EGYPT

"Joseph and The Prisoner's 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 40

Materials Needed: Bibles, theme verse on a poster, "Dreams Revealed" game drawn on a white board and Markers, "Series Theme Verse Fallen Out" for Each Student, pencils

Lesson Plan: Before reading Genesis 40, fill in the gaps for the students in Joseph's story. No need to go into detail, just help them understand that Joseph is now in prison because the wife of Joseph's master while in slavery lied about him and the result was Joseph being thrown in prison.

Talking Points:

- Remind students that last week, Joseph's story centered on the dreams he had and how they pointed to his future. Today, we see that dreams play an important part in Joseph's story while in prison.
- Who did Pharaoh throw in prison with Joseph? (Pharaoh's cupbearer and baker)
- Why? (Because they offended Pharaoh)
- Who did the Captain of the Guard of the prison put in charge of the cupbearer and the baker? (Joseph, because he was second in command of the prison, even as a prisoner)
- While in prison, what did the cupbearer and the baker have on the exact same night? (Dreams)
- How did these dreams affect them? (They were sad/dejected)
- What did Joseph ask when he saw the cupbearer and the baker? (Why are you so sad?)
- Why did they say they were sad? (They both had dreams and no one to interpret/explain their dreams)

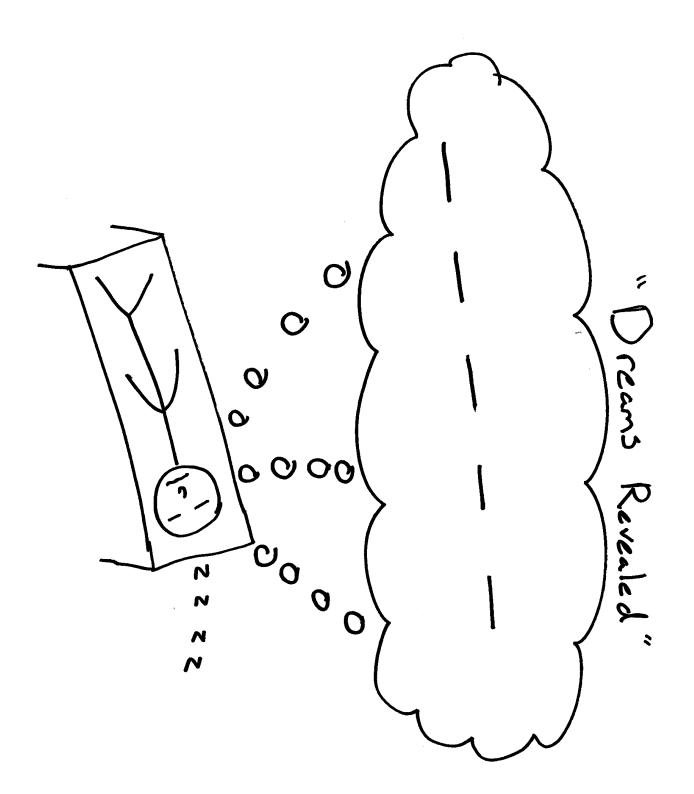
- Joseph told them God would interpret the dreams through him, what was the cupbearer's dream? (there was a vine that grew grapes and the cupbearer squeezed the grapes into Pharaoh's cup and gave the cup to Pharaoh)
- What did Joseph say the dream meant? (In three days, the cupbearer would be out of prison and would be working for Pharaoh again)
- Did Joseph request anything from the cupbearer? (Yes, to remember Joseph when he got out of prison and try to get Pharaoh to let Joseph out)
- What was the baker's dream? (Three baskets of bread for Pharaoh were on his head, but birds were eating out of the baskets)
- What did Joseph say the dream meant? (The baker would be put to death by Pharaoh in three days)
- What happened three days later? (Pharaoh's birthday, cupbearer was restored, baker was hung, just as Joseph said)
- Did the cupbearer remember Joseph and encourage Pharaoh to let him out of prison? (No, he forgot him)

The Story Retold:

- Dreams, again, play a big part in the story of Joseph. The cupbearer and the baker both interacted with Joseph because of their dreams.
- Divide into two teams (or three if you have a big group) and play "Dreams Revealed"
- Use the following words to play "Dreams Revealed": cupbearer, baker, bread, prison, dreams, pharaoh, joseph, grapes, genesis40
- To Play:
 - Put the number of blanks in the "Dream Cloud" that corresponds to the "Dream Cloud."
 - O Have a team select a letter of the alphabet.
 - o If the letter is contained in the word, write it in the blank in the "Dream Cloud." Each correct letter gains a team 200 points. That team also gets a chance to guess the word. If they are correct, their team gets 500 points. If they are wrong, play moves to the next team.
 - If the letter is not contained in the word, their team loses a bubble (each team starts with four bubbles) that leads to the "Dream Cloud." After all their bubbles are gone, their team is out until the next round, but they keep any points they earned.
 - o See the attached diagram for the game design and draw on a white board.

The Story and Me:

- Point the students to the Series Verse written on poster board or butcher paper.
- Say the verse once, together.
- Things look bleak for Joseph, but God has a plan for Joseph's life and has not forgot Joseph. In the same way, God does not forget us and has a plan for our lives.
- Give each student a copy of the Series Theme Verse Fallen Out and let them work on the verse. The letters have "fallen out" of the Series Theme Verse and need to be put back in. The letters directly below a column of boxes go in the column.



Series Theme Verse – Fallen Out

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