

**POINT ➡ WE LOVE OTHERS.**

Have children form a circle and sit on the floor. Open your Bible to Genesis 37, and show children the words.

**SAY: The Bible tells us that a man named Jacob had 12 sons. Jacob's son Joseph was a lot younger than his big brothers. Joseph's father made a special coat for him. Joseph's brothers were jealous and angry that their father gave Joseph a beautiful coat but didn't give them beautiful coats.**

Joseph's brothers were even angrier when Joseph told them about some dreams he had. As you listen, make faces to show how it sounds like Joseph's brothers felt about his dreams.

Play ● "Joseph's Dreams" (track 20) on the **CD**.

**SAY: Joseph sure had some weird dreams. The Bible says that Joseph's brothers were mad at him because they thought their dad loved Joseph the best. They also didn't like his dreams. Make a mad face. Pause.**

**ASK: Tell about a time you felt jealous, like Joseph's big brothers.**

**What are some things you've done when you felt jealous or angry?**

**What are some loving ways to respond when you feel jealous or angry?**

**SAY: Joseph's brothers didn't have to act mean because they felt angry. They could've chosen to show love to Joseph, even though he was bragging and getting more attention than them. Even when we feel angry, ➡ WE LOVE OTHERS.**



## POINT ➡ WE LOVE OTHERS.

SAY: Even though Joseph and his brothers didn't get along, ➡ **WE LOVE OTHERS**. Let's learn a rhyme about Joseph and his brothers. As you say the following rhyme, lead children in the actions. Say the rhyme several times to allow children the opportunity to learn the actions and pick up some of the words.

SAY:

**Joseph's brothers didn't like the dreams he had.** (*shake your head back and forth as if saying "NO!"*)

**Those dreams made his brothers all feel very mad!** (*stomp your foot*)

**But don't be like them and always feel sad.** (*make a sad face*)

**We must love one another and be very glad!** (*hug a few friends*)

ASK: **What are some bad things that happen when we don't show love?**

**Why is it important to love others?**

SAY: Sometimes when we choose to show love even when we don't feel like it, something interesting happens. We start to feel like it!

Sometimes showing love helps us feel more loving. Then, instead of staying mad, we can be happy! Joseph's brothers had a lot of bad things happen because they chose to stay mad. But when ➡ **WE LOVE OTHERS**, we can be happy.

## POINT ➡ WE LOVE OTHERS.

Have children lie on the floor and pretend to sleep the way Joseph was sleeping when he had his dream. Tell the children that you're going to talk about ways we can treat others with love. If they hear a way someone could show love to another person, they should "wake up" (sit or stand up), but if they hear a way someone isn't showing love, they should continue to "sleep." Alternate the two choices.

- Showing love: **doing chores, helping others, sharing toys, not arguing, using good manners**
- Not showing love: **taking your brother's toy without asking, arguing with friends, not sharing, not putting things back where they belong, being unkind**

ASK: **What are some things I said that are ways others have treated you?**

**Why do you like it better when others show love to you?**

**What does that tell you about loving others?**

SAY: **Joseph's family didn't always do a very good job of showing love to each other. You can learn from them and love your family and friends. ➡ WE LOVE OTHERS because we know it feels good to be treated with love.**

**POINT** ➡ **WE LOVE OTHERS.**

**SAY:** We're learning about a family in the Bible that didn't always show God's love. While we talk about what happened to Joseph and his family, we're going to make pictures to remember that we need to love others.

Give kids each a piece of paper and have them use the *Color Switchers Markers* to each make 12 simple stick-figure people to represent each of the brothers.

**SAY:** Joseph had a colorful striped coat. Decide which person you drew is Joseph. Draw stripes on him using the white end of the marker. Pause.

Joseph's brothers were jealous and angry. Let's see if we can think of ways they could've changed their attitude by doing loving things. For each loving action we think of as a group, use the white end of your marker to color over one of the brothers you drew. Allow time for kids to share loving actions the brothers could've done. For each

one, have all kids color over one brother. See if you can collectively name 11 loving actions so all the brothers' colors will change.

**ASK:** Tell about a time you had a bad attitude. What helped you change it into a good attitude?

What will you do this week to change a bad attitude into a loving one?

**SAY:** You did a great job coming up with ways the brothers could've changed their anger into love. Now your picture looks totally different! And what happened to Joseph and his brothers could've been a lot different if they'd shown love instead of anger. This week, remember that ➡ **WE LOVE OTHERS** when we change anger into love.

**POINT** ➡ **WE LOVE OTHERS.**

Have children form a circle.

**SAY: Let's take a closer look at Joseph's dreams. Joseph dreamed that he and his brothers were working in the field. Suddenly, Joseph's plant stood up straight.**

Have children stand and reach straight up with their arms as high as they can.

**Next, all of the brothers' plants gathered around Joseph's plant and bowed to it.** Place one child in the center of the circle to be Joseph, and have the rest of the kids gather about a foot or two away from Joseph. The outer kids will sway and bow toward Joseph with their arms still up like grain.

**SAY: Joseph's dream showed that one day, he'd be more powerful than his brothers. And that did happen much later. But first, his brothers responded with anger. Joseph, stay in the center of the circle while everyone else will try to tag you with their plant arms up. No one is allowed to move their feet. Joseph, move your body to try to avoid getting tagged.**

Play until everyone has tagged Joseph. Then start from the beginning of the card, switching out Joseph as time allows.

**ASK: What was it like to be Joseph in our game?**

**When you think about Joseph's dream, why do you think it might make some people mad?**

**Tell about a time you acted angry.**

**SAY: If Joseph were telling his dreams today, it might sound like this: "Hi, family. I had a dream that all of you had to do my chores and your chores!" That would make most people mad! Joseph shouldn't have bragged about his dream. But God was showing him that one day, he'd be a very important person! Joseph's brothers were wrong to respond in anger. When you feel like acting in an angry way, remember that ➡ **WE LOVE OTHERS.****