

FAMILY WORSHIP
The Joseph Story

Choose portions of Genesis 37, 39, 40, 41, 45 to read aloud (or retell for very young children). Here is a summary of key points you might want to cover.



Genesis 37

Jacob (Israel) gave Joseph a coat of many colors. Joseph's brothers were jealous of him, and they sold him to traders who were going to Egypt.

Genesis 41

Pharaoh had a dream, which was interpreted by Joseph. As a result, Pharaoh gave Joseph a position of great responsibility to ensure that there would be food in the time of famine.

Genesis 45:1-28

Joseph is reunited with his brothers, and he expresses his forgiveness.

Discussion Ideas:

1. Why were Joseph's brothers unhappy with him? What did they do that was wrong?
2. How did the Egyptian, Potiphar, come to realize that the Lord was with Joseph?
3. How do we know that the Lord was with Joseph while he was in prison?
4. How was it that Joseph became a great ruler in Egypt, second only to the pharaoh?
5. Which of Joseph's dreams came true?
6. How did Joseph's family respond to learning that their benefactor was their brother, Joseph?
7. Like Joseph's brothers, we can have feelings of jealousy or anger. How can we handle these in a way that doesn't hurt anyone?
8. Like Joseph, we may endure difficulties through no fault of our own. How can the story of Joseph help us see how the Lord works to bring good from evil and misfortune?
9. What did Joseph do that helped the Lord protect him and make him prosper? (He believed in the Lord and obeyed Him. He also attributed the ability to interpret dreams to the Lord rather than to himself.)