



HEROES OF THE FAITH



THIS PROGRAM - OVERVIEW

There are many stories in the bible of men and women putting their faith into action and achieving great things for God. In this program, we are learning about some of these 'heroes of the faith' listed in Hebrews 11. Our heart is that kids will see the many ways they can activate their faith in their lives, learning from these great men and women who have gone before us. Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. We don't trust our feelings, or what the circumstance looks like - instead we have faith in God!

Our Repeated phrase is: In this program we are looking at heroes in the bible who stepped out in faith, so we can be encouraged to do the same.

Memory Verse: "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see"- Hebrews 11:1

WEEK 4: JOSEPH

God has good plans for our life yet they do not come without any opposition. Joseph is a great example of this as he saw God's plan for his life yet it took years for it to come to pass. Through faith Joseph continued to believe in God and the dream God had given him. The bible tells us over and over that the Lord was with Joseph, causing him to succeed - even in his hardest trials. When things look like they are falling apart, we can have faith that God still has a plan for us because **faith believes that God has good plans!**

RESOURCES

- for the game
- for the illustration
- Wk 4 Connect worksheet, bible and colouring pencils for connect group

PREACH OUTLINE

Story: Share the story of Joseph found in Genesis 37-50 with the aim to teach the kids that faith knows that God has a plan even though our circumstances may be tough.

Points to hit:

- 1. Faith looks through God's perspective** - Joseph saw himself how God saw him; as a ruler and a leader even over his own brothers! He believed God and told his brothers what God had showed him. Even though there were terrible consequences, God continued to be with Joseph and cause him to succeed. God sees you through eyes of grace, love and purpose. We can look to our future with hopeful expectation as we have faith in God's vision of us and for our lives. (Genesis 37:5-11, Colossians 3:4)
- 2. Faith acts from God's perspective** - Joseph accepted the way God saw Him and started to act like this is true. Even though he was a slave he started living like a great leader. God blessed him and made him successful to the point where he ruled his master's house even though he was still a slave and he took care of the prisoners, though he was a prisoner himself (Genesis 39:3-4).
- 3. Faith trusts God has good plans!** - Joseph was falsely accused for a sin he did not commit and thrown in prison. Not much of a ruler position! In fact a captive position! However God took him from that place of being in jail to being a ruler in Egypt under Pharaoh. Our faith must be grounded on the fact that God does not lie - as Joseph held on and was faithful with the gifts God gave him, God made him a success. He will do the same for us, too as we continue to hold on to him and follow his ways. (Num 23:19, Genesis 40-41)

ILLUSTRATION IDEA

Take a moment to close your eyes and either think about or ask God to show you, how does God see you? Now think about or ask God how would I be living if this is the person that God sees me as? think of one step you can make in living that way today.

CONNECT GROUP QUESTIONS

Connect groups are a time to build friendships and engage kids in discussion about the preach. Remember to keep it fun and to pray!

1. What do you think are some words or thoughts that God has when he thinks about you? (Ephesians 2:10)
2. Read Jeremiah 29:11 - what does it tell us about God's plans?
3. What happened to Joseph after God showed Him His plans for Joseph?
4. How did God show He was with Joseph even when He was a slave or in prison?
5. Did God's plans come to pass? If God has good plans for us, what should we remember when things aren't going well?

GAME: TRUE OR FALSE RUN

True or False? You decide!

1. Explain to the kids that the aim of the game is to be the wisest of them all!
2. Have the group line up standing in the middle of the room. Explain they must run to the right side of the room if they think what you say is true and the left side if they think it is false!
3. Read out the true or false statements in the game aid overleaf and have the kids run to vote what they think.
4. If they are caught in the middle when you call time or if they are wrong, they are out of the game.
5. You can google some more true or false Q's for more rounds! (i.e. True or false animal trivia)



Bible Trivia

1. Joseph had 11 brothers (true)
2. Joseph was given a rainbow cardigan (false) it was a coat!
3. Joseph's brothers sold him as a slave? (true)
4. The bible is the most popular book ever written? (true - more copies of the bible have been sold than any other book)
5. Because Jesus was God, he didn't obey his parents' rules (False)
6. John the baptist wore clothes made of goat hair? (False - camel hair)
7. Jesus turned water into coca-cola (false)
8. Jonah was swallowed by a goldfish (false)
9. Samuel heard God call his name four times before Eli told him to answer Him? (false)
10. Abram was 100 years old when God appeared to him. (False - 99)
11. Abrahams wife Sarah used to be called Sarai? (true)
12. Nearly 40 different people wrote the bible (true)
13. There are 33 books in the New Testament. (False - 27)
14. There are 66 books in total in the Bible. (True)
15. Joseph made his brothers slaves when they came to him for food (false)

Animal Trivia

1. Penguins can be found on the continent of Africa (false)
2. Horses can sleep standing up (true)
3. Camels store water in their humps (false - the humps store fat, 3 weeks worth of energy!)
4. Female reindeer have antlers (true - they are the only deer species who do)
5. You can't teach an old dog new tricks (false - it takes 15 minutes daily training for 2 weeks to teach an aged dog something new)
6. Bats are not blind (true)
7. Crocodiles shed tears while eating (true)
8. Tigers are good swimmers (true)
9. Rabbits pur when they are happy (true)
10. An Ostrich's brain and eyes are the same size (false - the eye is bigger than the brain!)
11. If you touch a baby bird it's mother will reject it (false)
12. The smallest bird in the world, the bee hummingbird, weighs less than a 5c coin (true!)
13. Bulls are enraged by the colour red (false - they can't see red! It's the movement of the red cape they respond to)
14. An octopus has five hearts (false - they have 3)
15. Sharks are mammals (false)