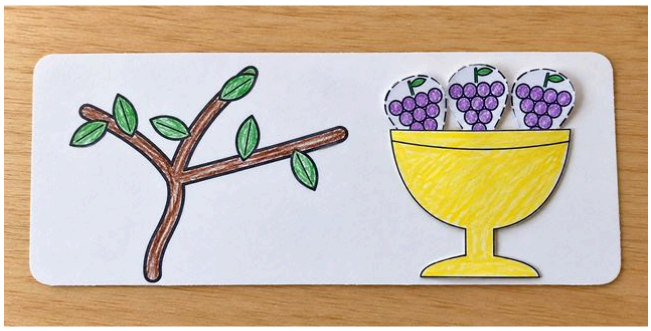
Preschool–Grade 5

Joseph in Prison Craft

Pharaoh's cup was in my hand · Genesis 40 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished





Easy and medium

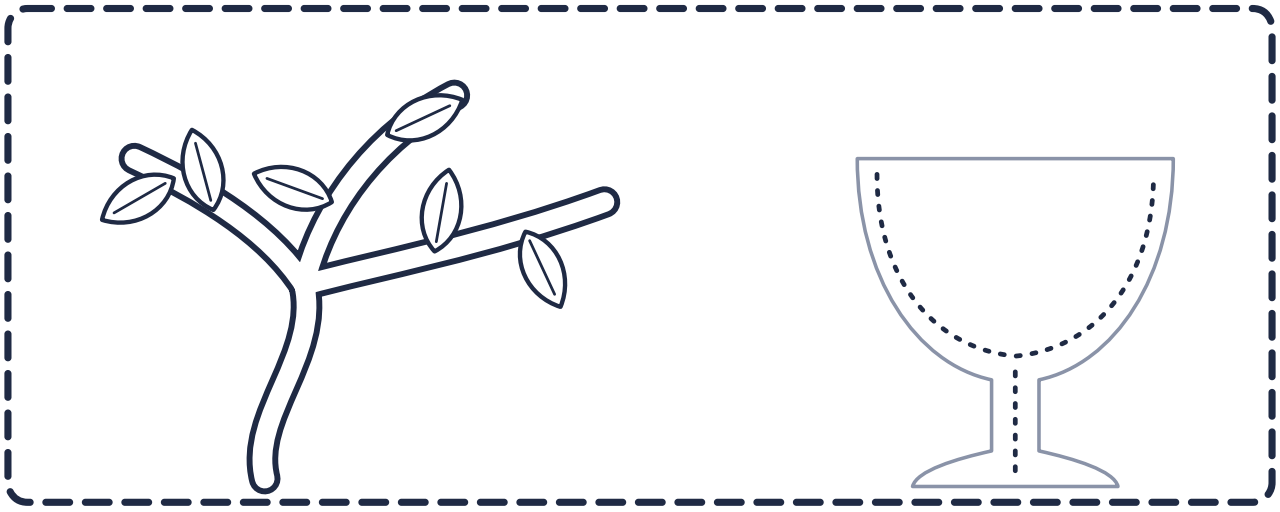
Harder

Both levels are a vine card from the butler's dream: a brown vine with three branches and green leaves, and a yellow cup glued on as a pocket, with three purple grape clusters tucked into it. "I took the grapes, and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup" (Genesis 40:11). Medium (left): the vine, the cup and the grapes. Harder (right): the same, with a green leaf tag on each cluster showing one, two and three suns for the three days.

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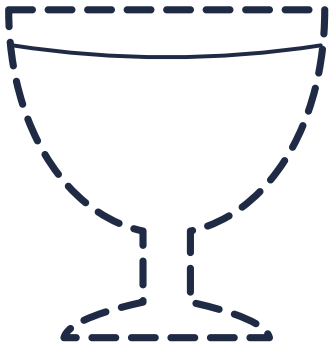
Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines

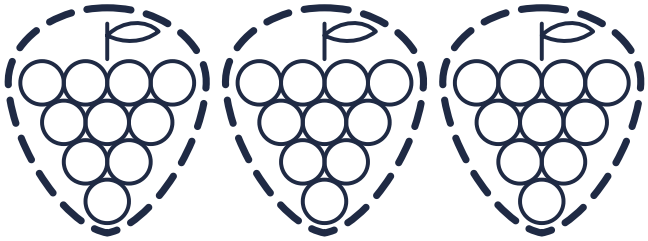


vine card: color the vine brown and the leaves green

glue the cup on the dotted line



cup: color it yellow



grapes: color them purple, stems and leaves green

And they said unto him, We have dreamed a dream, and there is no interpreter of it. And Joseph said unto them, Do not interpretations belong to God? tell me them, I pray you.

Genesis 40:8 (KJV)

verse strip: glue it on the back of the vine card

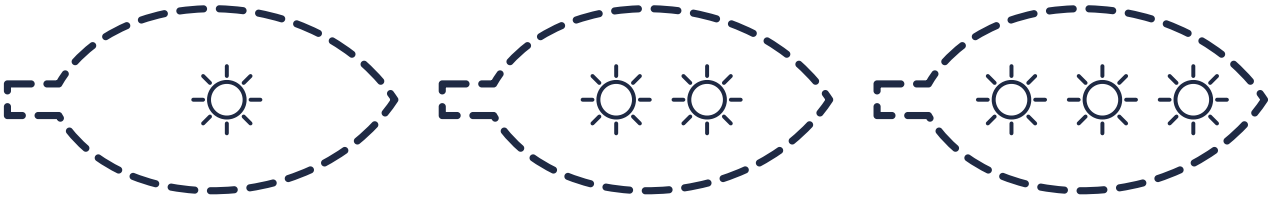
Color the vine brown, the leaves green, the cup yellow and the grapes purple. Cut out all six pieces. Glue the cup on the dotted line only, so the top stays open. Glue the verse strip on the back.

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Name: _____ ✂ Harder level

Three days leaf tags (harder level)

Color them, cut on the dashed lines, and write on the back.



day one | day two | day three

leaves: color them green · suns: color them yellow · glue the stem tab on a grape stem

How to make the leaf tags

1. Make the vine card, the cup and the three grape clusters from page 2 first.
2. Color the three leaf tags green and the suns yellow. Count the suns: one, two, three. Joseph said, "The three branches are three days" (Genesis 40:12).
3. Cut out the leaf tags on the dashed lines.
4. Glue the stem tab of each leaf on the back of a grape cluster's stem, so the leaf sticks up above the grapes: one sun on the first cluster, two on the second, three on the third.
5. On the back of each leaf, write one good thing God helped you do or gave you. Joseph said, "Do not interpretations belong to God?" (40:8): he gave God the credit, and so can you.
6. Tell it: tuck the clusters into the cup one day at a time. On the third day, the butler gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand again (40:20–21).

VBSHQ

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vbshq.com

For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/joseph-in-prison-craft
Time: 15 to 30 minutes, depending on the level · **Ages:** 3 to 11, in three levels · **Cost:** under 50 cents a child for the easy and medium levels
You need: page 2 printed once per child (cardstock is sturdiest), crayons or markers in brown, green, yellow and purple, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child and a pencil.
Before class: for preschoolers, cut out the vine card, the cup, the three grape clusters and the verse strip ahead of time. Glue the cup on the vine card (only on the dotted line, top open) and glue the verse strip on the back.

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out each child's pieces and glue the cup pocket and the verse. Kids color the vine brown, the leaves green, the cup yellow and the grapes purple. Then they tuck the grapes into the cup.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, cut, glue the cup pocket and tell the butler's dream with the grapes. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the vine card like the medium level. Then add the three leaf tags from page 3, with one, two and three suns for the three days, and write on the back of each. This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color:** color the vine and its three branches brown and the leaves green. Color the cup yellow. Color the grapes purple and their stems and little leaves green.
2. **Cut:** cut out the vine card, the cup, the three grape clusters and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
3. **Make the cup pocket:** on the vine card, put glue only on the dotted line inside the cup outline. Press the cup on top so it lines up with the outline. Leave the top of the cup open.
4. **Verse:** turn the vine card over and glue the verse strip on the back. Read it together.
5. **Tell it:** the butler dreamed of a vine with three branches, and it budded, blossomed and brought forth ripe grapes (Genesis 40:9–10). Hold a grape cluster at the end of each branch.
6. **Press the grapes:** "I took the grapes, and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup, and I gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand" (40:11). Tuck each cluster into the cup pocket so the top of the grapes shows above the rim.

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Questions to ask while kids work

- Who were the two men put in prison with Joseph? *(Pharaoh's chief butler and chief baker, Genesis 40:1–3)*
- What did Joseph do for them? *(He served them, 40:4)*
- How did they look in the morning? *(Sad, 40:6)*
- Who did Joseph say the interpretations belong to? *(God, 40:8)*
- Point to the branches. How many branches were on the vine? *(Three, 40:10)*
- Hold up the cup. Whose cup was in the butler's hand? *(Pharaoh's, 40:11)*
- What did the three branches mean? *(Three days, 40:12)*
- What did Joseph ask the butler to do? *(Think on him and make mention of him unto Pharaoh, 40:14)*
- Did the butler remember Joseph? *(No, he forgot him, 40:23)*

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained:** a **butler** served the king's drinks; **wroth** means very angry; **in ward** means under guard; an **interpretation** is what something means; **I pray you** means please; **think on me** means remember me; **forgat** means forgot.
- **What the Bible says:** the vine had three branches with buds, blossoms and ripe grapes, and the butler pressed the grapes into Pharaoh's cup (Genesis 40:9–11). The Bible doesn't say what the cup was made of or what color it was, so the craft's cup is colored yellow. It doesn't say how many grape clusters there were, so the craft gives one cluster for each branch.
- **No one is drawn on the template:** the craft shows only the vine, the cup and the grapes from the butler's dream.
- **The baker:** his dream had bad news (40:18–19). The craft leaves him out; if kids ask, say his dream came true as Joseph said (40:22).
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything and glue the cup pockets ahead of time. Use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Let every child say, "Good things come from God!" as they tuck in the grapes.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Joseph in prison lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/joseph-in-prison.

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