



## ***March Theme***

**We are family!**

## ***Monthly Memory Verse***

“Blessed are the people whose God is the Lord!” [Psalm 144:15b](#)

## ***Monthly Challenge Verse***

“I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

- [Genesis 12:3](#)

## ***March 12 - Life Application***

**God helps parents serve their families. (Genesis 47)**

**Parents:** *This month, we are learning about God's perfect family, and how He protected and cared for them through His Providence. We also see that He blesses us in many ways – through His plan for our families, and by blessing us through parents and grandparents. This week, we learn that **Joseph was a servant leader for his family, making sure they were cared for and safe.** After listening to the sermon, take some time during the week to have great conversations with your kids. Read **pages 114-115** together in *The Action Bible*, and use **Genesis 47** in your Bible for reference.*

- 1. How did Joseph serve his family?** (He went to Pharaoh with 5 of his brothers to let the Pharaoh know they were shepherds and to ask for good land for the family.) **How did Pharaoh respond to this request?** (He told Joseph to give his family the land of Goshen, the best land for shepherds to herd their sheep, to dwell in.)
- 2. Why do you think Pharaoh agreed to do this for Joseph's family?** (Give your family time to talk about what they know about Joseph and the Pharaoh. Joseph had been a good leader among the people in Egypt, and Pharaoh knew and appreciated all that he had done. The family would live in Goshen for the next 400 years.)
- 3. Who else did Joseph bring before Pharaoh? Why?** (Joseph wanted his father, Jacob, to know he had done well in Egypt by introducing him to the Pharaoh.) It must have been wonderful to know all that his favorite son had accomplished and how he had helped others! 130 year-old Jacob blessed Pharaoh – the most powerful man in the world! God blesses us to be a blessing. **How can you bless someone today?**
4. Joseph was a good leader, but the famine continued and all of the Egyptians had run out of money for buying food. So, Joseph came up with a plan. **What was it?** (First, he had the landowners give their livestock in exchange for food, then when they had no more livestock and they were still hungry, Joseph bought their land for the Pharaoh and made them all servants of the Pharaoh. The people were glad to be servants of Pharaoh because Joseph had saved their lives and he provided food for them. Plus, they were only servants for a short time until the debt was paid off.)
5. In doing all of this, Joseph made sure that his family were safe and cared for, that they had food and a home as long as they needed it. They lived well in the land of Goshen and they continued to prosper. At age 147, Jacob died. **What did he**

**ask Joseph to do?** *(He did not want to be buried in Egypt, and he asked Joseph to promise he would take Jacob to be buried where his fathers and forefathers were buried. Jacob promised to do this.)*

### LET'S DIG DEEPER

Joseph was a great example of how a father can be a servant leader for his family:

- He honored his own father.
- He honored his boss (Pharaoh) and worked hard to do well for him. This was a great example for his children and family.
- He forgave his family for hurting him, and helped them in their own faith by letting them know that what they meant for evil, God meant for good.
- He loved his own children and made sure they knew his birth family, and about God's plan for them.
- He made sure his family had what they needed to live in Egypt, including food, good land, and the protection of the Pharaoh.
- Joseph knew that God had a plan for his family and trusted God to always be with him.

### FAMILY CHALLENGE

Have a special snack together and talk about parents and kids. Ask:

- Kids, what do you love about your parents? Parents, what do you love about each of your kids?
- What are the things that are important for parents to teach their kids?
- How can we help our kids to grow into the people God created you to be?

### MAKE A FAMILY MEMORY!

Make a kite and fly it together on a breezy day!

### PRAYER

*Dear God, **Thank You for showing us with Joseph's story how a parent can serve their family.** Thank You for giving us parents to love us and to teach us how to live a life that honors You. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen.*