

let's play



God loves us all more than we can imagine! And we love our children, but it seems easy for children to feel that one child is loved more than another, or that things are simply not fair!

Family Favorites

Help diffuse feelings of unfairness with these ideas:

- **Be sympathetic.** Listen and assure all your children that you will do your best to make sure that their needs are met in ways that show your love and concern for each child.
- **Appreciate differences.** Every child is different. Take the time to watch your child. See his or her unique abilities. (NEVER say, “Why can’t you be more like your sister?”)
- **Pray.** In the presence of your children, thank God for each child, and ask His help in truly meeting your children’s needs.

Make Life a Picnic!

Serve food anywhere but where you usually serve it: Spread a sheet over the backyard table or over several chairs in the family room and eat in the “tent”; or pack food, water and a blanket and walk to the creek, the park or the library lawn—anywhere close enough to be easy to reach but far enough to be interesting! As you walk to your picnic location with your child, talk about the places you go. **I’m glad to know that God is with us and loves us wherever we go!**



“The LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.”

Joshua 1:9

let's talk

Today I learned:

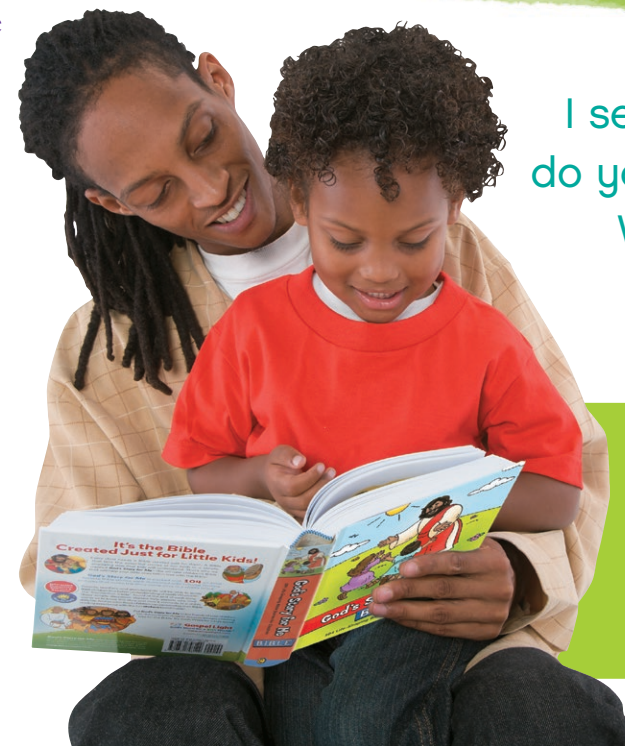
No matter where I go, God is with me!

Ask me:

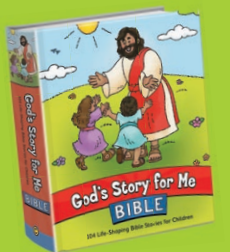
Where are some places you like to go? Do you walk or ride in a car to get there?



I see some brothers. What do you think they are saying? Who is coming? What happened next?



Read the story on the next page, and on pages 84-88 in *God's Story for Me Bible*.



let's listen

Bible Story

Genesis 37

Invite your child to imitate the faces next to the paragraphs as you read.

For older children: How many brothers or sisters do you have? How many cousins? Grandparents?

My name is Joseph. I have 10 big brothers and 1 little brother. My father, Jacob, loves me! He gave me a colorful coat.



I had dreams about my family. The dreams said my family would bow to me. Do you think the dreams mean I will be in charge someday?



We are Joseph's big brothers. We have no colorful coats! We don't want to bow to Joseph! Joseph and his dreams make us **ANGRY**!



One day we took our family's sheep out to find grass. We were gone a long time. Guess who our father sent to see how we were. **JOSEPH**! We were **NOT** glad to see him!



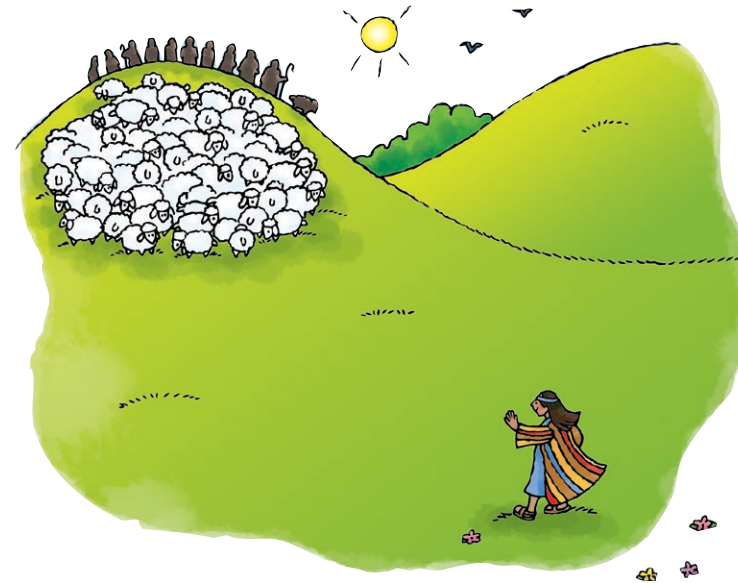
I walked and walked to find my brothers. They must have seen me from a long way off. My coat made them **ANGRY**. My dreams made them **ANGRY**. So when I walked up, they grabbed me. They threw me into a **PIT**! I was sad.



Ha! Joseph was in the pit. And we saw traders coming on their camels. (Traders are people who buy and sell things.) We pulled Joseph out of the pit and **SOLD** him! Now Joseph was gone! We were **GLAD**! We tore his colorful coat. We put animal's blood on it. **HA!** Our father would think a wild animal had **KILLED** Joseph!



I was taken far away to Egypt by the traders. I was sold to be a slave. (A slave is a person who is owned by someone else.) I was **AFRAID**. But even when I was in Egypt, I knew God was with me.



Prayer Time

Things to talk about:

- Where have we gone that is far away?
- Where do we go that is nearby?

Words to pray together:

Dear God, thank You for being with us when we go [repeat places your child mentioned]. You are with us whether we are far away or nearby. We are glad! In Jesus' name, amen.



Family Talk

Invite your child to fold laundry with you. Ask,

- What colors are these towels?
- Which color of shirt do you like best?
- Who wore a colorful coat?

