

Prepare

Prepare your preach by reading the passages listed, praying, and then thinking of a creative way to hit the Key Point. Take a look at the [Program Overview](#) for context. You can use the illustration idea or come up with your own. Make sure you hit the key point and give a 'next step' practical application of that point. Only read 2-3 scriptures verbatim. Finally, have a 'ministry moment' where you give kids the opportunity to receive Jesus and/or pray for them around the topic.

Preach Length: 7-10 mins. For further support, see our [Preach Guide](#).

Week 1 Preach: What is Faith?

Scriptures

Share from the [first part](#) of Joseph's story - found in Genesis 37 & 39:1-6 and Hebrews 11:1.

Note Joseph's story will be shared in parts in future weeks - [so don't share it all!](#)

Supporting Scriptures: Romans 10:9-10

Desired 'Next Step':

That kids will choose to have faith in God and receive salvation.

KEY POINT: FAITH IS BELIEVING IN WHAT YOU DO NOT SEE

There are many things in life that we do not see, yet we know are real! For example we can't see emotions, yet we know the love we have for our family is real - we can't see the wind, yet we feel it's there and we believe in God, though we can't see Him, too. Hebrews 11:1 tells us that faith is believing and being sure of the things you cannot see. Joseph believed in God (who he couldn't see) so much he was confident that God was speaking to him through dreams. He was so excited and so sure that he told his whole family about them... only to get shut down and told off! Joseph was hated by his brothers (Gen. 37:3-5). While Joseph's brothers were jealous, his father kept the dreams in mind - because Jacob also had faith in God and knew firsthand God can speak through dreams to us (Gen. 37:11). Not everyone will support the things you believe to be true and share the faith you have. If we could SEE God, we wouldn't need faith because He'd be right there in front of us. That's why faith is being sure that we know the truth even though we can't visibly see it.

SUPPORTING POINTS

Faith is being confident in what we hope for.

Hebrews 11:1 also tells us that faith is being confident in what we hope for. Joseph was confident in his hope - his hope in God and God's promises to him! Even after being thrown into a well and sold as a slave, he continued to follow God and believe God's promises to Him. His brothers said 'lets see what comes of his dreams now!' but Joseph kept his faith (Gen 37:19-20). Faith requires a confidence on the inside of us that we know the truth and a decision to believe in it no matter what.

Faith in God has great Reward!

Even though Joseph faced tough challenges, God still blessed Him while things were tough. In fact the bible says 'the Lord was with Joseph so that he prospered,' when he lived as a slave in Potiphar's house (Gen. 39:2-5). Hoping in God is never put to shame - even tough days will come with God's blessings to see us through. When you have faith in Jesus - the ultimate reward is that we have the promise of joining Him in heaven one day - where every hard thing will be fully restored (Rom. 10:9).

ILLUSTRATION IDEAS

Give the kids examples of having faith in things that we do not see and have visual evidence of, like the wind, our love for our family, or the fact that we have our own thoughts in our head. That is just like faith; being sure of things we cannot see. We cannot see God but we can experience His presence in our life - just like we cannot see wind but we feel it's presence, or cannot see love but feel it's effect in our hearts and we cannot see each others thoughts but we do see chosen actions.