

# STRONG MAN

## BIBLE STORY:

Genesis 37:1-36  
Diggin In

## PURPOSE:

Joseph has faith in God's strength to do what God says God will do.

## KEY PEOPLE:

**Jacob/Israel**—The youngest son of Isaac and Rebekah. Jacob inherited the covenant promise given to Abraham and passed it on to his 12 sons. Jacob's name was changed by God to Israel.

**Joseph**—The youngest of 12 sons of Jacob. His mother was Rachel.

**The brothers**—There are 11 brothers and all of them are Joseph's half brothers because Jacob had children from Rachel, Leah, Bilhah and Zilpah. (Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun—Leah's sons; Dan, Naphtali—Bilhah's sons; Gad, Asher—Zilpah's sons; Benjamin—Rachel's other son)

## 3 RING CIRCUS!

## THE BACK STORY - JOSEPH

Joseph is Rachel's only son and that might be why he is the favorite. This is the story of the family of Jacob even though the main character is Joseph, who is introduced as a 17 year old favorite son. Joseph, who acts as a tattle tale and wild eyed dreamer, is unpopular with his brothers.

Joseph ends up in Egypt because of sibling rivalry, a conspiracy for murder, intervention by guilty brothers and a profitable caravan of gypsies.

The kind of clothing that people wore during Biblical times was determined by the climate and the outdoor life they lived. The dress of the poor was always simple. Clothing that included color and design would have been only for wealthy families who could afford the extravagance. Common clothing included:

**The Tunic:** A tunic was Biblical underwear! It was a long garment made of leather, haircloth, wool, linen or cotton which was worn next to the skin. Tunics were normally sleeveless and knee-length.

**The Coat:** Several garments were worn over a tunic. The simplest was the coat, like Joseph's coat of many colors. It had long, pointed sleeves which reached all the way to the ground and could be tied together for work. The coat was held together with a girdle or belt.

**The Cloak:** The cloak, also known as a robe, was similar to a coat, but it was looser and did not have sleeves or a belt.

**The Girdle:** A girdle was a leather belt.

**The Sandals:** Sandals had leather or wooden soles with leather straps. Sandals were often worn during this time in history.



# ALPHA

**Songs:** "Shake a Friends Hand"; "All in All"

**Message:** Use this time to welcome campers to Camp Hope, introduce leaders, talk about what to expect throughout the week, and why we do Camp Hope. Talk about the JOY Covenant with the group and talk about how to follow the JOY Covenant in Alpha and Omega Worship.

**Covenant:** Jesus Others Yourself—Make sure campers get a chance to sign the covenant sometime that day.

**Prayer:** Wink prayer-Have everyone wink (or blink) up to God because God already knows everything we need and to acknowledge Gods presence. Say "1,2,3 wink". Afterwards say "Amen" together.

**Song:** "Cast Your Burdens"



# OMEGA

**Songs:** "Cast Your Burdens", "All in All"

**Message:** Talk to the campers about their small group experience. How is it like a family? How did Joseph's family get along? This week we will see that God was active in Joseph's life and in his family no matter what happened. I wonder how God will be active this week in your small groups.

**Prayer:** Canon ball prayer-Have the campers whisper their prayer into their hands, ball it up and then throw it into the canon. Light the canon and let it explode so the prayers go up. Say "Amen" together.

**Song:** "On a Day Like This"

## Memory Verse

"...God is with you in everything you do"  
Genesis 21:22

## TIME TAKERS:

1. Do any of you remember your dreams from last night? Talk about the dreams that campers had.
2. Have campers take turns doing strong man/woman poses. Maybe compete to see who has the best strong person pose.
3. Play charades acting as different performers in the circus like lion tamer, trapeze artist, tight rope walker, etc. When guessing, make sure to use the camper's name so they can learn each others' names.

## KNOW THE STORY! QUESTIONS FOR MANNA, ROTATIONS, TRIBE AND OTHER TIMES

Here are questions you can ask campers to make sure they know the story and details from the story:

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| 1. How many brothers did Joseph have? <i>11 brothers</i>                   | <i>colors.</i>   | Joseph coming into the field, what did they want to do to him? <i>Kill him</i>                               |
| 2. How old was Joseph in the story? <i>Seventeen</i>                       | 4. In Joseph's 1st dream, what did he dream about? <i>The bundles of grain bowing down to him.</i>     | 7. What really happened to Joseph? <i>He was thrown into a pit and then sold to traders for money.</i>       |
| 3. What did Joseph's dad give him? <i>A beautiful robe of many colors.</i> | 5. In his second dream, what did he dream about? <i>The sun, moon and 11 stars bowing down to him.</i> | 8. What did the brothers tell Jacob, their father, what happened to Joseph? <i>A wild animal killed him.</i> |
|  | 6. When the brothers saw   |  |



# MANNA

## **1. Grabber-15 minutes**

Have each camper draw a family portrait, labeling everyone by name that is in their family. When they are finished drawing, have the campers share who is in their family and their portrait. Once everyone has shared, ask: *how are the families the same? How are the families different? Today's story is about a Biblical family. The dad's name is Jacob and he had four wives and 12 children!*

**2. Storytelling-10 minutes** (see appropriate age below)

## **3. J.O.Y. Covenant (Jesus-Others-You)-10**

### **minutes**

Create your JOY Covenant together. Today you are creating a small group. In Genesis, God brought order out of chaos and called it good. What good things can you include in your JOY Covenant that will create a healthy small group?

### **Jesus**

What will you include in your covenant to honor Jesus? How will we keep Jesus first this week? How will we care for what God has given us in this church building and the supplies in our room?

### **Others**

What will we include in our covenant to

build each other up? How can we protect each other and respect each other with our words and actions?

### **You**

What will we include in our covenant to respect ourselves? How does good participation, being a good sport, showing self control and practicing forgiveness help create a healthy small group?

### **Revisit the Covenant DAILY**

How well is our group following the covenant? How can we follow our covenant better?

## **4. Prayer-5 minutes**

Pick a prayer and thank God for

## **CONNECT WITH YOUNGER CAMPERS**

### **2. Storytelling: 10 minutes**

Begin to read the story to your campers. During the story there are actions for them to do. Take time before reading it to them to match up the actions with the reading.

*Now pretend that you have a beautiful coat on. What does that look like? Now make a angry face for how the brothers felt.*

*Get on your knees to bow down like the grain did.*

*Bow down again like the moon, sun and stars did.*

*His brothers get mad again, make angry*

*faces.*

*The brothers went off to the sheep; make sheep sounds.*

*Pretend to fall in a pit or hole.*

*Pretend you are paying money to someone for Joseph.*

Finish the story with these verses and actions:

*As the brothers were on their way home, they took Joseph's beautiful coat and dipped it in goat's blood and gave it their father Jacob. They lied to their father and told him Joseph got killed by a wild animal. Jacob was so sad that he tore his clothes and cried. Pretend to cry.*

### **DRAG**

How was Joseph different from his brothers? *He got a coat from his dad and he had dreams. What did he dream about? Grains being tied together and bowing down to him; sun, moon, and stars bowing down to him. How did Joseph's brothers react to his dreams? They became angry. Why do you think they became angry? They were jealous of him; they did not like the dream. What ended up happening to Joseph? He was sold to traders. No matter what happened to Joseph, he had faith in God that God would be with him and that*

## **CONNECT WITH OLDER AND DISCIPLE CAMPERS**

### **2. Storytelling: 10 minutes**

The small group leader will read the story from the Bible while the campers act out the story as you read. The characters that are needed are: Jacob, Joseph, man from the country, Judah and Rueben, a couple brothers and a couple traders. Make sure to have props for the story like a coat or robe or towel, change or fake money and a scarf or big stick for Jacob so everyone

knows who he is. Read through the story making sure the characters act out their parts.

### **DRAG**

What was it like to be your character? *Give campers time to share.* What did you notice in the story being Joseph (ask Joseph), being the brothers (ask the brothers), etc. Did you like playing that character? Why or why not? *Give them*

*time to explain.* Is there a character you can relate to in the story? Explain *Make sure campers are respectful to each other as others share their reasons.*

Later on in Tribe, we will talk about how this story relates to our life and how we can apply it to our life.





## GO DEEPER INTO THE STORY

### Introduction to Tribe for the week:

How many of you are in school? *All of them*. How many of you get a new backpack, markers, crayons, paper before school starts? *All probably do*. There are a lot of children in the United States and (place your town's name here) that cannot afford school supplies. For Camp Hope this year, we are going to ask that you take home a list of the different items we need to collect to give to schools right here in our own town. When you go home, please talk to your parents about how important getting school supplies are for you and how you would like to help other kids out as well. You can bring as many items as you can whether that is only one thing or more.

The things we are trying to collect are:

- Notebook paper
- 16 pack of crayons
- Pencils
- One/two erasers
- Bottle of glue
- Scissors with rounded tip
- Kleenex (optional, but certainly welcome)
- Ruler
- One-subject spiral notebook
- Pack of construction paper

## ACTIVITY FOR ALL CAMPERS

### Grabber! Trust Falls

Pair your campers up so their height and weight are close with same genders together. You will need to teach campers how to do trust falls so no one gets hurt. One camper will be the faller and the other the catcher. The faller needs to stand with their hands across their chest, feet together. The catcher needs to stand with one leg in front of the other with their hands up. The feet help keep them balanced. The faller needs to ask, "spotter ready?" and the catcher says, "spotter ready" when they are ready to catch the other camper. The faller says, "Falling?", spotter says "fall away". Then the faller may fall backwards and the catcher will catch them and push them gently up. Then have them switch.

**Older campers:** Next have them get into groups of threes. Have one spotter in front and one behind. Make sure they are the same gender. Make sure they go through the same phrases before falling. Have them switch so each person gets a chance to fall.

**Disciple Campers:** Form one circle with one person in the middle. The circle should be close together to where all shoulders are touching. The person in the middle will fall and then be pushed around the circle like a willow in the wind. Make sure all people follow the rules throughout the whole exercise.

### **Younger Campers:**

In today's story, Joseph had some dreams about things bowing down to him. Joseph got really excited about his dreams, but when he told his family, they did not like his dreams. Joseph did not care that they did not believe him. Joseph had faith that God would make his dreams come to life. What was it like to be the person falling? What was it like to be the catcher? Was it easy to fall? Some people have a hard time falling and having faith that the person behind them will catch them. What does faith mean to you? What do you think faith is? Draw a picture of what faith means to you. After they finish drawing, give each camper a chance to share what faith means to them. Remind them afterwards that God always has faith in them and God wants their faith and trust.

### **Older & Disciple Campers:**

In today's story, Joseph had dreams that he believed would come true. Joseph had faith in God's strength to bring his dreams to life and to be with him always. What does faith mean to you? How would you define faith? How do you show that you have faith? The trust falls, what was it like to be the person falling? Was it easy to fall? Some people have a hard time falling, why do you think that is? It is not always easy to have faith in someone else. Joseph had a lot of faith in God even though his brothers got angry at him and did not like his dreams. Have you ever had a time where you believed in something and others did not? What was that like? No matter how others treat you, God always has faith in us and we need to put our faith in God.



# CHECK IT OFF!

## CAMP HOPE TAKES PREPARATION

\_\_\_ Devotion:

\_\_\_ Staff Meeting:

\_\_\_ Alpha: copy of JOY Covenant

\_\_\_ Manna: Bible, paper, crayons or markers, props for skit

\_\_\_ Tribe- construction paper, crayons or markers, school supply list handout

\_\_\_ Omega:

### CRAFTS

### GAMES

### SNACKS

### EXPRESSIVE ARTS

Dream Catchers

Where's Joseph?

Colorful Dreams

Costume Charades

