

# OVERCOMER

The Life of Joseph

## Sometimes It's Hard

### Level of Biblical Learning:

Good and bad happen to people, but God still loves them.

Genesis 39:19-23; 40; 41:1-3

### Parent Helps:

- Briefly remind your child about the events of Joseph's life.
- Review this week's focal passages. Emphasize Genesis 39:21-23. Mention that even in prison, God was with Joseph.
- Invite kids to share what seemed to be bad in Joseph's life. (His brothers hated him. He was thrown into a pit, sold, taken from his family. He was falsely accused and imprisoned. The cupbearer forgot about him.)
- Guide kids to share what seemed to be good in Joseph's life. (God had a plan for Joseph. God helped Joseph know and do what was right. God made Joseph successful. God gave Joseph the ability to explain dreams.)

### Discussion Questions:

#### Younger Kids:

1. Tell about something good that has happened to you.
2. Tell about a bad day. How did God help you?
3. How do you know that God loves you?

#### Older Kids:

1. Do you think it is easier to trust God when things are good or bad? Why?
2. What can you do during difficult times to help you remember that God loves you?
3. How has God helped you through hard times in the past?

### Apply:

- God is bigger than any problem we might face. (Luke 18:27)
- Whether things are good or bad, God is always with you and at work. (Joshua 1:9; Isaiah 41:10)
- People can trust God during good and bad times. (Psalm 9:10)
- We may not always know why God allows things to happen in our lives, but we can trust that His plans are good. (Jeremiah 29:11.)

### Activity:

- Help your child cut 8-10 paper strips. Invite him to color the strips. Guide older kids to write on each strip times they need to remember to trust God, such as "When I am sad" or "When I miss my friends." Loop the paper strips together to make a paper chain. Secure each loop with tape or stickers. Hang the chain in your child's bedroom or your family room. Use the chain as a reminder of God's love during difficult times.

### Pray Together:

- Thank God for His love.
- Ask God to help your family trust Him even when things are hard.
- Ask God to show your family how to be an encouragement to others.