

EGYPT

“Joseph and Pharaoh’s Dreams”

Series Objective:

Students will learn:

- Joseph and his dreams
- The dreams of the prisoners
- The dreams of Pharaoh
- 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 41

Materials Needed: Bibles, theme verse on a poster, butcher paper for two groups, crayons or markers

Lesson Plan: Before reading Genesis 41, remind the students of where Joseph was at the end of last week: still in jail because the chief cupbearer did not remember him to Pharaoh.

Talking Points:

- Remind students that the last two weeks, we have seen how dreams have played an important role in the life of Joseph. Today, we see that dreams continue to play an important part in Joseph’s story.
- How many years passed from the chief cupbearer getting out of jail to the night of Pharaoh’s dreams? (Two)
- Who was still in jail that the chief cupbearer forgot about? (Joseph)
- What was Pharaoh’s first dream? (Pharaoh standing by the Nile River, 7 fat cows come out of the river, they graze on the reeds, 7 ugly skinny cows come out of the Nile, they eat the 7 fat cows)
- What happened after the dream? (Pharaoh woke up...wouldn’t you?!)
- When Pharaoh went back to sleep, what happened in his second dream? (7 healthy heads of grain grew on a single stalk, then seven thin and scorched heads of grain sprouted, thin heads of grain swallowed up the healthy heads of grain)
- What happened after the dream? (Pharaoh woke up)
- What did Pharaoh do the next morning? (Tried to get magicians and wise men to interpret his dreams)
- Could they? (No)
- Who told Pharaoh about Joseph in prison? (The chief cupbearer)

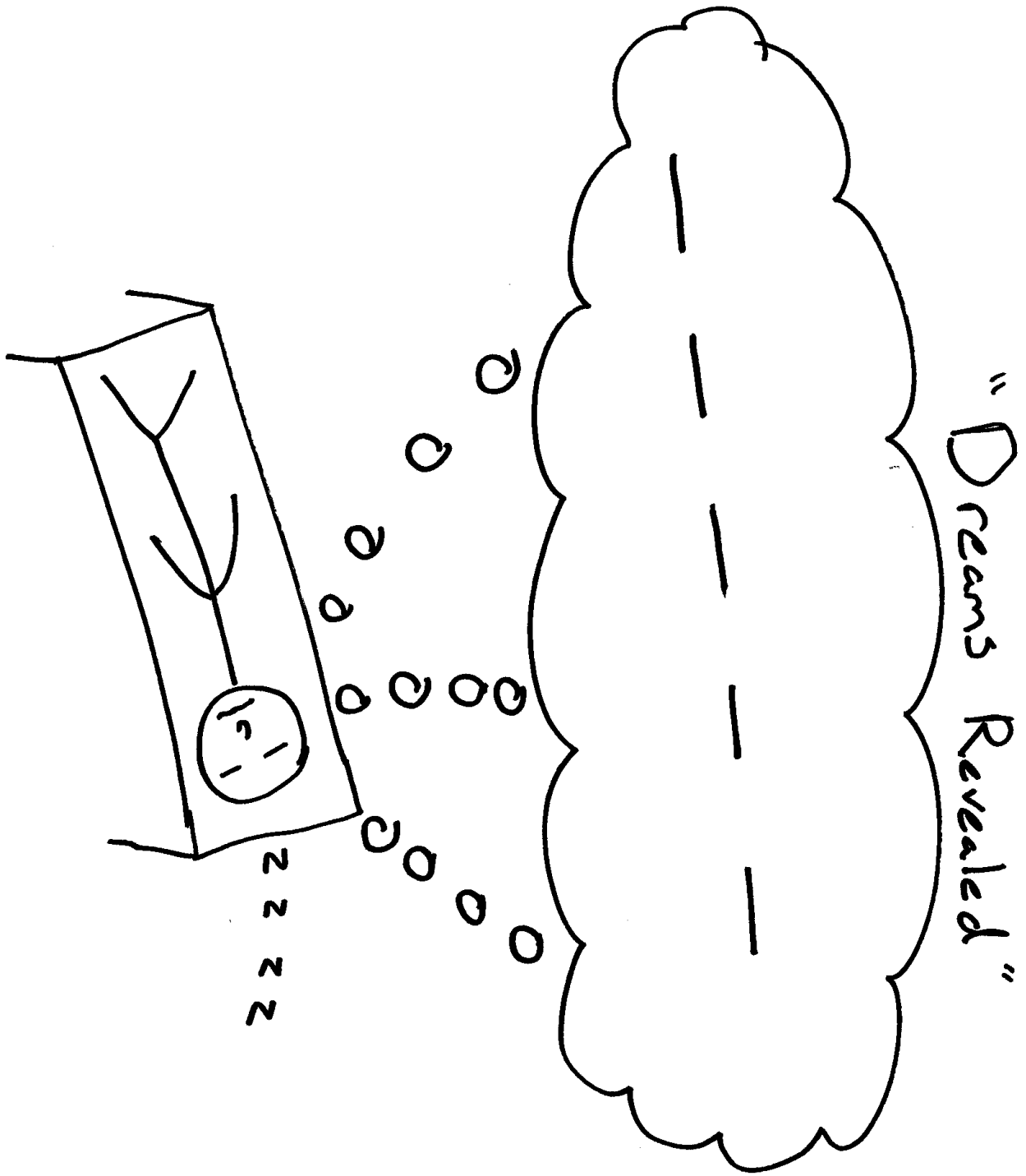
- Pharaoh sent for Joseph, did Joseph say he could interpret Pharaoh's dream? (No, he said only God could)
- What did God tell Joseph the dreams meant? (Both dreams told of Egypt having 7 years of plentiful harvest followed by 7 years of famine)
- What did Joseph recommend to Pharaoh about the coming years of plenty and famine? (Find a wise man to begin storing up food during the years of plenty so Egypt can survive the famine)
- Who did Pharaoh choose to do as Joseph suggested? (Joseph)
- How old was Joseph when he became second in command over Egypt? (30)
- Did Joseph's plan save Egypt from the famine? (Yes, even other countries came to Egypt to buy food during the famine)

The Story Retold:

- Dreams, again, play a big part in the story of Joseph. Pharaoh's dreams set the stage for Joseph to become the second most powerful person in all of Egypt.
- Divide into two groups.
- Give one group the first dream of Pharaoh (Genesis 41:1-4) and give the other group Pharaoh's second dream (Genesis 41:5-7).
- Give each group a big piece of butcher paper and a set of crayons or markers.
- Have each group read the dream assigned to them and then draw a visual representation of the dream on butcher paper.
- After they have finished their drawing, help them to label the elements of the dream as explained by Joseph (fat cows – 7 plentiful years, ugly cows – 7 years of famine, etc.)
- Let them present their drawings to the class, these have potential to be extremely creative and humorous!

The Story and Me:

- Have each group write the theme verse at the top of their butcher paper.
- Ask the students how God uses the dreams of Pharaoh to create a hope and future for Joseph?
- Have each group say the theme verse together as a group.



Series Theme Verse – Fallen Out

