



Mustard Seed Children's Summary for November 4, 2007
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"Joseph Had a Dream"

MEMORY VERSE: "Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more" (Genesis 37:5).

SCRIPTURE LESSON TEXT: Genesis 37:5-11, 19-21, 23, 24a, 28

5 And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more.

6 And he said unto them, Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed:

7 For, behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance to my sheaf.

8 And his brethren said to him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us? or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? And they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words.

9 And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me.

10 And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth?

11 And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying.

.....

19 And they said one to another, Behold, this dreamer cometh.

20 Come now therefore, and let us slay him, and cast him into some pit, and we will say, Some evil beast hath devoured him; and we shall see what will become of his dreams.

21 And Reuben heard it, and he delivered him out of their hands; and said, Let us not kill him.

.....

23 And it came to pass, when Joseph was come unto his brethren, that they stripped Joseph out of his coat, his coat of many colors that was on him;

24 And they took him, and cast him into a pit.

.....

28 Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.

TEACHER'S NOTES ON THE LESSON

Joseph was Jacob's favorite son. His birth to Rachel, whom Jacob loved dearly, was a comfort to Jacob. Perhaps Jacob should not have shown favoritism to Joseph, especially in a family of so many sons, but Joseph was a good son. He could be trusted to do what was right, a characteristic he would keep all his life.

Joseph's brothers hated him. He would report to his father the bad things they did (Gen. 37:2). They had already shown themselves to be impulsive and cruel at times (34:13-31).

Jacob overtly expressed his favoritism for Joseph by giving him a beautiful coat. This made his brothers resent him even more.

Events would unfold in Joseph's life that would cause his brothers to despise him. In their jealousy and hatred for him, they contemplated murdering him, but God guided and protected Joseph. He led an honorable life in another nation, and it all started with a dream.

THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

Teach that God is with us when others want to harm us.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

1. Jealousy will make people do bad things.
2. God will take care of those who suffer for doing what is right.
3. God is in control of all the actions of people.

PLANNING VISUAL AIDS

For Beginning the Lesson, find a picture of Joseph wearing a robe of many colors with his angry brothers.

For Telling the Lesson, find pictures of Joseph in a pit, Joseph being led away in a camel caravan, and Joseph dreaming. Show them at the proper places in the lesson.

For Helping to Remember, have pictures to color of Joseph dreaming about the sun, moon, and stars.

BEGINNING THE LESSON

Has anyone ever been mean to you when you did not do anything to deserve it? Perhaps people call you a Goody Two-shoes just because you would not do something bad to break the rules.

In our lesson, we will learn about a boy named Joseph. He was a good boy. He did not want to do bad things the way his brothers did. He would tell his father about the bad things his brothers were doing. They hated Joseph.

Joseph's father gave him a beautiful robe of many colors. This upset his brothers. (Show picture of Joseph in his robe, standing with his angry brothers.) His brothers hated him because of this fine coat.

Later, Joseph had two strange dreams. He told his family about them, and, if it is possible, his brothers hated him even more. It was clear that God had a special plan for Joseph's life. People would treat Joseph unfairly, but God would take care of him and use his life in a special way.

TELLING THE LESSON

Joseph told his brothers about a dream he had. He said that in his dream, he and his brothers were tying up bundles of grain. His bundle of grain stood up, and his brothers' bundles of grain bowed down to his.

His brothers were very upset about the dream. They asked Joseph whether he thought he was going to rule over them like a king. They hated Joseph even more because of the dream.

Joseph had another dream. (Show the picture of Joseph's dream.) He dreamed that the sun, the moon, and eleven stars bowed down to him. He told his father about the dream. His father also asked whether Joseph believed that one day he would rule over his whole family.

Joseph's brothers were very jealous of him, but his father wondered what the dreams could mean.

One day, sometime later, Jacob sent Joseph to check on his brothers while they were shepherding their family's flocks. When Joseph's brothers saw him, they said to each other, "Here comes that dreamer!"

They decided that they wanted to kill him and throw him into a pit. They would say that a wild animal had eaten him; then his dreams would not come true.

His brother Reuben talked them out of killing Joseph. He said they should throw him alive into a pit. Trapped in the pit, Joseph would not have any food or water, and he would die. Actually, Reuben wanted to secretly rescue him later.

They all agreed, and when Joseph arrived, they pulled off his coat and threw him into a pit. (Show picture of Joseph in the pit.)

Later, as the brothers sat down to eat, they saw in the distance a caravan of camels coming toward them. It was a group of traders on their way to Egypt.

One of the brothers came up with an idea to sell Joseph to the traders. They could get some money, and they would not be blamed for killing him.

They pulled Joseph out of the pit and sold him to the traders, who then took Joseph with them to Egypt. (Show picture of Joseph and the caravan of camels.)

TELLING HOW TO LIVE

Joseph's brothers tried to hurt him because they were jealous of him. Jealousy does not please God, and He hates murder.

God had plans for Joseph's life. His brothers did not know it, but they were a part of God's plans.

We can trust God with our lives because He is in control of all things. When people are mean to us for doing good, God will take care of us.

HELPING TO REMEMBER

Give each child a picture to color of Joseph dreaming about the sun, moon, and eleven stars. Remind them that God had plans for Joseph's life, just as He does for all His people.

EXPLAINING THE MEMORY VERSE

"Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more" (Genesis 37:5).

God showed Joseph that He had special plans for him. He first showed him by giving him dreams. Joseph's brothers were jealous of him. They did not once consider that God was in control of Joseph's life.

Lesson Summarized By:

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Lesson Activity

TRUE OR FALSE:

1. "Now Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it to his brothers; and they hated him even more." **GENESIS 37:5 TRUE OR FALSE**
2. Joseph had no more dreams and his brothers then began to love him. **GENESIS 37:9 TRUE OR FALSE**

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORDS:

3. "Then his brothers went to feed their father's flock in Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, 'Are not your brothers (**FEEDING, EATING**) the flock in Shechem? Come, I will send you to them.' So he said to him, 'Here I am.' " **GENESIS 37:12-13**
4. "Now when they saw him afar off, even before he came near them, they conspired against him to kill him. Then they said to one another, 'Look, this (**SCREAMER, DREAMER**) is coming! Come therefore, let us now kill him and cast him into some (**JAIL PIT**); and we shall say, "Some wild beast has devoured him." We shall see what will become of his dreams!' " **GENESIS 37:18-20**

TRUE OR FALSE:

5. "And Reuben said to them, 'Shed no blood, but cast him into this pit which is in the wilderness, and do not lay a hand on him' - that he might deliver him out of their hands, and bring him back to his father." **GENESIS 37:22 TRUE OR FALSE**

FILL IN THE BLANKS:

6. "Then Midianite traders passed by; so the brothers pulled Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and _____ him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. And they took Joseph to _____." **GENESIS 37:28**

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

S I L V E R J U D A H N P A G
H J T J R T N P I T F H O M Z
Y Q P A G U F S Z L H W E O S
Q N V H S S R O L O C Y N A M
K E E N S E I R V H J S I H M
G B H S H E A V E S A R N L A
O U T T L S T A K L K T A A E
J E O A L T L I B B Z V E Z R
M R L R E O O U L K T B V D D
B E C S S Y V V M E W A T Y L
N P K Y H P E S O J A U O E B
R G C W I T D W S N N M A G E
M G A C K T Y A H I W R H E W
I L S B O W E D C P S K I S G
F Y N N F G M T J I V G W K I

BOWED	ISRAEL	MOON	SHEAVES
BROTHERS	JOSEPH	PIT	SILVER
DREAM	JUDAH	REUBEN	STARS
LOVED	SUN	HATED	ISHMAELITES
COLORS	SELL	MANY	