

Glenview New Church Sunday Morning Program
Preschool Lessons, Phase 1 - Lesson 8
Joseph Helps Pharaoh and Egypt (Genesis 41:1-57)

Theme: Joseph as a Hero

I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher

- A. The Word in its inmost sense treats of the Lord Himself. Joseph represents the Lord.
- B. The Lord protected Joseph and prepared Him to become a great man.
- C. Joseph was gentle and upright, and because of this the Lord could be with him and make his hardships stepping-stones to success.

II. Story Circle

A. Introduce the Story

- 1. Remember what we have learned about Joseph? First, he was sold to Egypt as a slave, then put into prison. But he still trusted the Lord.
- 2. When Joseph was in prison he helped two other servants in prison understand the meaning of their dreams. The butler said he'd tell Pharaoh how Joseph had helped him, but he forgot until this story.

B. Tell/Read the Story

- 1. Genesis 41:1-57 (retell)

C. Ideas to Discuss

- 1. Why did Pharaoh let Joseph out of prison? (He wanted Joseph to tell him the meaning of his strange dream.)
- 2. Who told Pharaoh that Joseph could understand the meaning of dreams? (The butler)
- 3. Who told Joseph the meaning of the dreams? (The Lord)
- 4. Pharaoh's first dream was about fat, thin _____? (Cows)
- 5. Pharaoh's second dream was about _____? (Grain growing on a stalk)
- 6. What did these dreams mean? (Egypt would have 7 years of plenty; then 7 years of famine.)
- 7. Pharaoh was so glad that Joseph helped him that he made Joseph be the _____? (Ruler of Egypt)
- 8. How did Joseph help Egypt? (He collected enough grain to feed everyone when the famine came.)

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D. Further Ideas

1. When we follow the Lord, we can see that he makes good things happen out of bad things.
2. Have you ever been really hungry? That's how people feel in a famine.

III. Enrichment Activities

A. Music

1. Lori song "Pharaoh's Dream"

B. Activities

1. Bring in some grains: wheat, rice, and barley. Explore texture and shape.

C. Project

1. Grain stored up: decorate canisters (plastic or tin containers) and fill up with grains (wheat, rye, barley)
2. Picture of Joseph as a ruler in Egypt.
 - a. Draw a picture of Joseph as a ruler in Egypt.
 - b. Give the children grain to glue onto the picture to show how Joseph was able to help the Egyptians prepare for a time of famine.
 - c. Text Slips: You may wish to give the children text slips to glue onto the picture with a quote or brief summary of the lesson.

IV. Teaching Aids

A. Dried Indian corn

B. See the enclosed color illustration by Mir Synnestvedt.

V. Further Reading for the Teacher

