

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE®

1

CONVERSATION

Joseph Loved His Brothers

GENESIS 37; 42; 43; 45; 46; 50

Jacob had twelve sons, but he loved his son, Joseph, the most. When Joseph's brothers saw how much Jacob loved Joseph, they hated him.

One day Joseph's brothers were away watching their father's flocks when they saw Joseph coming. They immediately began to plot against him. "Let's throw Joseph in a pit," said the oldest brother, Reuben.

When Joseph arrived, they stripped off his colorful robe and threw him into a pit. Later, a trader caravan came by. The brothers sold Joseph to the traders for 20 pieces of silver, and the traders took Joseph to Egypt. The brothers sent Joseph's robe to their father. Jacob recognized it and thought that a wild animal had killed Joseph.

Many years passed, and Joseph was thrown into prison because someone told a lie about him. Later, when Joseph explained the dreams of Pharaoh (the king), Pharaoh made Joseph a ruler in Egypt. He stored up food so the people of Egypt could survive a famine.

During the famine, Jacob learned that there was grain in Egypt. He said to his sons, "Go down there and buy food so that we will live."

Jacob did not allow his youngest son, Benjamin, to go, so 10 of Jacob's sons traveled to Egypt. When they came to the man in charge, they bowed down before him. The brothers did not realize that the man was actually Joseph, their brother! Even though Joseph recognized them, he did not reveal who he was right away. Instead, he sent them home and ordered them to come back with Benjamin.

The next time Jacob's sons returned to Egypt, they brought Benjamin and came before the man in charge once again. This time, when Joseph saw his youngest brother, he could no longer remain calm. He cried and said, "I am Joseph, your brother, the one you sold into Egypt."

When Joseph's brothers heard this news, they were terrified. Joseph comforted them and said, "Don't be worried or angry with yourselves for selling me. It was God who sent me ahead to save lives during this famine. It was God who gave me favor with Pharaoh and all of Egypt." Then Joseph threw his arms around Benjamin, and they wept together. Joseph promised to take care of his brothers and father, Jacob, from that day forward.

WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE: Philippians 2:4

LIFE POINT: Family members can love and care for one another.

TAKE IT FURTHER: Check out the *Joseph Loved His Brothers* section of the Bible Studies for Life: Kids Family App.



THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE

Parents, today your child heard that family members can love and care for one another. When Joseph's brothers came to Egypt to buy food, they did not recognize him. Joseph cared for his brothers and forgave them for what they had done to him.

LIVE IT OUT

Review the Bible story and how Joseph loved and cared for his family. During a family worship time, list ways each person in your family loves and cares for one another. Pray and ask God to help members of your family show love to each other.

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

God's plan is for all family members to work together so that God is honored by their family.

DAILY BIBLE READING

Sunday: Philippians 2:4

Monday: 1 Corinthians 16:14

Tuesday: Psalm 103:17

Wednesday: Ephesians 6:4

Thursday: Proverbs 11:29

Friday: 1 Timothy 5:8

Saturday: Deuteronomy 6:6-7

SUMMER 2020

Unit 2, Session 6

CONNECTION POINT:

We stand strong with God's armor and the support of others.

THE BIBLE MEETS

LIFE: The world is at war and every human being is involved in the conflict. But this is not a war of country against country; it is a spiritual battle. As believers, we often don't think in these terms; however, only by realizing we are in this fight can we stand in Christ against Satan and his wiles. God does not send His children into battle ill-equipped. He provides spiritual armor by which we can engage and triumph over the enemy.

LIVE IT OUT: Your student has been encouraged to take practical steps to take his or her faith and Live It Out.

PRESCHOOL

Scripture: Genesis 37; 42:1-8,25-26; 43:1-2,15-17; 45:1-14; 46:28-34; 50:15-21

Live It Out: Review the Bible story of Joseph showing love to his brothers. Help your child think of someone in your family to whom he can show love. Help make a gift for that person.

Joseph lived in Egypt. When Joseph was younger, his brothers had sold him as a servant. Joseph's brothers had not seen Joseph for many years.

Joseph sold grain to people who needed food. Everyone came to Joseph to buy food. When his brothers came to buy food, Joseph recognized them, but they did not know him.

Joseph sold grain to his brothers. They returned home. Later they came back for more grain. This time Joseph said, "I am your brother, Joseph!"

The brothers were afraid because of what they had done when Joseph was younger. Joseph showed love to them. Joseph told the brothers to bring their families to live in Egypt. All the family, including Joseph's father, moved to Egypt. Joseph cared for his family.

KIDS

Scripture: Genesis 37; 42-43; 45-46; 50

Live It Out: Review the Bible story. During a family worship time list ways each person in your family loves and cares for one another. Thank God for your family's care.

Joseph's brothers were jealous of him. They sold him into slavery and he was taken to Egypt.

God helped Joseph in Egypt. Joseph became an important man. He stored food and later sold it to people who were hungry during a famine.

Joseph's brothers bought food from Joseph, but they didn't recognize him. Joseph knew the men were his brothers. The brothers took the food home. They ran out of food and their father sent them back to Egypt for more food.

This time Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?"

The brothers were surprised! Joseph said, "Don't worry. God sent me to save you. Tell my father I am alive." All of Joseph's family moved to Egypt.

After Joseph's father died, Joseph reminded his brothers that he would take care of them.

STUDENTS

Scripture: Ephesians 6:10-20

- Where do you see spiritual battles raging in the world today?
- What are some practical ways we can prepare for spiritual battle?
- Why is prayer an important tool in spiritual battle?

Live It Out: We are in a spiritual battle, and are continually under attack from the forces of evil. Thankfully, God has provided all we need in order to stand strong. One of the greatest tools He's provided is prayer.

This week, challenge your family to pray at least three times a day for a few specific things. Make a list of the items you want to focus your prayers on and post the list in multiple places throughout your house as reminders.