

Joseph Feeds His Family

Lesson At-A-Glance

Scripture Reference
Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Lectionary Sunday/
Church Season
Epiphany 7

Lesson Focus
God cares for us.



Gather (10 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
Center Time Kids pretend to have a picnic, explore flashlights, and color Bible story pictures.	Coloring Pages 	Baskets, toy food, blankets, camping lantern, small lamp, light-colored bedsheet or fabric, classroom items, plastic fork and spoon
Circle Time Kids pretend to eat, and hear about the church season.	Leaflet	Plastic forks and spoons
Prayer Time Kids pray with forks and spoons.	None	Plastic forks and spoons

Open the Bible (15 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
Joseph Helps His Family Storytelling Kids hear the leader read the story from the Spark Story Bible.	Spark Story Bible	None
Who Has the Food? Kids play a game with toy food.	None	Toy food
Family Together Kids use fingers to help Joseph and his family come together.	Leaflets	None

Activate Faith (15 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
Fill the Basket Kids draw and use stickers to fill a food basket on the leaflet.	Leaflets, Lesson Stickers, Spark Story Bible	Crayons
Happy Family Kids add a heart sticker to the leaflet.	Leaflets, Lesson Stickers	None
Where's the Food? Kids hunt for paper food hidden in the classroom.	None	Paper circles cut from Where's the Food? sheet, pages 113-114, basket

Send (5 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
Good-Bye Time Kids do a quick review of the lesson and say a rhyme with actions to close.	Leaflets, Lesson Stickers, Spark Story Bible	None
Prayer Time Kids pray a litany prayer.	Family Pages 	None



Looking for additional Spark content to further engage kids? Visit wearesparkhouse.org/kids/SOOS to learn more about these options for purchase.

- The Director CD-Rom contains Activity Pages, Coloring Pages, Family Pages, Large Group Openings, and two additional in-class activities for each lesson.
- A Spark Online annual subscription gives you access to all content contained in the Director CD-Rom and the Spark Leader Guides, plus administrative tools and other extras.

Gather (10 minutes)

Center Time

You may choose to set up all or some of these learning centers for kids to play in as they arrive in your classroom. Have helpers in each center to help kids with the activities. Kids can stay in one center or travel to more than one.

When all kids have arrived and have time to participate in at least one learning center, transition kids to Circle Time by tapping a plastic fork and spoon together, and telling kids it's time to move to Circle Time to hear about a family and some yummy food.

Epiphany Picnic

Invite kids to prepare a winter picnic. Help them lay out the blanket and spread out the toy food and picnic basket.

Lights!

Before kids arrive, hang the bedsheet up and place the lamp behind it. Fill a basket with random items found in the classroom. Invite kids to stand behind the sheet and make shadows with items from the classroom. Have other kids guess what makes the shadow.

Coloring Center

Have coloring supplies available at a table for the kids to color. Be sure to help them put their names on their papers.

Spark Resources

Coloring Pages



Supplies

Baskets
Toy food
Blankets
Crayons
Camping lantern or small lamp
White or light-colored bedsheet or fabric
Classroom items: small stuffed animals, art supplies, toys
Plastic fork and spoon

Circle Time

Hold up the leaflet for the kids to see. Point to the seasonal icon, which is the white star on a green background, on the front of the leaflet. **What do we see on the leaflet? I see a white star. The star reminds us of the star that was in the sky over the place where Jesus was born. What color is around the star? (green) Green is the color of Epiphany. The star surrounded by green tells us that it is Epiphany.**

Our Bible story today is about food. Some of the people in the story didn't have enough food to eat. God helped someone share food so everyone had enough. Let's pass the forks and spoons to everyone and take turns telling our favorite food that we eat with a fork and our favorite food we eat with a spoon. Give everyone a turn to share. Be sure to call on each child by name and comment on their good food choices.

Spark Resources

Leaflet

Supplies

Plastic forks and spoons

Prayer Time

Let's say a prayer thanking God for food. Quietly tap your fork and spoon together while we pray. Repeat what I say.

**Dear God,
Thank you for
delicious food
that we eat
with a fork
or a spoon
and sometimes
with our hands.
Amen.**

Spark Resources

None

Supplies

Plastic forks and spoons

Open the Bible (15 minutes)

Joseph Helps His Family Storytelling

It's time for us to hear God's Word from the Bible. In the story, Joseph is God's good helper. God helps Joseph, and Joseph helps lots of other people. Joseph helps his family. Let's settle in to listen.

Spark Resources

Spark Story Bible

Take out your Spark Story Bible and open to Joseph Helps His Family on pages 60-66. Read the story out loud and point to the corresponding pictures. Look for Squiggles the caterpillar in each picture. Ask kids what they think Squiggles is feeling or doing. Encourage them to make a face like Squiggles.

Supplies

None

Ask the following questions, allowing time for kids to answer. **How did God help Joseph and his brothers when they were hungry? How did Joseph feel when he helped his brothers? What do we do to help our families?**

You were very good listeners today. Good listeners are good helpers too. We can be good helpers like Joseph.

Who Has the Food?

Sit in a circle. You sit in the middle to start the game. Give one child a piece of toy food. **Joseph helped share food so everyone had enough. We have one piece of food. Everyone put your hands behind your backs. Now pass the food behind your backs while I have my eyes shut.** If passing behind their backs is too challenging, invite kids to pass the food in front of their bodies while you close your eyes. **When I say "Stop," stop passing the food, and I will try to guess who has the food.** Whoever ends up with the food goes into the center. A leader or helper could stay in the center and keep guessing if that works better. Make sure everyone gets a chance to hold the food.

Spark Resources

None

Supplies

Toy food

Family Together

Invite everyone to gather around a table. Give each kid a leaflet. Point to the picture on the front of the leaflet. **What is happening in this picture? Why are Joseph and his family so far apart? Give kids time to respond. Soon they will be together. We can help them get together. Follow the dots with your fingers from Joseph to his family.**

Spark Resources
Leaflets

Supplies
None

Activate Faith (15 minutes)

Fill the Basket

Look at the back of the leaflet. This basket looks empty. Show the kids the baskets from the Spark Story Bible. Joseph filled the baskets so people would have enough food. Let's put our vegetable and corn stickers into the baskets to help fill them up. We can draw even more food for the baskets. We want to share lots of food like Joseph did. Give kids time to draw.

Spark Resources
Leaflets
Spark Story Bible
Lesson Stickers

Supplies
Crayons

Happy Family

Invite everyone to gather around a table and look at the leaflet. Point to the picture of Joseph hugging his family. **What is happening in this picture? Who is Joseph hugging? What are they feeling? Why are they so happy?** Give kids time to respond. **Put a heart sticker near Joseph and his dad. They are very happy to be together again.**

Spark Resources
Leaflets
Lesson Stickers

Supplies
None

Where's the Food?

Make copies of the Where's the Food? sheet, and cut out the circles. Before the children arrive or while they close their eyes, hide the paper circles in your classroom. **Look at my basket. It is empty. There are paper food circles hidden in our classroom. Go find the paper food and fill up my basket.** If kids enjoy this game and time permits, hide the paper food and let them hunt again. **Good job finding the food! We are glad that God gives food so that we can share.**

Spark Resources
None

Supplies
Paper circles cut from
Where's the Food? sheet,
pages 113-114
Basket

Send (5 minutes)

Good-bye Time

Have kids sit in a circle, and thank them for coming. **We heard about Joseph, who helped lots of people get food. God helped Joseph. We are helpers too. It makes us feel happy when we help others. I am going to pass around the Spark Story Bible, and when it gets to you, please share something you do to help. It can be something at home, at school, or here at Sunday school.** After children share, recognize them for being good helpers and give them the helper lesson sticker to wear on their shirts.

Show kids the leaflet. **Check out the Faith on the Go! activity in the leaflet for another helper activity for you and your family to try. Neighborhood helpers take care of us too.**

Spark Resources

Leaflets
Lesson Stickers
Spark Story Bible

Supplies

None

Prayer Time

Practice the response for the litany prayer. **After I say each part of the prayer, we'll say together, "God cares for us." Let's try saying that together once for practice.**

Wherever we are . . .

God cares for us.

When sad things happen . . .

God cares for us.

When things make us happy . . .

God cares for us.

Every day . . .

God cares for us. Amen.

Be sure to send leaflets home with the kids, and give each of them a Family Page to take home.

Spark Resources

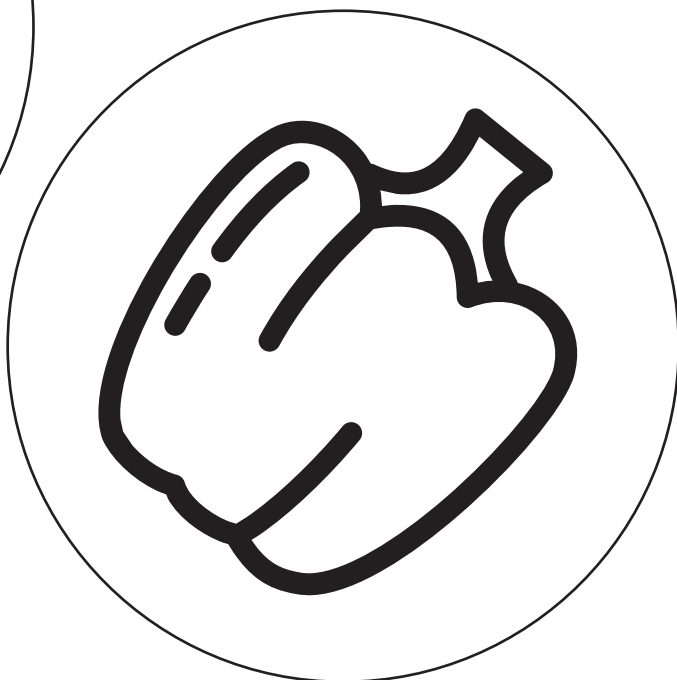
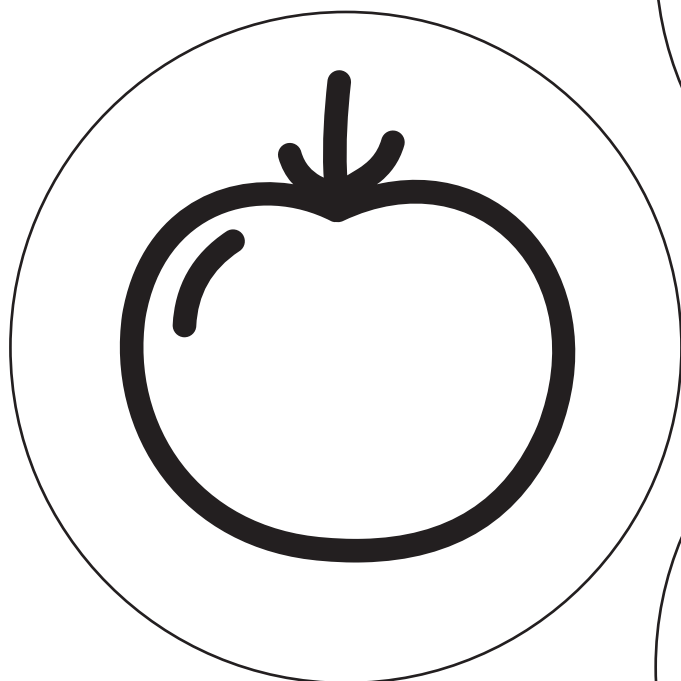
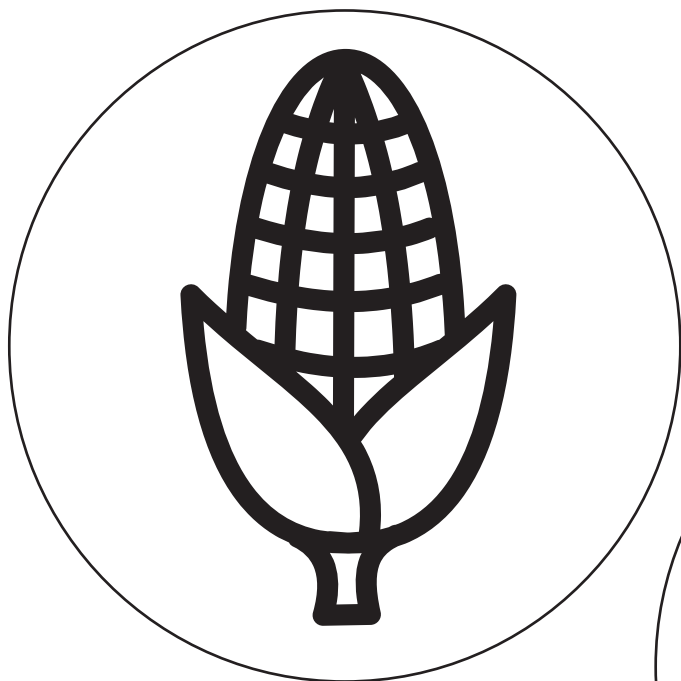
Family Pages



Supplies

None

Where's the Food?



Where's the Food?

