Lesson 109: Joseph Takes His Family to Safety in Egypt

Matthew 2:13-23

Youtube Link for Teachers: https://youtu.be/EjGJnkr8x9E

Children's Bible Story Video: https://youtu.be/V5AwN1yHeK0

Worship Theme: God works in our lives.

Memory Verse: "The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him" (Nahum 1:7)

Songs (Youtube links):

- 1. I Trust You https://youtu.be/Vq_yln2huAM
- 2. The Lord Will Protect You https://youtu.be/22Pta-n7GWM
- 3. God Never Fails Us https://youtu.be/uVqBqBENPi4

Pray

Song: Select songs from the list above.

Icebreaker: "Give Me, Give Me..."

Materials Needed: paper with things the teacher wants children to bring



- 1. Divide the children into 2-3 groups.
- 2. Teacher will stand in the center and shout whatever is written on the paper (5 stones, 3 pair of shoes, 10 mango leaves, 2 caps, etc.).
- 3. Everyone in the group will run to find these items and bring to the teacher.
- 4. The group that brings the items to the teacher first gets a point.
- 5. The group that has the most points will win the game.
- 6. After the game, explain to the children that they worked together very fast to win the game. Joseph worked quickly to take his family to safety to protect baby Jesus.

Introduction:

What are some things you worry about? Do you worry about your family? Your friends? School or your future? Do you try to figure out your life by yourself? The good news is that God wants to help you! God doesn't want you to be burdened with worries. God wants to help you and guide you. God will never fade away or leave us, and God will help us every step of the way. God works in our lives. Today, we will learn about how God worked in Joseph and Mary's lives to save baby Jesus.

Bible Story:

King Herod of Israel was not happy to hear that a baby was born in Bethlehem who will grow up to be the King of kings. When King Herod realized that the three wise men will not return to him to tell him where the baby was, he decided to take action. To make sure to kill this future king, he ordered that all the baby boys who are 2 years and younger in Bethlehem be killed! King Herod was determined to kill this future king, the Messiah.

But God knows everything. God knew that King Herod will try to kill Jesus, so he appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him to take his family to Egypt where Jesus will be kept safe. Joseph did not know why he had to move to a foreign country, Egypt, but Joseph trusted God. Joseph knew that God always works in his life and has never failed him. So, Joseph obeyed God immediately.

After King Herod died, an angel of God came to Joseph and told him to leave Egypt and to return to Israel. Once again, Joseph did not understand everything, but trusted God and obeyed him. When Joseph and Mary returned to Israel, they did not feel safe

returning to Bethlehem, their hometown, because they feared King Herod's son, Archelaus. So, they moved to Galilee and lived in a town called Nazareth where Jesus could grow up in safety.

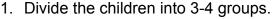
Life was not easy for Joseph. But Joseph was always willing to let God work in his life. When he had worries or problems, he trusted God's guidance and obeyed. In the same way, God works in our lives too! He is always with us, just as he is always with Jesus. God cares so much that he helps us and guides us every step of the way! The Bible tells us that God works in our lives and will always bring good out of whatever happens to us. We can be sure that God is always with us. He's always interested in what happens to us, and he will always work in our lives!

Questions to discuss:

- 1. What did King Herod do when the three wise men did not return to tell him where baby Jesus was? (He killed all baby boys 2 years and younger in Bethlehem)
- 2. How did God work in Joseph's life to protect baby Jesus? (God told Joseph to take Jesus and Mary to Egypt before King Herod tried to kill all the baby boys)
- 3. How has God worked in your life? (Let the children answer)

Game: "Grab and Protect"

Materials Needed: Marker, tape, small ball, crayon, doll, bottled water, cup, table, chair



- 2. In each group, order the children based on their age (or size) to make the game fair.
- 3. Teacher will give a number for each child in the team.
- 4. Teacher should place all the items on a table (or a chair) in the center of the room.
- 5. When the teacher calls a number, then the children of that number from each group will

run to get 3 things from the center. But they can only get 1 thing at time. So when they get 1 thing, they place it on their chair, run back to get other things. But children from the other teams can steal the things that are left on your chair. So you must hurry!

- 6. The child with 3 things on the chair wins the game.
- 7. Return all items and play the game again until everyone had a chance.
- 8. After the game, explain to the children that just as they all tried their best to protect their 3 items, Joseph tried his best to protect Jesus from King Herod. Joseph was able to do this because he trusted that God works in our lives.

Memory Verse:

"The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him" (Nahum 1:7)

Craft: "Joseph Takes His Family to Safety in Egypt" - Coloring Page

Song: Select songs from the list above

Pray

Teacher's Devotion (Please read before you get ready to teach the students.)
Jesus' life shows us that God is always faithful to guide us according to his plans and promises. Reread Matthew 2:13- 23. Then think of a time God led you through a tough situation. How did that affect the way you lived your life afterward? See, that's the wonderful thing about God. We're afraid to trust him, but we do it, and he shows us that he had perfect plans and rewards us for trusting him. It's something we shouldn't ever forget.

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