mary Magdalene ran to Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, (John 20:2)
- John and his brother, James, were nicknamed "sons of thunder." (Mark 3:17)
- John asked Jesus if he and James should call down fire from heaven to destroy a village that failed to show them hospitality. (Luke 9:54)
- John asked Jesus if he and James could sit on either side of His throne in heaven. (Mark 10:37)
- John cared for Jesus' mother. (John 19:26–27)
- John beat Peter in a race to Jesus' empty tomb. (John 20:4)
- John was a "pillar" of the church. (Gal. 2:9)

Lessons from John

John could speak impulsively with explosive outbursts, but through Jesus' love, John discovered truth, identity, and purpose. He learned what mattered most in his life was Jesus. John called himself "The disciple whom Jesus loved" because his identity was in Christ. He knew Jesus deserved the highest honor above all else in his life. John shared Jesus' love with everyone. Jesus loves us perfectly so we can share His love with others like John. **Let all that you do be done in love. (1 Cor. 16:14)**



Lesson: Love (John the Apostle)

Let all that you do be done in love. (1 Cor. 16:14)

What is love?

- Love means wanting the best for others, putting their needs first, speaking truth, avoiding evil, and protecting them, no matter what.
- Jesus offers us perfect love because He loves us no matter what we do, and His love protects us from our fears.

Identity in Christ

- Who am I is a question we all ask and must answer—the Apostle John knew he was "the disciple Jesus loved."
- When we accept Jesus' perfect love, we are secure knowing He loves and cares for us, and we can share that love with others.

How can I love other people like Jesus loves me?

- Be kind and helpful to others, put their needs before yours, speak the truth, don't let them do bad things without saying something.
- Loving like Jesus means caring deeply about others and doing what's best for them, even if it's hard.

Role-play

- Conversation Starter: Who makes you feel safe and loved?
Thought Challenge: Why does this person make you feel that way?
- Conversation Starter: Who do you admire and want to be?
Thought Challenge: Why do you want to be like that person?

Lessons

- John's identity was in Christ—not his feelings—he was loved by Jesus so wasn't controlled by negative thoughts, feelings, or people.
- When we feel secure and built up in Jesus' love, we love God and others how God created us to love.

Take-away: Love (John the Apostle)

Let all that you do be done in love. (1 Cor. 16:14)



John called himself, 'the disciple whom Jesus loved.' It became his identity and fueled his passion and love for Jesus.

Scripture: Love (John the Apostle)



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A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity. (Prov. 17:17)

One of his disciples, whom Jesus loved, was reclining at table at Jesus' side, (John 13:23)

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:34-35)

Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. (John 15:13)

So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." (John 20:2)



Overview: Joy & Peace (Paul)



Story:

Paul was a Jew born in Tarsus. The son of Pharisees, he was proud of his Hebrew heritage and dedicated to preserving Israel's traditions. Rabbi Gamaliel educated Paul, and he became an expert in the Jewish understanding and interpretation of God's law. Paul knew ancient Greek and Roman literature, philosophy, and religions. Paul was a teacher and a missionary to Asia Minor and present-day Greece.

Key Bible Verses:

—Jesus called Paul to be an Apostle while traveling on the Damascus Road to preach and convert Jews and Gentiles to Christianity. (Acts 26:12–18)

—Paul was the best Jew and Pharisee of his generation, though he claimed to be the least apostle of Christ. (Phil. 3:4–6; Gal. 1:13–14; 1 Cor. 15:9–10; 2 Cor. 11:22–30)

—After his conversion, Paul had compassion for unbelievers and understood his calling was to love all people with genuine affection. (Rom. 12:9)

Lessons from Paul

Paul was in prison when he wrote the book of Philippians and said, "I have found the secret of being content no matter the circumstances." The Bible tells us peace is possible and commands us not to covet, which means we do not want what others have. Coveting says, "I'm not satisfied if I don't have these things." God commands us to love Him enough to be satisfied in all circumstances. The 1st and 10th commandments bookend the others. The 1st says to love God with all your heart and put nothing before Him, and the 10th tells us not to desire what others have. You will be content with everything if you love God above all else. God created a beautiful world, and it's okay to want the good things He created, but if you love God first, you can look at those things and know they won't bring lasting joy and peace, so you don't have to lie, cheat, steal, or be angry that you don't have what others do. The virtues of the Ten Commandments (forgiveness, purity, generosity, integrity) flow out of that into our lives when our identity is in Christ, and we love God above all else, no matter what.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. (Phil. 4:4)



Lesson: Joy & Peace (Paul)

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. (Phil. 4:4)

What is joy and peace?

- Joy is a permanent condition inside you that comes from knowing you are okay, even if your circumstances are not.
- Peace is confidence and trust in God's control of your life and a calm heart, free of trouble and fear.

Trust, Faith, Joy, and Peace

- If we trust God, our faith will bring us joy and peace, no matter our circumstances.
- If we rejoice in God, we won't be easily distracted or disappointed by troubles because joy is the cure for unhappiness and boredom.

How can I have joy and peace?

- Let go of any false gods you think will bring happiness, confess your love for God above all else, and know God is your strength.
- Nothing competes for your attention or affection when you love God above all else; having what you love the most brings peace.

Role-play

- Conversation Starter: Think of something you want.
Thought Challenge: What happens if you get it and if you don't?
- Conversation Starter: Do you expect disappointments in your life?
Thought Challenge: How do disappointments bring joy and peace?

Lessons

- Pray that God empties your heart from worry and fear, trust God's wisdom, and believe your strength comes from Him.
- It's God who judges, loves, and accepts you, and if you hold on to that, your identity is secure in Christ and that brings joy and peace.

Take-away: Joy & Peace (Paul)

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. (Phil. 4:4)



We have joy
and peace
because
God is
always
good no
matter
what.



Scripture: Joy & Peace (Paul)

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. (Phil. 4:4)

do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Phil. 4:6-7)

What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you. (Phil. 4:9)

Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. (Phil. 4:11-12)

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. (Rom. 15:13)

Overview: Patience (Sarah)



Story:

Sarah was the wife of Abraham and could not have children, but God promised Abraham they would have a son and Sarah would be "a mother of nations." Sarah did not believe God's promise and grew impatient waiting, so she gave her maidservant, Hagar, to Abraham, and they had a son named Ishmael. When Ismael was 13, God visited Abraham and said he and Sarah would have a child within one year, and Sarah laughed sarcastically. One year later, when Sarah was 90, she bore Isaac, and her bitterness turned into joyful laughter.

Key Bible Verses:

- God promised Abraham many children, but Sarah didn't believe God, so she gave her maidservant to Abraham to have a child, and Ismael was born. (Gen. 11:30; 15:5; 16:2, 15)
- God heard Sarah's laughter of unbelief and asked, "Is anything too hard for the LORD?" and by God's power, Sarah gave birth to a son, Isaac. (Gen. 18:14; 21:1).

Lessons from Sarah

Sarah was angry and grew impatient because she couldn't have children and didn't believe God's promise. She didn't trust God's wisdom or timing and tried to fulfill His promise with her plan. Sarah's disappointments turned to bitterness, and she lost her joy and laughter. If we complain and give up on people and life, we lose our ability to see God's goodness and lack patience and love. When people and situations frustrate us because our relationships and life aren't going the way we want, we should say, "God, even though this is not what I would have chosen, I trust You because You know what's best for me." ***Is anything too hard for the LORD? (Gen. 18:14)***



Is anything too hard for the LORD? (Gen. 18:14)

Lesson: Patience (Sarah)

What is patience?

- Patience means we live a life of gratitude, generosity, forgiveness, kindness, and gentleness as we trust and obey God's perfect timing.
- Patience is continuing to love others while not being selfish, jealous, harsh, and not complaining or giving up when we don't get our way.

Faith, Hope, and Patience

- Jesus was patient with people who frustrated Him and He trusted God even when things didn't go His way.
- If we believe God's promises and wait for His timing without complaining, we get something better than we can give ourselves.

How can I have patience?

- Replace your thoughts about yourself and what you're not getting with thoughts about Jesus and the cross and His patience with you.
- Confess your impatience to God and someone you trust, and pray for courage to handle disappointments with grace and gratitude.

Role-play

- Conversation Starter: Do you believe God is good?
Thought Challenge: Can you trust God knows what is best for you?
- Conversation Starter: Do you think it's important to be patient?
Thought Challenge: Is it easy or hard to be patient and why?

Lessons

- When people and life frustrate us, respond with humility and be patient and loving toward others, trusting God's plan and timing.
- Be patient with disappointments, be humble, and confess you don't always know what is best for you, and you will find joy and peace.

Take-away: Patience (Sarah)

Is anything too hard for the LORD? (Gen. 18:14)



Sarah learned patience through trust and faith in God giving birth to Isaac at 90 years old and became the mother of nations.



Scripture: Patience (Sarah)

By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. (Heb. 11:11)

I will bless her, and give you a son by her and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.” (Gen. 17:16)

Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son.” (Gen. 18:14)

Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; (Ps. 37:7)

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. (Gal. 6:9)

Overview: Kindness & Gentleness (Ruth)

Story:

Ruth is a Moabite woman who, after the death of her husband, chooses to stay with her mother-in-law, Naomi, instead of returning to her people. Ruth goes with Naomi back to Bethlehem and faces poverty and uncertainty. Ruth accepted Naomi's people, culture, and faith and became part of the Jewish community. Through God's power, Ruth caught the attention of Boaz, a wealthy landowner and relative of Naomi. Boaz shows kindness to Ruth and marries her, saving her from widowhood and poverty. Ruth and Boaz have a son named Obed, who becomes part of the family line of King David and, ultimately, Jesus.

Key Bible Verses:

—Ruth said, "Where you go I will go. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. (Ruth 1:16-18)

—The LORD repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!" (Ruth 2:12)



Lessons from Ruth

Ruth's story teaches us the importance of being committed to our loved ones, building strong family relationships, and caring for others. By putting the needs of others before our own, we can receive blessings from God. Ruth's loyalty to her mother-in-law, willingness to accept a new community and faith, and trust in God's guidance ultimately led to her rescue from widowhood and poverty. When Ruth chose to follow the God of Israel, she put her identity in God. Ruth's story shows us that selflessness, loyalty, kindness, and love can bring many blessings from God, teaching us that God's plan to rescue and restore is for all people. Ruth's story shows the power of love, faith, and God's care for us, encouraging us to live with integrity, compassion, kindness, gentleness, and trust in God's plan. **Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. (1 Tim. 6:11)**

Lesson: Kindness & Gentleness (Ruth)



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Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. (1 Tim. 6:11)

What is kindness and gentleness?

- Kindness is extending compassion, empathy, and goodwill toward others with gracious words and actions.
- Gentleness means being kind and respectful toward others using a mild tone and attitude in your speech and actions.

Respect, Humility, and Willingness to Serve

- Ruth met people with respect and humility, and she respected Naomi's culture, people, and faith by accepting them as her own.
- Ruth showed her willingness to serve and care for others even in difficult times by treating people with kindness and gentleness.

How can I become a kind and gentle person?

- Understanding other's perspectives, feelings, and experiences helps you develop compassion for their needs and struggles.
- Pray that God help you reflect on your feelings and let go of any grudges, resentments, and anger or bitterness towards others.

Role-play

- Conversation Starter: What are small ways you can be kind?
Thought Challenge: Does smiling at someone show kindness?
- Conversation Starter: What is compromise and forgiveness?
Thought Challenge: How can you practice being kind and gentle?

Lessons

- Kindness in our daily interactions and relationships with family and others reflects God's character and can transform lives.
- God wants us to accept all people through kindness and gentleness, no matter their background or our differences.

Take-away: Kindness & Gentleness (Ruth)

Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. (1 Tim. 6:11)



Show
kindness
and
compassion
to others
with
gentleness.

Scripture: Kindness & Gentleness (Ruth)



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But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you." (Ruth 1:16-17)

The LORD repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!" (Ruth 2:12)

And he said, "May you be blessed by the LORD, my daughter. You have made this last kindness greater than the first in that you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich. (Ruth 3:10)

Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without a redeemer, and may his name be renowned in Israel! He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age, for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has given birth to him." (Ruth 4:14-15)

And the women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, "A son has been born to Naomi." They named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David. (Ruth 4:17)

By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. (Heb. 11:9-19)



Overview: Goodness (Peter)



Story:

Peter, also known as Simon Peter, was one of the twelve apostles chosen by Jesus as his closest followers and witnesses to his ministry. He was a fisherman from Galilee and became one of Jesus' most devoted and outspoken disciples. Peter is known for his impulsive nature, confession of faith in Jesus as the Messiah, denial of Jesus, and restoration. He played a significant role in the early church's spread of Christianity, preaching boldly on Pentecost, performing miracles in Jesus' name, and including Gentiles in the Christian community. Despite Peter's flaws, he loved Jesus deeply and modeled genuine goodness by faithfully following Jesus, doing what was right, and encouraging and guiding believers.

Key Bible Verses:

- you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, (Matt. 16:18)
- For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, (1 Pet. 2:21)
- Make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, knowledge, self-control, steadfastness, godliness, brotherly affection, and love. (2 Pet. 1:5-7)

Lessons from Peter

Peter teaches us to keep our minds focused, control our emotions, and show our faith in Jesus through our actions and speech, always being prepared to tell others the reason for our faith. Obedience to what is right and good deepens our relationship with God, helps us grow spiritually, and serves as a witness to others. Peter's restoration after his denial of Jesus shows us the power of God's grace and forgiveness. Peter's humility in admitting his mistake and seeking forgiveness teaches us to do the same and never lose hope in God's ability to transform our lives. Jesus declared to Peter, "You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church." Peter embraced his identity as the rock on which Jesus would build his church and was responsible for leading and guiding believers. Peter's identity in Christ transformed every aspect of his life. ***you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church (Matt. 16:18)***

Lesson: Goodness (Peter)



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*you are Peter, and on this rock I will build
my church (Matt. 16:18)*

What is goodness?

- Goodness is being kind, gracious, generous, and loving toward others while respecting them.
- When we show goodness, we follow the teachings of Jesus and become more like Him.

Respect, Humility, and Willingness to Serve

- Goodness is not just about being good to people we like but also to those who may not like us or show kindness to us.
- Goodness means doing the right thing, even when it's hard, and always trying to make others happy.

How can I become a person who has goodness?

- Be friendly, polite, and considerate, use kind words and actions, like saying "please" and "thank you," and serve others by helping them.
- Show others kindness, generosity, honesty, and empathy, practice forgiveness and stand up for people who are weaker than you.

Role-play

- Conversation Starter: How do you show goodness in your life?
Thought Challenge: Goodness is not about seeking personal gain.
- Conversation Starter: What does practicing goodness look like?
Thought Challenge: How can small acts of goodness bring power?

Lessons

- Goodness is from God and involves doing good things for others that requires humility, love and kindness and treating others fairly.
- Others may not appreciate goodness, but it's important to continue doing good while loving and forgiving all people, even our enemies.



Scripture: Goodness (Peter)

And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. (Matt. 16:18)

Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (1 Pet. 1:13)

For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. (1 Pet. 2:21)

but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, (1 Pet. 3:15)

For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Pet. 1:5–8)

Take-away: Goodness (Peter)

you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church (Matt. 16:18)



Faithfully
follow Jesus,
do good,
love and
forgive
others,
encourage
believers.



Overview: Faithfulness (Abraham)



Story:

God called Abraham to leave his family and country to be the father of a nation from which the world's salvation would come. Abraham left his homeland of Ur with his family, even though he didn't know where he was going, because he had faith in God. Abraham's wife, Sarah, could not have children, so having a family through Sarah was impossible, but by God's power, Abraham and Sarah had a son named Issac, the "promised seed." God made an everlasting covenant with Abraham that all children after Issac who put their faith in God would inherit the promise of Abraham. So, all who have faith in God (Jews and non-Jews) are children of God through Abraham's family line.

Key Bible Verses:

- God calls Abraham to leave everything familiar to him and promises to bless him and all the nations of the earth through him. (Gen. 12:1-3)
- Abraham was 100, and Sarah was 90 when Issac was born. (Gen. 21:5)
- God calls Abraham to sacrifice his son. (Gen. 22:1-2)

Lessons from Abraham

What made Abraham great was God's calling and testing of his life and Abraham's faith in God. God promised Abraham he would be the father of many and all nations would receive blessings through him. God continually tested Abraham by calling him from comfortable places to uncertain situations. Abraham repeatedly failed the tests when he didn't trust God. Abraham saw God's promise going one way and the blessing going another. Abraham lied and said his wife was his sister because he didn't trust God would protect him, and when he thought Sarah was too old to have a child, he had a son with Hager. Every time Abraham put his wisdom against God's, he failed. Though Abraham did not always act perfectly, his obedience showed his faith in God. In the last test to sacrifice his son, Isaac, Abraham finally learned to trust God. ***It is impossible to please God without faith. (Heb. 11:5-6)***



Lesson: Faithfulness (Abraham)

It is impossible to please God without faith. (Heb. 11:5-6)

What is faithfulness?

- Faithfulness means you are steadfast, loyal, trustworthy, reliable, and true to your word.
- God always does what He says He will do and He keeps all His promises; we are to be faithful to God because God is faithful to us.

Testing, Trusting, Obeying

- Tests show you where you're at in an area, and then challenges you to grow and improve—a test shows you and grows you.
- God sometimes tests us so we can trust Him and know He is our security because our identity must be in Him above all else.

How can I have faithfulness?

- Study, pray, and obey: study God's Word and pray about what God has done for you until you feel it, then, act as if it is true.
- Know God's blessing in Abraham, trust God's promise to bless those who bless Abraham, and pray for faithfulness like Abraham.

Role-play

- Conversation Starter: Who or what gets first place in your life?
Thought Challenge: What does putting God first in your life mean?
- Conversation Starter: Share a time when you were disobedient.
Thought Challenge: Was that a test to trust God's plan not yours?

Lessons

- Abraham learned that God was more important than his culture, home, family, and the things he owned.
- God tests us to grow our faith so we can let go of our false "gods" and look to the one true God for our security and identity.

Scripture: Faithfulness (Abraham)



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When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly." (Gen. 17:1-2)

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. (Gen. 22:1-3)

It is impossible to please God without faith. (Heb. 11:5-6)

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. (Heb, 11:8)

By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. (Heb. 11:9-19)

Take-away: Faithfulness (Abraham)

It is impossible to please God without faith. (Heb. 11:5-6)



What made
Abraham
great was
God's calling
and testing
of his life and
Abraham's
faith in God.



Overview: Self-Control (Joseph)



Story:

Joseph was the son of Jacob and Rachael. He had ten older brothers and one younger brother. Joseph's older brothers were jealous of their father's love for him. They hated him because he told them about his dreams that one day, they would all bow down to him. Joseph's brothers made plans to kill him by throwing him in a pit and telling their father a wild animal ate him. After being thrown into the pit, they decided not to kill him but to sell him into slavery.

Key Bible Verses:

- Joseph became the slave of Potiphar, who was an officer of Pharaoh, and God showed favor to Joseph to succeed in everything. (Gen. 39:1-6)
- Potiphar's wife tempted Joseph but he could not sin against God, so she told lies about him and he was put in prison. (Gen. 39:7-20)
- Joseph's ability to interpret dreams got him out of prison and into Pharaoh's house, where he became a ruler over Egypt. (Gen.:41).
- Joseph's family settled in Egypt to escape the famine, and they reunited like Joseph dreamed. (Gen. 42-50).

Lessons from Joseph

Joseph was the favored son who brought an evil report about his brothers to his father. He shared dreams about ruling over his family, and his brothers hated him. Joseph had to learn to control his words and actions as a boy. He faced many temptations not to trust God, but Joseph had great faith and feared God. God loved him and gave him self-control to resist the sin of power and pride as Joseph rose from a pit to a palace prince ruling over Egypt. Joseph didn't want to sin because that would separate him from God, the one he loved above all else. God was present and active in Joseph's life during good times and bad, allowing him to survive the evil done to him. God blessed Joseph and made him a blessing to others, turning what others meant for harm into good. **God gives us power for self-control. (2 Tim. 1:7)**



Lesson: Self-Control (Joseph)

God gives us power for self-control. (2 Tim. 1:7)

What is self-control?

- Self-control means controlling your emotions, desires, and actions in a way that honors God and benefits others over yourself.
- Self-control means choosing goodness while loving God and others in REAL (Respect, Encourage, Accept, Love) relationships.

Fearing and Trusting God

- Fearing God means we honor Him because we love Him and know He has wisdom, power, and authority above everyone else.
- We trust God loves us and never leaves us alone in good or bad times, we obey and want to do good, even to those who hurt us.

How can I have self-control?

- Know that God will never leave us alone, He is to be honored above all else, and trust He loves us and gives us His power for self-control.
- Practice saying no to temptation because practice makes habits and produces discipline, then pray for God's power to resist sin.

Role-play

- Conversation Starter: Have you ever lost your temper?
Thought Challenge: Do you think God was with you in your anger?
- Conversation Starter: Do you think it's hard not to get angry?
Thought Challenge: What would anger using self-control look like?

Lessons

- Giving in to the temptation to do something against God is always the wrong choice because it separates us from God.
- We may have to suffer for doing the right thing, but in the end, God promises he will bless us.

Scripture: Self-Control (Joseph)



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How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God? (Gen. 39:9)

On the third day Joseph said to them, "Do this and you will live, for I fear God: (Gen. 42:18)

But the LORD was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love and gave him favor. (Gen. 39:21)

The keeper of the prison paid no attention to anything that was in Joseph's charge, because the LORD was with him. (Gen. 39:23)

As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. (Genesis 50:20)

God gives us power for self-control. (2 Timothy 1:7)

Take-away: Self-Control (Joseph)

God gives us power for self-control. (2 Timothy 1:7)



Joseph resisted temptations and trusted God because he feared God and Joseph knew God was always with him.