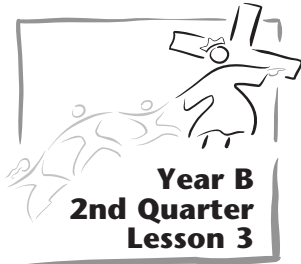


LESSON



Joseph's New Coat

GRACE

Grace is the gift of life.

References

Genesis 30:22-24; 37:1-3; *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 209.

Memory Verse

"[God] cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7, NIV).

Objectives

The children will:

Know that God cares for them.

Feel secure because God loves them.

Respond by thanking God for gifts of love and care.

The Message



God loves and cares for me.

Getting Ready to Teach

The Bible Lesson at a Glance

Jacob loves his son Joseph, and Joseph brings great joy to him in his old age. Jacob wants to do something special for Joseph, so he gives him a gift of a beautiful coat.

This is a lesson about grace.

Just as Jacob bestowed his love on Joseph by caring for and loving him, God shows us His love for us by taking care of us and loving us. Jesus gives us good gifts. Jesus showed His love with the ultimate sacrifice of His life.

Teacher Enrichment

"There was one, however, of a widely different character—the elder son of Rachel, Joseph, whose rare personal beauty seemed but to reflect an inward beauty of mind and heart. Pure, active, and joyous, the lad gave evidence also of moral earnestness and firmness. He listened to his father's instructions, and loved to obey God" (*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 209).

"Joseph's coat, or tunic, would be one with long sleeves, and one which also

THREE



reached to his feet. Such a garment would not be suitable to wear while working, and was, furthermore, the kind worn by children of noble rank" (*The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 1, p. 429).

"We are sustained every moment by God's care, and upheld by His power. He spreads our tables with food. He gives us peaceful and refreshing sleep. Weekly He brings to us the Sabbath, that we may rest from our temporal labors, and worship Him in His own house. He has given us His word to be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. . . . He grants us the blessings of His grace. Above all else is the infinite gift of God's dear Son,

through whom flow all other blessings for this life and for the life to come" (*Counsels on Stewardship*, p. 18).

Room Organization

This program is designed for a traditional beginner setting. Activities may be done on the floor in the center of the circle, or on tables, or on mats placed around the edge.

Room Decorations

See Lesson 1. Add a basket of wool or yarn, and some colorful cloth draped over a chair or small table.

Program Overview

	LESSON SECTION	MINUTES	ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS NEEDED
	Welcome	ongoing	Greet students	
1				
	Parent Time	up to 5		
2				
	Arrival Activities	up to 10	<p>A. <i>Book Basket</i></p> <p>B. <i>Food Basket</i></p> <p>C. <i>Dress-up Corner</i></p> <p>D. <i>Textures</i></p> <p>E. <i>Colors</i></p> <p>F. <i>Gathering Food</i></p> <p>G. <i>Basket of Sheep</i></p> <p>H. <i>Rocking Chair</i></p>	<p>books about animals, food, new clothes, families, colors, etc.</p> <p>artificial or canned food items, basket, shopping bags</p> <p>dress-up clothes, coats</p> <p>basket of fabrics of different textures</p> <p>boxes with same-colored objects in each box</p> <p>artificial food items, basket</p> <p>basket with toy sheep or pictures of sheep</p> <p>adult-sized rocking chair</p>
3				
	Getting Started	up to 10	<p>A. Welcome</p> <p>B. Prayer Time</p> <p>C. Visitors</p> <p>D. Offering</p> <p>E. Birthdays</p>	<p>wooden sticks or rhythm sticks</p> <p>colorful or sheep-shaped offering device or a container decorated with sheep pictures or cotton balls to represent wool</p> <p>artificial cake, candles, matches, small gift (optional)</p>
4				
	Experiencing the Story	up to 30	<p>A. <i>Memory Verse</i></p> <p>B. <i>Joseph's Family</i></p> <p>C. <i>Joseph Grows</i></p> <p>D. <i>Sheep and Wool</i></p> <p>E. <i>Colors</i></p> <p>F. <i>New Coat</i></p> <p>G. <i>Joseph Is Thankful</i></p> <p>H. <i>God Is Strong</i></p> <p>I. <i>God Cares for Nature</i></p> <p>J. <i>God Cares All the Time</i></p> <p>K. <i>Jesus Cares for Me</i></p> <p>L. <i>Thank You, Jesus</i></p>	<p>felt or cardboard "Bibles"</p> <p>felt people, felt board</p> <p>basket of plastic food</p> <p>wool fabric or yarn</p> <p>rainbow sticks or strips of different plain-colored cloth</p> <p>colorful Bible-times coat, child-sized Bible-times costumes, length of colorful cloth</p> <p>bells</p> <p>artificial birds, nest or tree, artificial flowers</p> <p>Jesus banners</p> <p>rhythm instruments</p>

	LESSON SECTION	MINUTES	ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS NEEDED
5	Make and Take (Optional)	up to 10		
	Week 1		<i>Paper Bag Coat</i>	large paper grocery bags, scissors, colored construction paper, glue
	Week 2		<i>Sheep Puppet</i>	lunch-size paper bags, reproducible pattern (see p. 75), glue, scissors
	Week 3		<i>Gifts From God</i>	reproducible gift box pattern (see p. 76), scissors, glue sticks, crayons, picture of gift (or gifts) from God
	Week 4		<i>Joseph and His Brothers</i>	craft sticks or tongue depressors, crayons, large Styrofoam cups or bowls
	Week 5 (Optional)		<i>Joseph's Colorful Coat</i>	reproducible pattern (see p. 77), paper, colorful striped cloth, glue, scissors
	Snack Center* (Optional)			colorful fruit and/or crackers, small cups of water, napkins

*Be aware of any food allergies and adjust accordingly.

1

PARENT TIME

Busy parents often arrive at church tired and worn out from the week's activities and from getting the family ready for the "day of rest." Share a word of encouragement with them sometime during Sabbath School (possibly during Arrival Activities), something that will express your care and concern for them. The following statements were prepared by young mothers and fathers as suggestions, and may be used at your discretion at any time you wish.

Week 1

After nursing my second born in the dressing room, I laid my fussing infant son down in the stroller and began to change his diaper. We were shopping with Grandma who had come to stay with us at his birth. Our 3-year-old decided that he had been in a store long enough and began to run here and there. Suddenly, I felt a warm, warm wetness on my foot. Over the edge of

the stroller came a little stream from my diaperless baby boy. It trickled down to my foot and the floor. *Why did I even leave the house?* I thought.

You've probably had a day or two when you wondered why you went out! We've all had them! Jesus promises us, "I am with you always" (Matthew 28:20, NIV). I guess that means even on those days when I should have stayed at home.

Share a time when you went out and were sorry you did. In what way can Jesus' words, "I am with you always" encourage you?

Week 2

The ocean breeze cooled my face. I couldn't wait to take our 15-month-old son to the beach. Here we were! He loved the sand, but the waves were just too big and scary. We tried and tried to encourage him to go into the water, to no avail.

The day passed. Shortly before time to leave, we went down to the water one more time. This time, his bravery had increased. He reached up for my hand, and for Mommy's hand. Holding confidently to both of us, he charged into the waves. Later I reflected on the day. "Lord," I prayed, "help him learn to hold on tightly to You!"

Share ways you can teach your children to hold tightly to God.

Week 3

It was pitch black in the depths of Mammoth Cave—blackier than any night. We were at the part of the tour where the guide turns off the lights to give the visitors a chance to experience blackness, so black you can't see your hand in front of your face. Our youngest son grabbed his Daddy's leg and whispered, "Daddy, does Jesus know we are down here?"

He always knows. No matter how dark the night, how desperate the circumstance, or how far away the light may seem, He knows and has promised not to abandon us. "I am with you always" (Matthew 28:20, NIV).

Share a time when you felt it was your darkest hour. How did Jesus see you through?

Week 4

We were visiting my parents when my 17-month-old son was bitten by fire ants. We took him to the urgent care center where they said to open each one of the swollen bites and put medication on it.

The very next day he was playing with his cousin when he jumped off the bed and dislocated his shoulder. So off we went to the urgent care center again. They questioned me about the ugly welts, though I had been there just the day before. My son's shoulder was put back in place and we went home.

The next day, he ran out the door and

onto the wet pavement where Grandpa was washing the car. Unbelievably, he slipped and fell, landing in such a way as to break his leg. I did not want to go back to the same place I had been just the two previous days, but it was the closest place, and he was in such pain, so we went.

After seeing this child three times in three days, the people at the urgent care center reported me to the child protection services, who came and would not let me be with my little boy. I was beside myself! Eventually everything did work out, and after a few hours I was reunited with him. We made it through that awful time, but I'll never forget the helpless feelings I experienced.

Share a time when you felt utterly helpless in regard to your child. How is God a help when those times come?

Week 5 (or optional)

When my youngest daughter was only 3 years old, we visited Grandma a lot. Grandma had a big garden where rows and rows of tall corn grew. One warm day in late summer, Grandma asked me to pick some corn for our next meal. I took my little girl by the hand and we went to the garden. Once there, I dropped her hand and became engrossed in picking corn. Soon I heard a tearful voice. "Momma! Momma! Where are you? I can't see you!"

Quickly I responded. I peeked between the rows of corn and there she was, looking all around. "I can see you!" I smiled. "I'm right here!"

She ran to me and took my hand and together we carried the corn to the house.

"I wasn't really lost, was I Momma?" she asked.

"No, sweetie, I was watching over you all the time. And so was Jesus. He is always watching over you too."

Tell about a time when you knew that God was watching over your child.

2

ARRIVAL ACTIVITIES

Plan simple play activities for the early children on the carpet or on a blanket, sheet, or quilt inside the semicircle. The children participate in these activities under the supervision of an adult until the program begins. The child's play should be with materials that relate to the program, which is based on the monthly Bible story.

Choose from the following suggested activities for this month. Be sure to include something for the span of children's ages.

A. Book Basket

Provide a basket of sturdy board books about animals, food, new clothes, families, or colors.

B. Food Basket

Provide a basket of artificial food items such as fruits and vegetables, or canned food items with the pictures on them. Provide shopping bags and allow the children to "shop" for food.

C. Dress-up Corner

Provide a variety of dress-up clothes and/or coats for the children to try on. Try to include at least one colorful coat or other outer garment. Talk about what Joseph's coat looked like.

D. Textures

Provide a basket of fabric of different textures such as rough, soft, woolly, fuzzy, silky. Encourage the children to touch and talk about how it feels. What do you think Joseph's coat felt like?

E. Colors

Place several boxes filled with colored objects (all of the same colors in one box—such as red apple, red firetruck, red heart, red bird, etc.) for the children to take out and tell what they are. Talk about how Joseph's coat was made of many colors.

F. Gathering Food

Place a variety of artificial food items around the room and encourage the children to gather them and place them in a basket. Talk about how God gives us food.

G. Basket of Sheep

Provide a basket with toy sheep or pictures of sheep. Help the children count the sheep by taking them out of the basket and putting them back into the basket.

H. Rocking Chair

Provide an adult-sized rocking chair where parents can sit and rock the children who may be too shy or sleepy to join in the activities.

3

GETTING STARTED

You Need:

- ☐ wooden sticks

A. Welcome

Say: **Good morning, boys and girls! I'm so happy to see you today. Sabbath is a special day. We see many friends at church on Sabbath. Let's greet each other in a special way to say good morning.** Greet each child with a smile and handshake as you sing the welcome song. Sing "Good Morning" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 1).

Good morning, Good morning, Good morning we say;
We're happy, so happy to see you today!

—Janet Sage

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Say: **Sabbath School is a special place to be every Sabbath morning. You can make your sticks sound like the tick-tock of a clock as we sing.** Distribute the sticks for the children to tap together as you sing together "Tick-tock Song" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 2).

This is what the clock says,
Tick-tock, tick-tock,
This is what the clock says,
Tick-tock, tick-tock,
This is what the clock says,
Tick-tock, tick-tock,
Come to Sabbath school at half past nine o'clock.

—Clara Lee Parker

B. Prayer Time

Say: **When we pray, we are talking to Jesus. Jesus loves to hear us talk to Him. He wants us to talk to Him often during the day.** Prepare for prayer by singing "Prayer Song" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 18).

Listen, little children, quiet as can be.
Can you kneel, fold your hands,
Close your eyes, and pray with me?

—Norma June Bell

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As a response, sing "Thank You for Hearing Our Prayer" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 20).

Thank You, God,
Thank You, God,
Thank You for hearing our prayer.
Amen.

—Janet Sage

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C. Visitors

Welcome each visitor individually, and then sing the adapted words to "I'm Glad I Came to Sabbath School" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 5).

I'm glad you came to Sabbath school,
I'm glad you came to Sabbath school,
I'm glad you came to Sabbath school,
On this bright Sabbath morning.

—Edith Smith Casebeer. Adapted.

D. Offering

You Need:

- ☐ offering container covered with a colorful cloth or with different-colored strips of paper hanging from it; or an offering container in the shape of a sheep; or a container decorated with sheep pictures or cotton balls to represent wool

Say: **The money we bring to Sabbath School goes to help other children learn about Jesus and how much He loves them.**

Children can bring their offerings and place them in the designated offering container while you sing "Hear the Money Dropping" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 31).

Hear the money dropping!
Listen while it falls;
Ev'ry piece for Jesus,
He will get it all.
Dropping, dropping,
dropping, dropping;
Hear the money fall!
Ev'ry piece for Jesus,
He will get it all.
—William J. Kirkpatrick

Say: **Thank you for bringing your offering to Jesus. Close your eyes now while we ask Jesus to bless the money.** Pray a simple prayer similar to the following: **Dear Jesus, this money is for You. We want others to know about Your love. Amen.**

E. Birthdays

Say: **Someone has had a birthday. Who has had a birthday?** Lead the birthday child to a special birthday chair. Light the birthday candles as you lead in singing the following words to "Count the Birthday Money" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 37).

Mary* has a birthday, we're so glad.
Let us count how many she* has had.
As we count the money we are told
[count]
Yes, the money says she's* two* years old.
—Johnie B. Wood. Adapted.

*Insert name, appropriate pronoun, and age of child.

While the candles are still lit, sing "Happy Birthday!" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 38).

Just five* years old today,
Just five* years old today,
Happy birthday, happy birthday!
Edna's* five* years old today.
—C. Harold Lowden

*Insert child's name and age.

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Encourage the child to blow out the candle(s). Say: **Jesus loves you so much; we want to thank Him for making you.** Say a special prayer for this child. If possible, give the child a small gift from Sabbath School.

You Need:

- ☐ artificial birthday cake
- ☐ candles
- ☐ matches
- ☐ small gift (optional)

4

EXPERIENCING THE STORY

A. Memory Verse

You Need:

- ☐ felt or cardboard "Bibles"

Say: **It's time to look in our Bibles.** Give each child a small Bible. **Let's look inside our Bible as we sing.** Sing "The Bible Is God's Word to Me" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 52).

The Bible is God's Word to me.
The Bible says that God loves me.
—Enid G. Thorson

© 1988 by Enid G. Thorson.

Say: **Our Bible story today is about one of God's friends named Joseph. Joseph lived with his family a long time ago. His family took care of sheep. His family took care of him too. And especially, God took care of Joseph.**

God gave good gifts to Joseph by giving him a family to love him. Jesus promises to give us good gifts too and take care of us.

Sing "Jesus Cares for You" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 92), teaching the children the motions that go with it.



Jesus	<i>Point upward.</i>
cares	<i>Cross arms over chest.</i>
for you,	<i>Point to others.</i>
Jesus	<i>Point upward.</i>
cares	<i>Cross arms over chest.</i>
for you.	<i>Point to others.</i>
He	<i>Point upward.</i>

cares

Cross arms over chest.



for you.

Point to others.



—Beginner Writers Group

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B. Joseph's Family

You Need:

- ☐ felt people
- ☐ felt board

Say: **God gave Joseph the gift of a family who loved him. Joseph had a mommy and a**

daddy and many brothers and sisters. Joseph loved his family. Can you bring the felt mommy or daddy or brother or sister up to the board while we sing about our families? Sing the adapted words to "Jesus Gave Me a Mommy" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 251).

Jesus gave me a family,
They say, I love you.
Jesus gave me a family,
They say, I love you.
—Joy Hicklin Stewart. Adapted.

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Say: **Joseph had a mommy, daddy, brothers, and sisters. Do you know how many brothers Joseph had? He didn't have one or two, he had 10 older brothers. Let's count on our fingers to see how many that makes. Count slowly as you hold up fingers. Would you like to have 10 big brothers?** Sing "Ten Big Brothers" (see p. 79), holding up the

appropriate number of fingers while you sing.

One brother, two brothers, three big brothers,
Four brothers, five brothers, six big brothers,
Seven brothers, eight brothers, nine big brothers,
Ten big brothers for Joseph.
—René Alexenko Evans

C. Joseph Grows

You Need:

- ☐ basket of plastic food

Say: **Joseph's family took good care of him. God gave them food to feed to Joseph. They**

cooked good food for him to eat. Can you bring a piece of food and put it in my basket while we sing? Sing the first and second verses of "My Family" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 252).

My family cooks good food for me,
My family cooks good food for me,
My family cooks good food for me,
I love my family.

My family takes good care of me,
My family takes good care of me,
My family takes good care of me,
I love my family.

—Edith Smith Casebeer

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Say: **The good food that Joseph's family gave him to eat helped him grow big and strong and tall. Let's practice our growing now while we sing.** Start singing the song while crouched down small and stand up slowly when the third line is begun. End the song with arms stretched above the head. Sing "Growing Song" to the tune

of "Hear the Money Dropping" *Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 31.

We are little children, but we can't stay small,
Every day we're growing, growing big and tall.
Growing, growing, growing, growing,
Growing big and tall.
Growing now for Jesus,
For He loves us all.
—William J. Kirkpatrick

Say: **Joseph's family cared for him. God and Jesus cared for him.**

D. Sheep and Wool

Say: **Joseph grew and grew. When you grow bigger, do you need bigger clothes? Yes. Your family takes care of you by giving you bigger clothes. Maybe Joseph grew so big that he needed a bigger coat.**

Joseph's daddy loved Joseph and took good care of him. He wanted to give Joseph a very special gift to show him how much he loved him. He wanted to make Joseph a new coat.

Ask: **Can you feel the material that your clothes are made of? What does it feel like? Joseph's daddy made his new coat out of wool. Do you know what wool is? Where does it come from? Yes, wool comes from sheep.**

Say: **Joseph and his family were shepherds. God gave them sheep so they could make warm clothes with the wool. Let's sing a song about sheep while you feel the wool I'm going to show you.**

Go to each child with the fabric or yarn while you sing "Woolly, Woolly Lamb" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 171).

You Need:

- ☐ wool fabric or yarn

Woolly, woolly lamb,
Woolly, woolly lamb,
Jesus made you soft and woolly;
Woolly, woolly lamb,
Woolly, woolly lamb,
Jesus made you soft and woolly.
—Janet Sage

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E. Colors

You Need:

- ☐ rainbow sticks or strips of different plain-colored cloth

Say: **Joseph's daddy gave the sheep a haircut. He cut off their wool. Let's pretend we're giving sheep a haircut.** Make cutting motions with index and middle finger. **Then he would dip the wool into dye of different colors to make it pretty.**

Give each child a rainbow stick or a strip of colored cloth. **Let's see what colors you are holding.** Help the children name the colors. **I'm so glad Jesus made different colors. Pretty colors are a gift from Jesus. Let's wave our rainbow stick (or cloth) while we sing.**

Sing "Colors" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no.159).

Colors, colors, pretty colors;
Colors, colors, pretty colors;
Jesus made the pretty colors just for you and me.

—Janet Sage

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Say: **I'm so glad Jesus made so many different colors for us. Let's sing our memory verse song again about Jesus caring for us.** Sing "Jesus Cares for You" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 92), using the hand motions.

Jesus	<i>Point upward.</i>
cares	<i>Cross arms over chest.</i>
for you.	<i>Point to others.</i>
Jesus	<i>Point upward.</i>
cares	<i>Cross arms over chest.</i>
for you.	<i>Point to others.</i>
He	<i>Point upward.</i>
cares	<i>Cross arms over chest.</i>
for you.	<i>Point to others.</i>



—Beginner Writers Group

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F. New Coat

You Need:

- ☐ colorful Bible-times coat
- ☐ child-sized Bible-times costumes
- ☐ length of colorful cloth

Say: **After Joseph's daddy colored the wool, he spun it into yarn. Let's pretend we're spinning the wool into yarn.** Rub hands together. **After spinning the yarn, Joseph's daddy could weave it to make cloth.** Hold up

a piece of cloth. **Then he could use the cloth to sew Joseph a new coat.**

Let's pretend we're sewing. Make motion of sewing with needle and thread. **Soon Joseph's daddy finished making the coat. Isn't it pretty?** Hold up coat. **Let's pretend that you are Joseph and your mommy or daddy can put the new coat on you.**

Distribute dress-up clothes for the children to wear while you sing the following words to the tune of "My Family" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 252).

My family gives me clothes to wear,
My family gives me clothes to wear,
My family gives me clothes to wear,
I love my family.

My family takes good care of me,
My family takes good care of me,
My family takes good care of me,
I love my family.

—Edith Smith Casebeer. Adapted.

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G. Joseph Is Thankful

You Need:

☐ bells

Say: **Joseph loved the new coat his father made for him. Joseph was thankful**

to have a family who loved and cared for him. Joseph was thankful that God gave him his family, food, and clothes.

Joseph thanked his father and God for caring for everything he needed. Let's sing together while we ring our bells.

Sing "All Our Needs" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 85).

Jesus cares for all our needs,
All our needs, all our needs;
Jesus cares for all our needs.
Thank You, thank You, Lord.

—Traditional/Arr. by
Kenneth D. Logan

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Say: **God gave Joseph many gifts. God took care of Joseph. God and Jesus take care of you too. Let's sing our memory verse song again.**

Sing "Jesus Cares for You" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 92), using the hand motions.

Jesus Point upward.

cares Cross arms over chest.

for you. Point to others.

Jesus Point upward.

cares Cross arms over chest.

for you. Point to others.

He Point upward.

cares Cross arms over chest.

for you. Point to others.

—Beginner Writers Group

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H. God Is Strong

Say: **God was strong enough to take care of Joseph. God is strong enough to take care of you too. Please stand up and do the motions with me while we sing about how strong and mighty God is.**

Sing the first two lines of "My God Is So Great" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 112). Teach the children the following motions.

My God is so great,

Flex one arm to show off biceps muscle.

So strong and so mighty,

Add other arm.

There's nothing

My God cannot do!

Clap, clap.

(Repeat)

—Unknown/Arr. by Lois C. Hall

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I. God Cares for Nature

You Need:

- ☐ artificial birds
- ☐ nest or tree
- ☐ artificial flowers

Say: **God loves all the things He made. God cares for all the things He made. He cares for the birds. He gives birds to us as a gift so we can enjoy their singing. Please bring a bird and place it in our nest (or on a tree).**

Distribute artificial birds. Hold the nest so the children can place their bird in it, or help them place their birds on the tree. Sing the first verse of "God Cares for Me" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 87).

Little birds are singing merrily, merrily;
I think they are singing, "God cares for me."

—Eleanor L. Doan

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Say: **God loves and cares for the flowers He made. He gives them to us as gifts so we can enjoy their pretty colors, shapes, and smells. Come and pick a flower from the flower garden to take to your mommy or daddy.** Sing the second verse of "God Cares for Me" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 87).

Pretty flowers are blooming, look and see,
look and see;
I think they are saying, "God cares for me."

—Eleanor L. Doan

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J. God Cares All the Time

Say: **If God cares for birds and flowers, He certainly cares for you. God cares for you all of the time. Let's stand up and do the motions to the next song.**

Sing the second, third, and fourth verses of "God Takes Care of Me" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 90) while you do the motions.

God takes care of me,
God takes care of me,
When I walk (*walk in place*) and
when I run (*run in place*),
Yes, God takes care of me.

God takes care of me,
God takes care of me,
When I sing (*point to mouth*)
And when I pray (*fold hands and bow head*),
Yes, God takes care of me.

God takes care of me,
God takes care of me,
When I sleep (*close eyes and tip head to side*)
And when I wake (*open eyes wide, yawn and stretch*),
Yes, God takes care of me.

—Rebecca Edwards-Lesser

K. Jesus Cares for Me

You Need:

- ☐ Jesus banners

Say: **Today we learned that Jesus gives us our homes, our families, our food, and our**

clothes. Jesus gives us many good gifts. He cares for us all the time.

Let's wave our Jesus banners so everyone will know who takes care of us. Sing "Yes, Jesus Cares for Me" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 118).

Yes, Jesus cares for me.
Yes, Jesus cares for me.
He gives me my home and my food
and my clothing.
Oh, yes, Jesus cares for me.

—Enid G. Thorson

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L. Thank You, Jesus

You Need:

- rhythm instruments

Say: **We want to thank Jesus for giving us so many nice gifts. We want to praise Him. Let's**

use our rhythm instruments as we sing and march around the room

together. Sing "Praise Him, Praise Him" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 221).

Thank Him, thank Him, all you little children,
He is love, He is love.
Thank Him, thank Him, all you little children,
He is love, He is love.

—Arr. by Hubert P. Main

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Say: **Let's sing our memory verse song again about Jesus taking care of us.** Use the motions as you sing "Jesus Cares for You" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 92).

Jesus	<i>Point upward.</i>
cares	<i>Cross arms over chest.</i>
for you,	<i>Point to others.</i>
Jesus	<i>Point upward.</i>
cares	<i>Cross arms over chest.</i>
for you.	<i>Point to others.</i>
He	<i>Point upward.</i>
cares	<i>Cross arms over chest.</i>
for you.	<i>Point to others.</i>



—Beginner Writers Group

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5

MAKE AND TAKE (Optional)

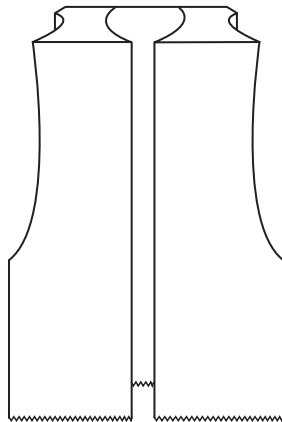
Week 1

Paper Bag Coat

You Need:

- ☐ large-size paper grocery bags
- ☐ scissors
- ☐ strips of colored construction paper
- ☐ glue

Give each parent a paper bag and show them how to cut it into a vest. Provide 3-inch (7.5-cm) strips of construction paper in several bright colors. Allow the children to glue colored strips to their "coats." If you wish, you may keep these at church and use them for Activity F in Experiencing the Story during the rest of the month, then send them home with the children when you begin the next lesson.



Week 2

Sheep Puppet

You Need:

- ☐ lunch-size paper bags
- ☐ reproducible sheep pattern (see p. 75)
- ☐ scissors
- ☐ glue

Give each parent a copy of the sheep pattern (see p. 75) to cut out. Glue the face of the sheep to the bottom of the bag, and the body of the sheep to the side of the bag, creating a puppet. While doing this craft, remind the children that Joseph's coat was made of sheep wool.

Week 3

Gifts From God

You Need:

- ☐ reproducible gift box pattern (see p. 76)
- ☐ pictures of gift (or gifts) from God
- ☐ scissors
- ☐ glue sticks
- ☐ crayons

Give each parent a copy of the gift box pattern (see p. 76). Have them color the pattern and then construct the gift box. Provide each parent with a picture of a gift God gives us or a picture of several gifts that God gives us. Have them place the picture inside the box. They and their child can lift

the flap to see the picture. Remind the children that God gives us many gifts. Children can take the box home for use in family worship.

Week 4

Joseph and His Brothers

You Need:

- ☐ craft sticks or tongue-depressors
- ☐ crayons
- ☐ large Styrofoam cups or bowls

Give each child 11 craft sticks. Parents can help them make a simple face (eyes and mouth) on the top of each stick. They are to represent Joseph and his 10 big brothers. Then help the children turn the cup or bowl over and push

the sticks through the Styrofoam cup or bowl so that the stick person is standing up. Hint: Make a very narrow slit so that the craft stick does not fall through. Count how many brothers were in Joseph's family

Week 5 (or optional activity)
Joseph's Colorful Coat

You Need:

- ☐ coat pattern (see p. 77)
- ☐ paper
- ☐ colorful striped cloth
- ☐ glue
- ☐ scissors

Distribute the coat patterns (see p. 77) and a piece of cloth (pre-cut to fit over the shape of the coat pattern, or have the parents cut it to fit). Have the children help put glue on the paper pattern, then glue the cloth coat shape to it.

Snack Center (Optional)*

Invite the children to come and taste some colorful sliced fruit and/or crackers. Provide napkins and small cups of water.

*Be aware of any food allergies and adjust accordingly.

Bible Activities

If there is still time, families may choose from a variety of activities that reinforce this month's Bible story. Those activities listed as Arrival Activities may be used again. In addition, you may want to provide a snack at one table.

Closing

Say: **God is so good to us. He loves us so much. Let's kneel while we close Sabbath School by singing a thank-You song to God.** Sing the following words to "God Is So Good" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 88).

God cares for me,
God cares for me,
God cares for me,
He's so good to me.

—African Christian Folk Song.
Adapted.

Say: **Now let's sing our memory verse song one more time.** Use the hand motions as you sing "Jesus Cares for You" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 92).

Jesus	<i>Point upward.</i>
cares	<i>Cross arms over chest.</i>
for you,	<i>Point to others.</i>
Jesus	<i>Point upward.</i>
cares	<i>Cross arms over chest.</i>
for you.	<i>Point to others.</i>
He	<i>Point upward.</i>
cares	<i>Cross arms over chest.</i>
for you.	<i>Point to others.</i>

—Beginner Writers Group



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As the children prepare to leave the classroom, sing "Goodbye to You" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 45).

Goodbye to you, goodbye to you,
Goodbye each little one;
And don't forget,
Jesus is coming soon for you and me.
—S. Vance

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STUDENT LESSON

References

Genesis 30:22-24;
37:1-3; *Patriarchs
and Prophets*, p.
209.

Memory Verse

"[God] cares for
you" (1 Peter
5:7, NIV).

The Message

God loves and
cares for me.

Joseph's New Coat

See the pretty gift. Who gives special gifts every day? God does! He gives good gifts every day. In this Bible story Joseph gets a gift.

Daddy Jacob is happy. (*Point to the father.*) Mother Rachel is happy. (*Point to the mother.*) They are happy because they have a new baby. (*Point to the baby.*) "Thank You, God, for baby Joseph," they pray. "Joseph is God's gift to our family."

(*Whisper in child's ear.*)
You are God's gift to our family.

See Joseph walk.
Joseph is growing big.
His daddy loves him. His mommy loves him. God loves him. God watches over him everywhere he goes.

Who loves you? (*Hug child; twirl around.*) I do!
You are special to our family. (*Repeat hugs.*)

See Joseph. He is a big, big boy now. God goes with Joseph everywhere he goes.

See Jacob work. See the servants help. They make yarn from the sheep's wool. They make pretty yarn for Joseph's gift. Joseph helps the servant make pretty yarn. The yarn is in bright colors. (*Show colorful yarn.*)

See the pretty wool. (*Point to colorful wool.*) Comb the pretty wool. (*Pretend to comb with open fingers.*) Make a coat for Joseph. Spin some yarn. (*Rub hands together.*) Weave the threads. (*Weave right index finger over and under fingers of left hand.*) Make a coat for Joseph.

Cutting, cutting. (*Move fingers like*

scissors.) Make a coat for Joseph.

Sewing, sewing. (*Make sewing motions.*) Sew the pretty cloth. Make a coat for Joseph. A coat of bright colors for Joseph. (*Point to colors.*)

See the new coat. See all the bright colors in the coat. The coat is for Joseph.



"Thank you, thank you, Father," says Joseph. "I like my new coat."

"Father loves Joseph very much," the brothers say. "That is a very special coat."

Hop, Joseph! Hop and twirl! Hop in the new coat. A gift of love for Joseph.

(*To child.*) What do you have that is special? (*Hop and twirl for a gift the child names.*) Thank you, Jesus, for special gifts. Go with us everywhere we go today.

Do & Say

1. Gather the family's sweaters, coats, or robes. Help your child name the colors. Let your child decide whose is the most colorful.

2. Look for pictures of lambs and sheep. Help your child count them. Make sheep sounds. Thank Jesus for woolly sheep.

3. With your child sing the memory verse song you learned in Sabbath School. (See p. 92.)

4. Take your child to a petting zoo or farm and touch real sheep.

5. Let your child look through their Sabbath clothes. Which item does he or she like best? Ask: What color is it?

6. Help your child identify the colors of their Sabbath clothing.

7. Let your child help collect his or her clothing for washing. When they are clean, let your child help fold and put them away.

8. Help your child grow like a plant. Squat down low and slowly stand up to grow tall as you spray water from a spray bottle.

9. Visit a clothing store and give your child some choices. Let him or her select one colorful item.

10. Talk about and count on your child's fingers gifts from Jesus (family, friends, food, clothes, home, pets, etc.). Thank Jesus for each one.

11. Place items to represent gifts from Jesus (food, shoes, toy stuffed animals, family picture, etc.) in a gift-wrapped box. Let your child remove one at a time and name them. Thank Jesus for each gift.

Study these suggestions for something to do each day. Select those that are appropriate for your child's developmental stage and repeat them often.

12. Let your child add the soap to your laundry water.

13. Let your child jump, walk, run, lie down, sit. Each time say: "Jesus is with you when you_____."

14. Blow up two or three balloons. Have your child identify the colors.

15. Let your child feel cloth or clothing that has different textures and tell how they feel. Include wool, if possible.