JOSEPH III

The love Joseph felt led him to love and forgive his brothers.



But Joseph said to [his brothers], "Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today."

Genesis 50:20

STORY AT A GLANCE -

Joseph

- · Proved himself worthy of Pharaoh's trust with God's help.
- Responsible for gathering plenty of food so that Egypt survived the famine. (Gen 41:46-49).
- · Had a choice to be cruel or forgiving when his brothers came for food.
- Waited to reveal his identity until he figured out a way to bring his whole family to Egypt.
- · His tears revealed his regard for his family. (Gen 42:23-24; 43:30-31; 46:29; 50:15-21).

Joseph's Brothers

- · Alienated from Joseph for many years after selling him as a slave to traders.
- Didn't recognize Joseph when they went to Egypt for food.
- Surprised to see Joseph as a powerful person in Egypt.
- The tricky ways Joseph treated his 10 brothers made them feel guilty about their own deceptions (Gen 42:18-25).
- Stayed on the land Pharaoh offered them.



Pharaoh

- · Ruler of Egypt.
- Selling food to his people during the years of famine added to his wealth.
- Honored Joseph by giving his family good land.



Jacob/Israel

- Sent older sons to Egypt for food (Gen 42:1-5).
- · Fearful he would lose youngest son, Benjamin; did not send him to Egypt with other brothers.
- Pharaoh honored Jacob; Jacob was thankful for Pharaoh's generosity.



Supplies:



Holy Moly Holy Moly





DISCOVER

Get Ready

Ask kids about playing games.

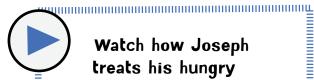
- Do you play card games? Board games? Do you always win?
- What determines if you win? Only luck?
- Does anything in your life feel like playing a card or board game? How?

Introduce the Characters

- Israel (God changed his name from Jacob) lives in a place called Canaan with most of his sons. He thinks his son, Joseph, is dead.
- Joseph is still alive and lives in Egypt. After telling Pharaoh his dream was about a coming famine, Joseph was put in charge of the food supply. He has been saving food for 7 years.
- · There is a famine in both places. Almost everyone is hungry.
- Joseph and his brothers haven't seen each other for many years.



Play the Joseph III Video



Watch how Joseph treats his hungry brothers.

If time permits, watch it again!

(5-10 min.)RELATE

Talk about the Joseph III Video

- What did Joseph do that surprised you?
- Do you think Joseph thought about getting even with his brothers instead of helping them?
- Have you ever thought about getting even with someone? How did you decide if it was a good or not so good idea?
- Who did Joseph want to see?
- I wonder why Joseph decided to be good to his brothers.

(5-10 min.)

CONNEC



Open the Connect Bible

Help kids find and mark Genesis 50:20 on page 73.

• The book of Genesis, from creation to Joseph, tells the beginning story of God's people. They shared joyful and sad feelings with their families, like we do. Time and again God's love allowed joy to follow sadness. How did Joseph's sadness lead to joy? Can you think of other Bible stories where this happens?

Do the Genesis 45 Connect Bible activity on page 66.

- Read verse 2. When have you cried so loudly people could hear you?
- When have you heard someone else cry loudly?
- Who helps us when we start to cry?

IT WAS IN THE CARDS: Kids play a game with picture cards.





Cut out 12 cards and "It's a Winner" panel.



Form teams of 3-6 kids each.
Combine and shuffle their cards.
Deal 5 cards to each kid. Place
all others face (full color) down in
center draw pile. Turn top card face
up. Place "It's a Winner" in front of
each kid.

Holy Moly!

Joseph may have thought he was dealt a bad hand. Then he was able to help others through his challenges.

- What cards do you have? What could they represent in your life?
- What do you need to win the game?
- What did Joseph need to help others?





OR



Choose one: Take 1 card from discard pile,
OR
Take 1 card from draw pile,
OR

Trade (draw from someone else's hand then give them 1 card).

Holy Moly!

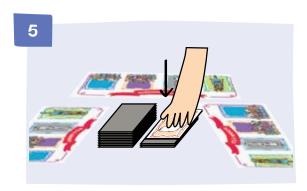
Joseph's brothers tried to discard him from their lives (discard pile). His brothers weren't sure what they would get in Egypt (draw pile). Some Egyptian people even traded their homes for food.

- Is it fair to trade cards in this game? Why? Can we trade or share what we don't need in life?
- Can there be more than one winner in this game? Why?

CONTINUES...



Place matching cards on "It's a Winner" spaces.



Discard 1 card. Next player takes turn. Continue until 1 (or more) players fills all spaces.

ACTIVITY TIPS

Fewer kids?

Play as one group.

Less time?

Remove some nonmatching cards before play starts.

More kids?

Divide the kids into small groups to play.

More time?

Play until everyone wins.

CLOSING PRAYER

God of joy,

We cheer when we win, but know true joy comes when sharing love and forgiveness. We live your dream when we help others have what they need.

Amen!

