

Adventures with GOD!

JOSEPH SERVED GOD (A.3.FALL.3)

Biblical Reference	Matthew 1: 18-25, 2: 13-15, 19-23
Key Verse	Matthew 1:25
Key Concept	I serve God by being obedient like Joseph.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: 1 Draw what happened to Joseph. 2 Describe Joseph's dream. 3 Say what Joseph did after sleep.

Life Application

People want to serve God and do it with joy but sometimes it is hard to understand why God asks certain things of them. So it was with Joseph, Mary's husband. God communicated to him through an angel and Father Joseph chose to obey God and thus serve. It was a good human father to Jesus and a good husband to Mary. Children can learn from the attitude of Joseph. They learn that they can trust God and can serve you with joy even in the difficult times of life. During the week they will share the story of Joseph with the people in your home.

Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Introduction	Luggage	10 minutes
Bible Exploration	Bible	10 minutes
Craft	Glue, cotton balls, crayons	10 minutes
Verse	Memory verse	10 minutes
Prayer/Snack		10 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

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INSTRUCTIONS

Opening Prayer

Gather children around a candle and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them palms up as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today. Light the candle

Prayer: God we light this candle remembering: you made light, you made us, and you are with us now. Amen

(For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer)

Introduction: As children arrive, ask them if they had the opportunity to share with someone during the week about the story of Mary (mother of Jesus). Did they share the angel craft as they did a week ago? Allow about their experiences. Announce that today will be another interesting story related to an angel. Want to hear it?

Bible Exploration: Begin talking about the wonderful the bible is to read. Always emphasize that this book has so many amazing things to tell us and so many things that God wants us to know and obey. Talk about how important it is to love and respect the Word of God. It would be nice at this time sing a song: "The Bible". Start telling the story, excitedly asking, do you know who Mary's husband was? Do you think there was someone else that God used to accomplish His wonderful plan? Explain that Joseph was also an angel. Read the children the story of Joseph. Explain that as a couple who was getting married soon, he had to go through a difficult time while trusting in God. God wanted to communicate with the character of the history of Joseph, Mary's husband. When Mary told him what was going on with her, he could not believe it. Remember who was this baby? Joseph was very afraid to hear what Mary was from the angel said. They did not understand what God was doing. But God sent one of his angels to speak to Joseph in a dream and when he awoke, he understood what God wanted. Joseph married his girlfriend Mary, and he knew that God was using them to carry out a wonderful plan. God knew the pure, kind and simple heart of Joseph the carpenter and used him to be the earthly father of Jesus. How precious it is to understand God's plans. Do you think God can use people to fulfill his divine plan? Sure! We must learn to obey God as Joseph did. Joseph served God because he trusted the angel's message. Joseph served with joy and children can do the same.

Craft: Attached is the figure of an angel. Make copies and provide each child with cotton balls and glue to stick on the angel wings. Another craft idea would give a copy of any of the accompanying drawings to color or to make puppets. If time permits, tell the story again using the work performed.

Verse: While working on their crafts it would be good to repeat the verse over and over again. Cite together. Remember it is important to do so. Having God's Word in our hearts is a blessing.

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Prayer/Snack: Pray by thanking God for the obedience of Joseph. It would be good to give God thanks for preparing us a wonderful plan and wants us to be part of it. If a child wants to pray and give thanks for what they learned today, let them do it. Share refreshments while talk on the subject of obedience. Ask questions on their experiences with obedience? Have you had good results? How have your parents responded when they have been obedient? Think of other questions to continue dialogue on the subject of obedience.

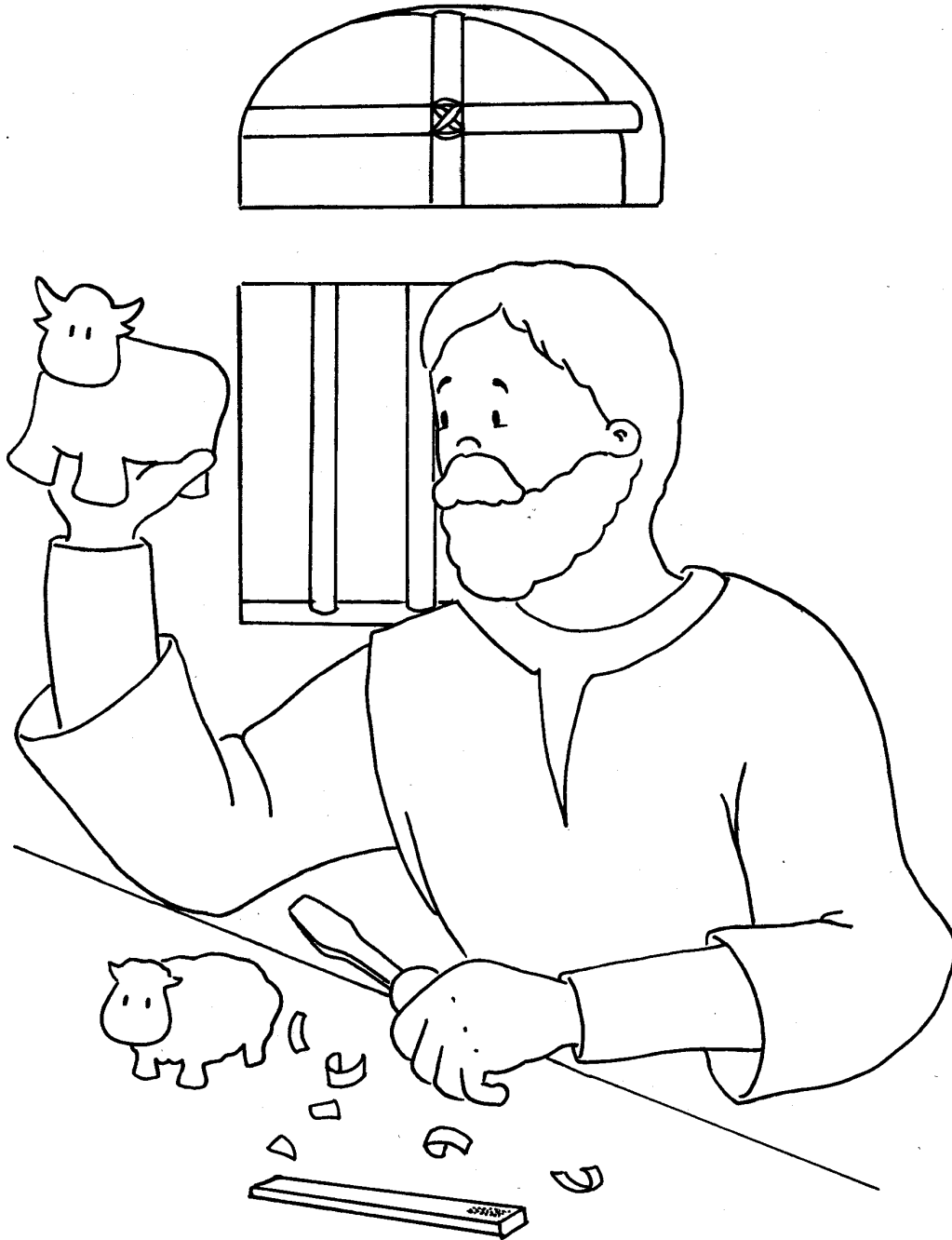
Closing Prayer

Gather children around the candle again. Light the candle

Prayer: Thank you God for making us, Thank you God for making the world. Amen

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Illustration
Joseph



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Illustration

An angel speaks to Joseph



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Illustration

Joseph & Mary obey God



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Craft

