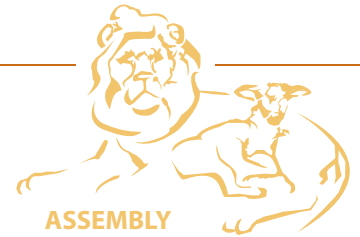


JOSEPH INTERPRETS THE DREAMS

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: GENESIS 39-41



The story can be read from start to finish from Genesis 41:1-40. The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.

LESSON IDEAS

COUNTING SEVEN YEARS

Supplies:

find a picture of a cow and photocopy it 14 times.

Color seven cows brown or black with white spots and color seven cows green. Number the brown cows one to seven with a number in the center of the cow. Do the same with the green cows

This activity will help the children remember the story while giving them some practice on their counting.

While in class, hold up the cows or tape them to the wall and point to them asking the children to repeat the numbers. See if there is anyone in the class who can count all seven cows. You can also ask children to give you the number of cows you show them randomly. At the end of the game ask the children if they can remember what the cows represent in Pharaoh's dream.

ACTING OUT THE SEVEN YEARS

Have the children stand up and pretend they are healthy stalks of wheat. They should put their arms in the air and spread their fingers to represent the head of the stalk.

Have one of the teachers pretend to be the wind. Have the wind blow from one side to the other. The children should wave their wheat like the wind was blowing it. Then tell them the seven years of abundance are over and a famine has come to the land. Have them start to shrivel up. Starting with their fingers they can curl them up and then their arms, all the way to the floor.

If you have time, do the same thing with the cows. Have the children get down on all fours and moo like cows. Announce that the years of abundance have passed and that the drought has come. The cows should all start to get weaker until they finally fall over. See if they can remember what Pharaoh's dream means.

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Where Is Jesus?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

Like Joseph, Jesus was a righteous servant who was numbered among transgressors unjustly. Like Joseph, Jesus was and used of God to bring salvation for His people.

