



SEPTEMBER THEME

**TREK**

**An Adventure in Trust**

**BIBLE STORY**

**Genesis 41**

Under Pressure | Joseph Interprets Pharaoh's Dreams

**Spark Story Bible, pg. 56-59**

Pharaoh's Dreams, Part 2

**BOTTOM LINE**

When the pressure is on, you can trust God is with you

**MEMORY VERSE**

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding."

Proverbs 3:5, NIV

**LIFE APP**

**Trust** | Putting your confidence in someone you can depend on

**BASIC TRUTH**

I can trust God no matter what

**FOR LEADERS ONLY**

**GOD VIEW:** the connection between **TRUST** and God's character, as shown through God's big story.

**Key Question: What do you need to trust God with right now?** We hope that this week will inspire families to deeply share with one another, kids can continue that growth in small group, and parents in parenting tools, as they will have a chance to talk through situations in their own life where trusting God is important. We pray this is a powerful week for families.

Next, we see how God is faithful to Joseph in **Genesis 41**. Joseph seemed to continually find himself in situations where he needed to trust God. Pharaoh had a dream that no one could interpret. It's in this moment the king's cupbearer, who was in prison with Joseph, remembered how Joseph had interpreted his dream. At once, Pharaoh sent for Joseph. He went and with God's help interpreted the dreams and offered a plan for helping Egypt survive the famine that God says is coming. Pharaoh put Joseph in charge of the entire kingdom.

**Bottom Line: When the pressure is on, you can trust God is with you.** Kids face moments all of the time when they'll need to trust God. Rather than getting scared, they can put their trust in God and face whatever comes their way.

**SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION**

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

Before kids arrive, **PRAY** for each group member by name. Ask God to help you have great conversations today about the things that cause feelings of pressure for your group. Pray that God would help you use what you learn to guide kids as they learn to trust God in those situations.

**•• EARLY ARRIVER IDEA**

**Made to Create** | An activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

**What You Need:** "Joseph" coloring page, markers

**What You Do:**

- Hand out Joseph coloring pages. Set out markers where everybody can share them.
- As kids color, review what you have been learning about Joseph during the past two weeks.
- Emphasize what you have learned about "trust" through the story of Joseph:
  - When you think you're alone, you can trust God is with you.
  - When life doesn't make sense, you can trust God is with you.



●● **HIGH PRESSURE**

*Made to Move | An activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

**What You Need:** Copy paper, pens

**What You Do:**

- Explain that kids will be doing several activities where the pressure will be on. They'll need to do a certain number of things in a set amount of time.
- You can choose what kids will do and/or do some of the following (*adjust times as needed*):
  - Do 10 sit-ups in 25 seconds
  - Write down eight words that start with “B” in one minute
  - Do 20 jumping jacks in 30 seconds
  - Draw everyone who lives in your house in one minute. Make sure to write their names
  - Shake everyone’s hand in 20 seconds

**What You Say:** “Whew! The pressure really was on, but you all handled it well! **[Transition] Today in Sunday CM worship/WOW family worship, we are going to hear/we heard about someone who had to do something really difficult under a lot of pressure.”**

*[Sunday Leaders: Lead your group to Fellowship Hall for Children’s Ministry worship. Wednesday Leaders: Continue with the study.]*

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## GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

●● **REBUS REVIEW** [Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

*Made to Move | An activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

**What You Need:** “Rebus Review” activity page

**What You Do:**

- Work together as a group to review today’s Bible story. What do you remember about the story from CM worship/WOW family worship?
- Guide your group to stand up and step back from the table so they have room to move.
- Read the “Rebus Review” poem, guiding kids to do the motions with you.
- If time allows, repeat the poem.

**What You Say:** “It seemed like Joseph was always under pressure. What kinds of situations put pressure on Joseph and probably made him feel stressed and a bit freaked out? (*Let kids give a few answers.*) Right! His own brothers sold him into slavery, he was taken away from his home, and he was thrown into jail! And the next thing you know, he was standing before Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, who wanted Joseph to interpret some dreams! Joseph knew what we sometimes forget when we’re under pressure. He knew God was with him. Remember, **[Bottom Line] when the pressure is on, you can trust God is with you**, just like Joseph did.”

●● **THE PRESSURE’S ON** [Live for God | Application Activity]

*Made to Explore | An activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery*



**What You Need:** “Scenario” cards

**What You Do:**

- Divide kids into three groups. Give each group a “Scenario” card, and explain that they’ll need to come up with a quick skit for that scenario.
- Give groups a minute or two to plan, and then let them each present their skit to everyone else.
- After each one, talk about how things could go differently in the scenario when you trust God versus when you don’t trust God.

**What You Say:** “If you’ve ever had to make a really big catch in a game, or give a speech in front of your class, or stand up to a bully, then you know what it feels like when the pressure’s on. But **[Bottom Line] when the pressure is on, you can trust God is with you.** God can help you be calm, know what to do, and have the strength to do it.” **[Make It Personal] (Tell kids about a time at school or work when the pressure was on you, and you trusted God to help you get through it.)**

•• **FOLLOW THE (TRUSTED) LEADER** [Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

**Made to Move | An activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body**

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**What You Do:**

- As a group, practice saying (or singing!) this month’s memory verse from Proverbs 3:5 (found in the left column on the first page of this leader guide).
- Then, take your group on a “follow the leader” trek! Have the kids form a line behind you. Go for a single file walk while leading the group to do random activities (such as clapping their hands, hopping on one foot, flying like an airplane, etc.) as you go. While you are walking and doing random activities, you should also be reciting the memory verse. You can change the way you say it (loudly, softly, in a high voice, in a low voice, singing, etc.) to keep it fun and challenging. Your group should pay close attention and do what they see you doing and say what they hear you saying. End the trek back in your small group space.

**What You Say:** “Was it hard to trust me and do what I asked you to do? Why or why not? (Yes, I was worried that I would fall. Yes, I never knew what you were going to do next!) The pressure was on to trust my directions, wasn’t it? But after you trusted and did what I asked you to do, what was it like? (pause for answers)

“Trusting God can be scary sometimes, especially if you don’t know how things are going to work out or even IF they’re going to work out. But you can trust God no matter what, because God loves you and God knows what’s best for you. So this week, remember that **[Bottom Line] when the pressure is on, you can trust God is with you.**”

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## PRAY AND SEND

Bring your time to a close with prayer and encouragement to live out in your daily lives what you’ve experienced and learned in your time together

**Made to Reflect | An activity that creates space for personal understanding and application**

**What You Need:** Copy paper, pens, GodTime Cards

**What You Do:**

- Work together as a group to create an acrostic prayer using the word “TRUST.”

