



# OLD TESTAMENT: JOSEPH

lesson 10

### BIG IDEA

Joseph has dreams of his brothers bowing to him. Joseph's brothers become angry and sell him into slavery.

### MEMORY VERSE

Psalm 8

### KEY VERSES

Genesis 37

### • PREPARATION & MATERIALS •

### BIBLE SKIT

Cast

- TL wearing baseball cap
- Bear wearing bear ears
- EM will provide baseball cap and bear ears

### GAME - SMIRK TO SMILE

- no materials needed

### WORKSHEETS

- Photocopies of Coloring Sheet (1 per child)

### CRAFT - JOSEPH'S COAT

- Paper grocery bags pre-cut, one per child
- Small pieces of colored paper or fabric to decorate Joseph's coat, 20-30 per child
- Glue
- OR, instead of grocery bags decorate Joseph's coat on the coloring page (see template at end of lesson), one per child
- Markers



## Psalm 8

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!



*(extend hands to sides)*

You have set your glory in the heavens.



*(extend hands high)*

Through the praise of children and infants you have



*("stop" hand)*

established a stronghold against your enemies,

To silence the foe and the avenger.



*(index finger over lips)*

*(wiggle fingers both hands)*

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,



The moon and the stars which you have set in place,



*(point to moon and stars)*

What is mankind that you are mindful of them,



*(shrug shoulders)*

Human beings that you care for them?

You have made them a little lower than the angels



*(flat hand at waist)*

And crowned them with glory and honor.



*(make crown with hands)*

You have made them rulers over the works of your

hands;



*(open hands)*

You put everything under their feet:



*(stomp feet)*

All flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild,



*(hands like claws)*

The birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim

the paths of the seas.



*(hands together wiggle like fish)*

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!



*(arms up as if cheering)*



# OLD TESTAMENT: JOSEPH

## BIBLE OBJECT LESSON

Lesson 10

---

### CAST

TL wearing baseball cap

Bear wearing bear ears

---

### THE SKIT

Bear and TL enter stage and greet each other

Bear TL, I'm on pins and needles.

TL (Concerned) What? Are you OK?

Bear Oh, I'm OK. But I have a very bad feeling.

TL A bad feeling about what?

Bear Well, remember in the bible story of Jacob yesterday? Remember how he had that favorite wife?

TL Yes. His favorite wife Rachel.

Bear And remember how he had all those boy babies but only one was his favorite?

TL Yes. Rachel's son Joseph was his favorite.

Bear There's gonna be trouble. I predict it. Trouble with a capital T!

TL Bear, you are very insightful. There is going to be trouble. Lots of trouble.

Bear (Suddenly excited) Excellent! I love a dramatic story. Let's get started.

TL Well Bear, as you pointed out, Jacob loved Joseph more than all his other sons. So, he made a long coat with full sleeves for Joseph. Joseph's brothers were very jealous of Joseph and would not even speak to him in a friendly way.

When Joseph was about 17 years old he helped his brothers take care of his father's sheep and goats. But he brought bad reports to his father about what his brothers were doing. One day Joseph had a dream and he boastfully told his brothers all about it. "We were all in the field tying up sheaves of wheat. My sheaf stood up and yours made a circle around mine and bowed down to it." This made his brothers very angry and they hated him. "Do you think you are going to be a king and rule over us?" they asked. Then Joseph had another dream, which he also pridefully told his brothers. "I saw the sun, the moon, and the eleven stars bowing down to me."

When Jacob heard about the dream he scolded Joseph, saying, "Do you think that your mother and brothers and I are going to bow down to you?" But his father kept thinking about the things Joseph had dreamed.

Bear Pins and needles! Pins and needles! God is going to do something surprising, isn't he? The dreams are from him, right?



# OLD TESTAMENT: JOSEPH

## BIBLE OBJECT LESSON

Lesson 10

TL There are a lot of surprises in this story. Some are bad, some are good, but God is definitely at work behind the scenes. Shall I continue?

Bear Yes please!

TL One day Joseph's brothers had gone to a place named Shechem to take care of their father's flock. Jacob sent Joseph to check on his brothers and animals and then come back and report to him. So Joseph went to Shechem and wandered around the country looking for his brothers. He found out that his brothers had moved on to a place called Dothan. So Joseph headed to Dothan to find them.

When the brothers saw Joseph coming in the distance they remembered the boastful dreams and how much they hated him. "Here comes that dreamer!" said one of the brothers. "Now's our chance – let's kill him!" Reuben, one of the brothers did not want to be guilty of killing Joseph so he suggested, "Let's just put him down that dry well." The brothers agreed to Reuben's plan, but they did not know that Reuben was secretly planning to come back later and rescue Joseph.

Bear The plot thickens! I love it. Reuben is the double agent pretending to be a bad guy but secretly planning to do good.

TL (Laughs) Yah, I suppose you could look at it that way. I'm glad you're enjoying the story because it's about to take another dramatic twist.

At supper time the brothers sat down to eat, but Reuben was not with them because it was his turn to watch the animals. As the 10 brothers were eating they saw a caravan of traders passing nearby. "Let's sell Joseph to those slavers. Then we can be rid of him and make some money, too!" So Joseph was sold to the traders.

Bear Wait a minute! That's can't be right! Are you sure that's in the bible?

TL Yes, that's exactly what happened. The brothers sold Joseph while Reuben was gone.

Bear But...but...Reuben is supposed to sneak in at night and rescue Joseph and they both run back and tell Jacob all about the mean brothers and...well...I think you told the story wrong.

TL Bear, I'm afraid this is the true story. (Hesitantly) Do you want me to continue?

Bear (Half heartedly) OK.

TL Well, later, Reuben returned and discovered that the well was empty. He cried in great sadness, "Joseph is gone! How shall we face our father?" The brothers then concocted a lie to cover up their crime. The brothers tore Joseph's special coat and dipped it in goats blood then they took it to their father Jacob. "We found this in the field," they told him.

"A wild beast has eaten him!" Jacob cried, as he tore his clothes in sorrow. Jacob was so full of grief for Joseph that he could hardly stand to live. At the same time, while Jacob grieved in Canaan, Joseph was taken far away to Egypt where he was sold to Potiphar, the captain of the bodyguard of Pharaoh, the king of Egypt.

God was with Joseph, even far away in Egypt and he gave him a special talent of organizing. And because of God's blessing Joseph was successful at everything he tried to do. Potiphar was so



# OLD TESTAMENT: JOSEPH

## BIBLE OBJECT LESSON

Lesson 10

impressed with his young slave's abilities that after a while he made Joseph manager over his entire household. Joseph was even in charge of much of Potiphar's business.

- Bear Ha! I knew it would all work out. Now he can just explain to Potiphar about his mean brothers and have his revenge!
- TL Hmm, not exactly. Actually, things go very badly again for Joseph. He was young, strong, talented and good-looking and Potiphar's wife began to notice him. In fact, she began to pay a lot of attention to him. Joseph knew that her flirting was not right. He tried to avoid her and having nothing to do with her. But one day she grabbed Joseph and said, "Come with me." Joseph didn't know how to get away so he slipped out of his garment and ran from the house. Potiphar's wife screamed in rage and people came running to see what was wrong. "Joseph attacked me!" she lied and she showed them Joseph's cloak. That evening when Potiphar came home, his wife repeated the lie, using the other servants as witnesses. Potiphar was so angry that he threw Joseph into prison.
- Bear (Put hand over eyes and shake head)
- TL Are you OK Bear?
- Bear What a roller coaster. Seriously! Sure Joseph was a bit boastful, and maybe he was too proud of himself because of his dreams, but did he deserve all this? How is he ever going to get out of this mess? I can't take the tension!
- TL This is probably a good place to stop the story for today. It's a pretty long story and there are a few more twists and turns in the tale. We'll finish it up next time. Just remember, nothing that happened then or happens now is out of God's knowledge or understanding or ability to fix. He has a big plan to turn this family into a great big nation of people.
- Bear I'm sure you're right, TL. But I just can't imagine how it's all going to work out. I guess I'll see you tomorrow!

---

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How did Jacob feel about Joseph?
- What were Joseph's dreams?
- What was Joseph's attitude about his dreams? Was that OK?
- How did his brothers feel about him?
- How was Reuben different?
- How did God bless Joseph while he was in Potiphar's house?
- What does pride mean?
- What does boastfulness mean?
- Have you ever been prideful or boastful?
- How do you feel with others are boastful?
- Instead of boasting about ourselves, who should we boast about or thank?

• CRAFT •

### OBJECTIVE: JOSEPH'S COAT

Kids will decorate a coat to remember Joseph's special coat. There are two options below.

### MATERIALS PROVIDED BY EM

- Scissors, staplers, hole punches

### MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- Paper grocery bags pre-cut, one per child
- Small pieces of colored paper or fabric to decorate Joseph's coat, 20-30 per child
- Glue
- OR, instead of grocery bags decorate Joseph's coat on the coloring page (see template at end of lesson), one per child
- Markers

### DIRECTIONS

For bag craft – Cut arm and neck holes out of grocery bags. Cut up center of bag to the neck hole. Instruct the kids to simply glue colored pieces of paper or fabric on the bag to decorate the coat. Kids can wear the coats when they are dry.

For the paper craft – Kids can glue colored or fabric onto the picture of Joseph's coat and color the rest of his body.

### EXAMPLE

!





# OLD TESTAMENT: JOSEPH

## GAME

Lesson 10

### • GAME •

#### OBJECTIVE: SMIRK TO SMILE

The object of Smirk to Smile is to keep a straight face while telling about a crazy dream

#### MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- none

#### INSTRUCTIONS

Have kids form a circle with one child in the middle. Their goal is to keep frowns on their faces while, one by one, they approach the child in the middle and say, "Listen to this dream I had. I dreamed that..."

The student in the middle must finish the sentence and use only his or her voice to try to draw out the desired smile. If the "target" child smiles, then the two kids trade places. If there is no smile, the child must move on to tell another student about a different dream. The game ends when all have had a chance at both Frowner and Dream-Teller or when time runs out.



## THE COAT OF MANY COLORS



Jacob had twelve sons. He loved Joseph more than the others and he made him a coat of many colors.





OLD TESTAMENT:  
JOSEPH

lesson 10

