

EGYPT

“Joseph and His Dreams”

Series Objective:

Students will learn:

- Joseph and his dreams
- The dreams of the prisoners
- The dreams of the king
- Joseph’s family moves to Egypt

Series Theme Verse: “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11

Lesson Objective: Students will understand that God uses dreams in a significant way to guide Joseph and prepare him to provide for his family.

Lesson Passage: Genesis 37

Materials Needed: Bibles, theme verse on a poster, butcher paper or construction paper for writing Acrostic Poems, Markers

Lesson Plan:

Talking Points:

- What job did Joseph and his brothers do for their dad? (Took care of the animals)
- Joseph was Jacob’s favorite son, what did he give Joseph? (Ornate or colorful robe/tunic)
- Did the special gift make Joseph’s brothers happy? (No, hated him and said only bad things about Joseph)
- Joseph had weird dream one night and told his brothers about it, what was that dream? (Their grain bowed down to Joseph’s grain...That Joseph would be the boss of, or rule over his brothers)
- Did Joseph’s dream make his brothers happy? (No, they hated him even more)
- Joseph had a second dream and told his father and brothers about it, what was that dream? (That planets and the sun and moon bowed down to him...That Joseph would be the boss of, or rule over his dad, mom and brothers)
- How did his dream make his brothers feel? (They were jealous of him)
- How did his father respond to his dream? (He told Joseph not to talk about the dream, but his dad remembered the dream)
- One day, Joseph’s brothers were feeding the sheep a long way from home, and Jacob sent Joseph to check on them and then to come back and tell Jacob how his sons were doing. When Jacob finally found his brothers, what did the brothers plan to do to Joseph? (Kill Joseph)

- Why did they want to kill Joseph? (Because of his dreams and he was their dad's favorite)
- How did they plan to kill him? (Throwing him in a deep hole and making it look like an animal killed him)
- Did they kill Joseph? (No, Reuben convinced them not to. Instead he convinced them to just throw him in the deep hole)
- Why did Reuben not want to kill Joseph? (He wanted to save Joseph because he knew it would make his father happy that Joseph was alive)
- After they stole his robe and threw Joseph in the deep hole, what did the brothers do? (They saw traders and they sold Joseph to the people as a slave)
- What did the brothers do with Joseph's robe? (Dipped it in blood and took it to their father)
- What did Jacob think happened to Joseph when he saw the robe? (He thought Joseph had been eaten by a ferocious animal)
- What ended up happening to Joseph? (He was sold to an official of Pharaoh, the king of Egypt)

The Story Retold:

- The dreams in Joseph's story tells the future that God has in store for Joseph. Joseph's story has dreams and dream interpretation throughout. Dreams become a way that God helps Joseph throughout his life.
- These first two stories are an important part of Joseph's story because it looks forward to the end of Joseph's story and how God will provide for Joseph.
- Other ways we tell a story is through song, novel, and poetry.
- Divide into two groups and have each group write an Acrostic poem that tells the story of Joseph, including one of the dreams we learned today.
- One group's Acrostic Poem should be PLANETS, and the other WHEAT.
- Let the students read their poem to the class.

The Story and Me:

- Have the Series Verse written on poster board or butcher paper.
- Read the verse and explain that as we study the life of Joseph, we will see how God uses dreams to provide for Joseph.
- Just like God provided for Joseph, God has plans for our lives and helps us to grow in God.
- Take turns saying the verse together, or in groups.