

The Lord Will Be with Us

The purpose of Sunday School is to inspire class members to learn, teach, and live the gospel of Jesus Christ every day.

In Genesis 39, we read that “the Lord was with Joseph” ([verse 2](#)). As we study the examples of Joseph and other prophets, we gain a testimony that when we do the Lord’s will, He sustains and supports us through our temptations and trials.

Prepare

As you study [Genesis 39–41](#), consider asking yourself:

- When have I felt that the Lord was with me? How have these experiences influenced my life? What can I do to seek His influence more often?
- What evidence do I see that the Lord was with Joseph during his trials?
- Who in my class could share an experience about a time when he or she felt the Lord’s sustaining influence?
- How will I inspire class members to learn, teach, and live by the truths they learn from this scripture account?

Encourage personal and family scripture study

Each week you have the opportunity to encourage class members to have meaningful scripture study, individually and with their families. You could do one of the following:

- Invite one or more class members to talk about what they do at home to learn and teach the gospel. As part of this discussion, consider spending a few minutes showing class members some of the resources available on LDS.org, such as the short videos “[I Love My Daily Scripture Study](#)” and “[Pondering and Prayer in Scripture Study](#).”
- Invite class members to share how they have acted on impressions they received during a previous class or during their personal scripture study.
- Ask class members to share insights they have gained as they have studied [Genesis 39–41](#). This activity could take the majority of the time in class.

Teaching in the Savior’s Way

Jesus Christ prepared Himself to teach by spending time alone in prayer and fasting. In daily, private moments, He sought His Heavenly Father’s guidance. How can you make such efforts a part of your preparation to teach?

Learn together and invite to act

Follow the guidance of the Spirit as you select one or more of these activities or create your own based on the scriptures in this outline and the needs of class members.

- **What does it mean for the Lord to be with us?**
Class members could read [Genesis 39:3–6, 21–23; 41:9–16, 25–40](#) and share examples of how “the Lord was with Joseph” (see [Genesis 39:2](#)). You could also ask class members to share other examples in the scriptures in which the Lord promises to be with His servants (for example, see the scriptures in “Additional learning resources” below). Class members could then testify of times when they have felt the Lord with them.
- **How can the Lord help us during times of trial?**
You could divide the class in half, asking one group to search [Genesis 39](#) for trials Joseph faced and blessings he received. The other group could look for the same things in [Genesis 40](#). Invite class members to share what they find. What can we learn from these discoveries? How can we know that the Lord is with us in times of trial? To conclude this discussion, class members could sing a hymn about the Lord being with us, such as “I Need Thee Every Hour” (*Hymns*, no. 98).

Learning and living the gospel every day

Encourage class members to think about what they have learned and felt today. What do they feel impressed to do? For instance, they could:

- Share with their families something from today’s discussion.
- Continue looking for scripture passages that teach them how to receive guidance, comfort, and strength from the Lord.
- Look for evidence in their lives that the Lord is guiding and watching over them, and record their discoveries in their journals.

During the coming week, you could send class members suggestions for home study in preparation for next week’s discussion. Encourage them to consider using one of the ideas listed under “Basic Scripture Study Strategies” or

“Family Study Ideas” as they review these resources.

Additional learning resources

- [Exodus 3:12](#); [Joshua 1:5](#); [Matthew 28:19–20](#); [Doctrine and Covenants 38:7–8](#); [50:44](#); [61:36–37](#); [84:88](#); [122:9](#); [Moses 6:34](#)
- President Thomas S. Monson, “[I Will Not Fail Thee, nor Forsake Thee](#),” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, Nov. 2013, 85–87
- President Dieter F. Uchtdorf, “[You Matter to Him](#),” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, Nov. 2011, 19–22