

HOOK

Where's the coin?

Prepare 3 or more identical non-transparent plastic cups. Put a coin under one of the cups and shuffle them around. Get kids to guess which cup has the coin.

Variations: <requires practice>

Cup and Coin Magic Trick: www.instructables.com/id/Cup-and-Coin-Magic-Trick/

3-cup shuffle: http://www.ehow.com/how_2217381_do-threecup-shuffle-magic-trick.html

Tennis ball trick: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NIPY9MrbX7M>

Magic Cup trip: http://www.ehow.com/how_2215863_do-magic-cup-trick.html (no coins in this one)

STORY: GENESIS: JOSEPH THE FORGIVING SAVIOUR (Genesis 41 - 45)

REVIEW

What happened to Joseph after he was sold to traders?

He became a slave of Potiphar.

The Lord was with him and he was successful in what he did.

Potiphar put Joseph in-charge of his household.

Potiphar's wife wanted Joseph to sleep with her. He refused.

She got angry and lied that he attacked her.

Potiphar put Joseph in prison.

But he found favour with the prison warden who put him in charge of the prison.

He interpreted the dreams of the baker and cupbearer.

Later he interpreted Pharaoh's dream — there'll be 7 good years of plenty, then 7 bad years of empty, so better save up during the 7 good years.

He was promoted from prisoner to ruler of Egypt!

STORY

Paraphrase **Genesis 41:46 – Genesis 45.**

- Joseph was ruler of Egypt
- During 7 good years of plenty, he collected all the food and stored in huge quantities — too much to count
- Then the famine came. Everywhere else had no food except for Egypt.
- Pharaoh told the Egyptians, "Go to Joseph and do what he tells you."
- Joseph opened the storehouses for the Egyptians. People from all over the world came to Egypt to buy grain from Joseph.
- Jacob found out there was grain in Egypt, so he sent 10 of his sons to go buy grain. Jacob did not let Benjamin, the youngest, go because he was afraid something might happen to him like with Joseph.
- The brothers came to see the ruler of Egypt (Joseph) and bowed with their faces to the ground (remember Joseph's dream?)

- They did not recognize Joseph, but right away Joseph knew who they were, though he pretended not to know.
- Joseph interrogated the brothers (maybe he wanted to know how his father and youngest brother were doing) and kept them under guard for three days.
- He allowed them to bring back food to their father on 2 conditions:
 - i. 1 brother was to stay back in Egypt as a prisoner
 - ii. They had to bring their youngest brother with them the next time they come
- Joseph's brothers agreed. Simeon was taken away while the rest were allowed to leave. They said to each other in their Hebrew language, "We're being punished because of Joseph."
- They didn't know Joseph could understand them. He turned away and cried.
- The brothers went home with the grain and told the father what had happened. Of course the father refused to allow them to bring Benjamin with them to Egypt.
- But when the grain ran out, they had no choice but to go back to Egypt. Judah promised the father that he will take good care of Benjamin. So bringing gifts and Benjamin, they returned to Egypt.
- When Joseph saw Benjamin, he ordered a huge feast to be prepared for them. Interestingly, the brothers were seated from eldest to youngest, and Benjamin was given 5x more than anyone else.
- Then Joseph gave instructions to fill up each of the brother's sacks with as much food as possible, put the money they brought to pay for the grain back into the sack and put Joseph's silver cup into Benjamin's sack.
- The next day, the brothers set off on their donkeys with their bags of grain. After that, Joseph sent his men to go after them to look for his silver cup.
- The men searched the brothers' sacks and found the cup in Benjamin's sack! They wanted to arrest Benjamin.
- The brothers protested and rushed back to the city and threw themselves at Joseph's feet. Joseph said all of them could go home but Benjamin had to stay back because the cup was found in his cup.
- Judah pleaded with Joseph and offered to be Joseph's prisoner/slave instead of Benjamin, for his father's sake.
- Joseph could not control himself anymore and revealed himself to his brother. "I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt. Do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. God made me ruler of Egypt."
- Everybody cried and hugged each other. Joseph invited his brothers to stay with him in Egypt because the famine was still going on for another 5 years and he wanted to provide for them. So the brothers went back with great news to the father; they brought all their families to live in Egypt together with Joseph.

LESSON

God raised Joseph to be Ruler of Egypt to save the world

Joseph was sold into slavery by his brothers. He was wrongly accused. He was sent to prison. But God raised him up to be the one who would save his family, the whole of Egypt and other countries from the famine.

"... it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you." Gen 45:5

Jesus was betrayed by his own disciple. He was sentenced to death despite being innocent. Yet through His death on the cross, He defeated death. And God raised Him up to be the King of kings who would save the world from their sin.

Joseph forgave his brothers and showed them grace.

No matter how bad his brothers were, Joseph still loved them and forgave them. Joseph told his brothers not to blame themselves — that God had allowed what they did for His greater plan ... all the bad He turned for good.

Joseph not only forgave them but also invited them to live with him where he could provide for them always.

Even after their father died, and the brothers were afraid that Joseph will seek his revenge, he reassured them.

"You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. ²¹ So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." (Gen 50:20-21)

No matter how bad we are, Jesus still loves us and forgave us. Jesus forgave us for our sin and showed us grace. He died for us while we were still sinners. He gave us His life — in Him we are always provided and cared for.

Because of Jesus, we can forgive others who hurt us, just like Joseph forgave his brothers.

Take-Home Lesson:

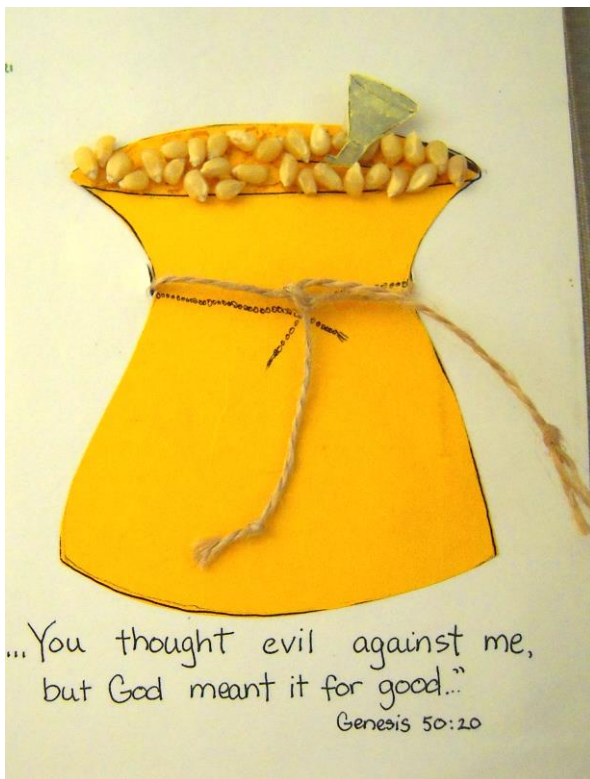
Jesus is my forgiving savior!

Would you like to accept Jesus into your heart?

ACTIVITY SUGGESTION

Secret Code worksheet (below)

Related craft



Use the secret code below to decode the following message:

| SECRET CODE | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |

7 15 4 18 1 9 19 5 4 10 15 19 5 16 8
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 20 15 2 5 18 21 12 5 18
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 15 6 5 7 25 16 20
 _ _ _ _ _ _ _
 10 5 19 21 19 9 19 15 21 18
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 6 15 18 7 9 22 9 14 7 19 1 22 9 15 21 18
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Genesis

TNCC
CHILDREN'S
CHURCH

JOSEPH: THE FORGIVING SAVIOUR