

EGYPT

“Joseph at Potiphar’s House”

Series Objective:

Students will learn:

- Joseph in the Pit
- Joseph at Potiphar’s House
- Moses commits murder
- Moses returns to Egypt

Series Theme Verse: “And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:7

Lesson Objective: For students to understand that even when we do the right thing, we might suffer.

Lesson Passage: Genesis 39

Materials Needed: Bibles, Two rocks per student, white board or butcher paper, markers (probably sharpies)

Lesson Plan:

Talking Points:

- At the end of last week’s lesson, what ended up happening to Joseph? (He was sold to an official of Pharaoh, the king of Egypt)
- Who was the Egyptian official? (Potiphar)
- Did Joseph live with Potiphar’s other slaves? (No, in the house of Potiphar)
- Why? (Because the Lord was with Joseph and he prospered)
- What became Joseph’s role in Potiphar’s house? (Potiphar’s attendant and head of the household, second only to Potiphar)
- Why did Potiphar put Joseph in charge? (Because he saw God was with Joseph and everything he did he prospered at)
- Because Joseph was well-built and handsome, whose attention did he begin to attract? (Potiphar’s wife)
- What did she tell Joseph to do? (Come to bed with her)
- Did Joseph? (No)
- Why not? (He was loyal to Potiphar and to God)
- Did Potiphar’s wife give up trying to get Joseph into bed? (No, she asked him to get in bed day after day after day)
- When did Potiphar’s wife choose to “force” Joseph into bed? (When no one else was in the house)
- What did she do that was different from previous times? (She grabbed his coat and said to come to bed)

- How did Joseph respond? (He tore out of his coat and ran out the door)
- What did Potiphar's wife do when she saw him run away leaving his coat in her hand? (She told a lie and said that he tried to come in and force her to sleep with him, but ran out when she screamed)
- What was Potiphar's response to his wife's story? (He burned with anger and had Joseph put in prison)
- Did God forget Joseph in prison? (No, God remembered Joseph and the warden of the prison put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners and all that was done in the prison. Just like with Potiphar, Joseph was second in command again.)

The Story Retold:

- We all experience temptation, and we are not always successful in running away from our temptations as Joseph was.
- Ask students what some common temptations are for students in their age group.
- Write the temptations on a white board or butcher paper.
- Give each student a rock and a marker.
- Ask them to write the temptation that persists in their life that they need to run away from, remind them that no one will see what is on their rock, but them and God.
- Go as a group outside and one-by-one have students drop their rocks in the flower bed.
- After everyone has dropped their rock in, gather in a group, remind students that when we are tempted with sin, we need to run in the other direction as Joseph did. The rocks are a symbolic way of throwing the temptation away in a way that they cannot pick them back up. Use today as your first step in running away from that temptation.
- Finish out the life and story of Joseph for the students.
 - While in prison, Joseph interprets dreams for two of the Pharaoh's servants.
 - As a result, Pharaoh comes to Joseph and has him interpret his dreams.
 - Pharaoh is so impressed with Joseph that he brings him out of prison and makes him second in command of all Egypt.
 - Joseph helps Egypt survive a great famine and his brothers come to him in Egypt for food.
 - They do not know it is Joseph and when they find out it is Joseph, they are extremely afraid, but Joseph says, "What you meant for harm, God meant for good."
 - As a result of Joseph's forgiveness, his family lives in Egypt and the Hebrew people grow in numbers for years and years to come in Egypt.
 - After Joseph's death, by some estimates, the Hebrew people grow into number in the millions.
 - Joseph was faithful to God, even in the difficult times and God blessed him.

The Story and Me:

- Remind students of the Series Theme Verse.

- Give each of them a rock and have them write *Philippians 4:7* on the rock. Use the rock as a reminder that God gives us peace as we run away from temptation.