



Older IK Groups- 2nd - 5th Grades

February 12, 2025

Bible Story: Jealousy- Exodus 20:17, Genesis 37:1-11

Big Idea: We're not jealous.

The Win: Kids who can identify and take their next step of discipleship by embracing a preschooler's physical needs or engaging an elementary kid in things that interest them.

Wednesday Share:

Tonight during Impact Kids, we looked at Exodus 20:17 and Genesis 37:1-11. God commands his people not to want other people's stuff. Joseph's brothers are jealous because their dad likes Joseph best and gives Joseph a fancy coat. Plus, Joseph brags about dreams in which his brothers bow to him. Of all the Ten Commandments, this one describes what feels most like a harmless, inward emotion...not a sin. And yet God gave this commandment because he knew the harm that can come in our own hearts when we're jealous. In the case of Joseph's brothers, jealousy can lead to breaking other commandments, like lying or hurting others. Use this lesson to talk to your kids about the dangers of jealousy.

Leader Devo:

<https://parkwaychurch.tv/blog/2025/02/05/feb-12>

Dig In to Prayer:

Ask God to help kids be content with what they have.

Quick Tip:

Be careful not to foster a culture of jealousy in your ministry. Statements like "Why can't you pay attention like Jayden?" or "Why didn't you bring your Bible like Cade?" promote the comparison game. When you hear kids making their own comparisons to others ("I wish I could draw as well as you..."), help kids pause and thank God for what they have.

Wednesday Group Schedule

Leaders Arrive: 6:15 PM
Family Dinner: 6:30 PM – 6:50 PM
K-3rd Outside Play: 6:50 PM- 7:20 PM
4th & 5th Small Group: 6:50 PM- 7:30 PM
K-3rd Small Group: 7:25 PM- 8:00 PM
4th & 5th Outside Play: 7:30 PM- 8:00 PM
Dismiss: 8:00 PM- 8:05 PM

Low Energy Game:

Supplies

timer or stopwatch

Try to Make People Smile

Say: In our Bible story, Joseph told his brothers about dreams he was having. They got jealous and hated him.

Ask: • What faces do you think they made? Pause for kids to make faces.

Say: Joseph's brothers probably made mad faces. Let's play a game where we'll make up silly dreams in order to get our friends to react with smiles.

- Have kids stand in a circle so they're facing each other. If you have a large group, consider forming smaller circles of four to six kids.
- Choose one child to be the "Dreamer," while everyone else is a "Brother." The Dreamer's goal is to make a Brother smile or laugh by describing silly, made-up dreams. The Brothers will try to keep frowning as they listen.
- After 30 seconds, if no Brothers have smiled, let another person try being the Dreamer.
- If a Brother smiles or laughs, that Brother becomes the Dreamer for the next round.
- The game ends when time runs out or everyone has had a turn to be the Dreamer.

Talk About It

Ask: • Let's vote. Who do you think told the funniest dream?

• How did you feel hearing people do a great job telling about dreams?

• How did you feel if you couldn't make someone laugh but another person could?

Say: Maybe you thought this game was really funny. Maybe you started to compare your dream-telling skills with other people's. When we compare ourselves with others, it leads to jealousy. But we're not jealous. Even when we think people are funnier or have things better than we do, we can celebrate and appreciate the good things about them rather than comparing them to ourselves.

Talk About Video:

Discuss and Watch "Gift's Story"

Say: Today we're learning that we're not jealous. Jealousy is when we're more focused on what others have than what we have. When Joseph's brothers were jealous, it hurt their own hearts, and it hurt Joseph.

Ask: • Tell about a time you wanted something you didn't have. Share your own example first.

Say: It's okay to want things, but when we're focused on wanting what other people have, that's jealousy. Let's watch a boy named Gift who doesn't have very much but isn't jealous.

Watch "Gift's Story."

Ask: • What do you have that Gift doesn't?

• What did Gift have to be jealous about?

• Why do you think Gift wasn't jealous, even though he didn't have what the other kids had?

Say: We're not jealous. Whether we have a lot or a little, we can be thankful for what we have instead of comparing ourselves to others. We'll be much happier!

Deeper Bible:

Supplies

- Bibles
- paper
- crayons or markers
- sticky notes

Set It Up

Say: For the past couple of months, we've been learning about God's Commandments. Most of them are about things we would do that would be wrong, like disobeying our parents, killing, or disrespecting God's name. But jealousy is a little different. Jealousy is more of a feeling. Does it really hurt anybody if we're jealous? Let's dig in to that.

Color and Cover

Say: As we've started thinking about jealousy, we've also talked about being thankful instead. So draw something you're thankful for.

Set out paper and crayons or markers, and allow time for kids to draw. As kids draw, have them share about who gave them what they're drawing. It might be God, or it might be a person.

Say: Now let's think about stuff we don't have but we want.

Set out sticky notes. Have kids each write on a sticky note one thing they want and stick it on top of their pictures. Allow a couple of minutes, and encourage kids to fill out as many sticky notes as they can, using one sticky note for each thing.

Ask: • What happened to your picture as you thought of more and more stuff you wanted?

• How does this look in real life? Think about times you were happy but then jealousy made you ungrateful.

• If you lost sight of being thankful for something someone gave you, how could that hurt the person who gave it to you?

Say: Jealousy is all about focusing on what other people have. And gratitude is about focusing on what God has already given us! When we focus on what other people have, we lose the focus on what we have. Eventually, we don't see anything to be thankful for...only things to be jealous of.

And when that happens, it hurts us. Jealousy hurts our hearts because it makes us unhappy. Plus, it can lead to more sins. Listen to this.

Dig Deeper

Read James 4:1-2.

Ask: • Tell about a time jealousy led to a fight for you. Share your own story first.

• What else can jealousy lead to?

Say: Let's check out some other verses about how jealousy can grow into other sins.

Read James 3:15-16.

Say: Yikes! These verses say that where there is jealousy there's evil of every kind! Jealousy does some serious damage to our hearts and our relationships.

Read Proverbs 27:4.

Ask: • Why do you think God says jealousy is more dangerous than anger? As kids answer, continue asking "why" to keep drilling down and get to the heart of jealousy.

Say: It's clear why God has a command against jealousy. Jealousy destroys our hearts and leads us to more and more sin. Just listen to where it led Joseph's brothers! In today's story, they were jealous. But the next thing that happened was they decided to kill him! That's against another one of God's Commandments. In the end, they didn't kill him, but they sold him into slavery and then lied about it to their dad. Not lying is another one of God's commandments. Plus, they weren't putting God first; they were putting their own interests first. Their jealousy did just what the verses we read said would happen—it led to evil of every kind.

When we're not jealous, it can look like this!

Tell kids to tear the sticky notes off their papers and throw them away as they listen to you read. Then read **1**

Thessalonians 5:18.

Life Application:

Supplies

- paper
- pencils

Thank God

Say: We've been learning that we're not jealous and that we can be thankful instead. Let's try an exercise in thankfulness.

- Give each child a pencil and a piece of paper, and have kids each write 5 to 10 things they're thankful for.
- Have kids form pairs and trade lists.
- Kids will then pray with their partners, thanking God for what he's given the other person.

Wrap Up

Say: When we see people with something we want, we're not jealous. Instead, we can be thankful that God loves and cares for those people and takes care of them. Let's ask for his help to do that.

Pray: God, help us focus on thanking you for what we have and for what others have so we're not jealous. In Jesus' name, amen.

Thank kids for coming, and encourage them to come back next week.

Activity Page with a Point:

Younger Kids: Color a Coloring Page

Distribute the coloring pages and crayons. Say: One of God's commandments is that we're not jealous. God doesn't want us to be jealous, even when we see other people getting treated as the favorite! Joseph's brothers were jealous when he was the favorite. Let's color that. Allow time for kids to color. Encourage kids to use a lot of colors on Joseph's coat.

Older Kids: Do an Activity Page

Say: We're learning that we're not jealous. But it's hard not to be jealous sometimes! Like when Joseph's brothers saw him being treated as a favorite. Let's see what it's like to see someone else do well.

Distribute the activity pages and pencils. Give kids about two minutes to find as many words as they can. Then determine who found the most words, and give that child a prize.

Ask: • How do you feel right now?

• What can we do when we feel jealous of others?

Say: It's easy to get jealous when others do well, and we wish we won the prize or got the fancy coat! But instead of comparing ourselves to others and wishing we had what they have, we can celebrate their successes. We can be happy for others! And you all did your best, so let's cheer for everyone!

Lead kids in cheering for everyone.

Answer Key: Older Kids

