

## Lesson 46

# **God Blesses Joseph**

God blessed Joseph in Potiphar's house and in prison.

# Studying God's Word

## Lesson Time

Don't forget! Review the Optional Supplements and determine where you can use them.

Have the students assemble in a circle away from the tables—either on the floor or in their chairs.

Bring your stuffed animal, Bible, Flip Chart, and any items you prepared for this lesson.

## Prayer

This prayer time is designed to help the students begin to understand some simple concepts about prayer and to encourage them to pray.

We start our Bible lesson with prayer. Turn to the Prayer Page in the Flip Chart. Briefly review the different types of prayer presented there.

Today let's say prayers of confession and tell God we're sorry for our sins.

I'll start. Dear God, would you please forgive me for . . . (insert personal prayer here).

Pass a special stuffed animal—prayer bear—around the circle, giving all the students an opportunity to pray, or choose a volunteer to stand beside you and pray.

Very good! Now let's put our stuffed animal away, and we'll answer our Bible Truth questions.

I love you prayers—Adoration  
I'm sorry prayers—Confession  
I'm thankful prayers—Thanksgiving  
Please prayers—Supplication

## Bible Truths

These four questions will be repeated each week to help the students learn foundational truths.

What word means God will always keep his promises? Faithful.  
Can we trust God only sometimes or all the time? All the time.  
What word means God knows and sees everything we do? Omniscient.  
What did Jesus come to save us from? The punishment of sin.

## Bible Pass Around

Before Bible Pass Around, place a sticky note in your Bible to mark the first passage to be read.

We are going to start out today by looking into God's Word, the Bible. Hold up Bible. God's Word is true, and we can trust what it says. But where should we look? One of you will help me with that. We're going to play Bible Pass Around. Whoever ends up with the Bible must hold it very carefully until it is time to look in it. When it is time to read, you can bring it to me, and we'll open it to see what we are going to talk about today! Here's what we're going to do. I want everyone to count with me up to the number choose a number. (You may also choose to recite the books of the Bible, sing one of the lesson songs, or recite the memory verse as you do this activity.) We'll start right here. Hand the Bible to the first student. As we say each number (or word), you must carefully pass the Bible to the person beside you. Remember, we don't want to drop it or tear it. Then when we get to the last number (or word), whoever has the Bible will hold on to it until we are ready for it in our lesson. Are you ready? Let's begin. Begin the lesson when finished with Bible Pass Around.

K-1st Lesson continues next.

### **Pre-K Lesson**

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Don't forget! Review the Optional Supplements and determine where you can use them.

### **Review**

Refer to the Genesis . We've been talking about Jacob and his family. How many sons did he have? 12.

Refer to Lesson 45 Flip Chart. In the last lesson, we talked about Jacob's favorite son. What was his name? Joseph.

What did Joseph's father give him that made his brothers jealous? A coat of many colors.

Then Joseph had two dreams about his family. These dreams meant that Joseph's family would one day bow down to him, and Joseph would rule over them.

This made Joseph's brothers even more angry and jealous. They decided to get rid of Joseph and threw him into a deep pit. Then they sold him to some traders who took Joseph to Egypt. There Joseph was sold as a slave to a man named Potiphar.

### **Joseph in Potiphar's House**

Today we're going to talk about Joseph's life in Egypt. It would be hard to move to a new country where everything was different. Joseph would have to get

used to eating new kinds of food, wearing different clothes, speaking a new language, and living in a different house with other people instead of his family.

Show face card #1, "Happy" face. What kind of face is this? Happy.

Right. Joseph didn't sit around feeling sorry for himself. God was with him, and Joseph was happy to do his best at his new job, serving Potiphar.

Can you show me what you look like when you're happy? Have students make happy faces.

Reread the verses as necessary so the students can hear the answers straight from God's Word!

Let's read about Joseph's new job. Who has the Bible? Please bring it up. Have the student bring the Bible and open it to the sticky note.

Genesis 39:4

Joseph worked hard, and God blessed him. Listen to this. Read Genesis 39:4.

Show the Lesson Flip Chart (PDF). Potiphar liked Joseph and gave him a special job. What was it? He made him what? Overseer of his house. What's an overseer? Allow guesses.

An overseer is like a boss over other people. He makes sure everyone does their job right.

Show face card #2, "Trusting" face. Potiphar trusted Joseph and didn't have to worry about anything. He put Joseph in charge of all his servants to make sure that all the work was done right. God watched over Joseph and helped him do his job really well. But things were about to change.

Show face card #3, "In Love" face. The Bible says that Joseph was handsome, and Potiphar's wife thought she was in love with Joseph. She kept trying to get Joseph alone with her—day after day!

Show face card #4, the "Uh oh!" face. One day when everyone else was out of the house, she grabbed on to Joseph's clothes and tried to make him stay with her. Joseph told Potiphar's wife "no." He would not stay with her, and he ran away. Joseph knew he just had to get out of there—fast!

Uh oh! What does your "uh oh" face look like? Allow students to make shocked/surprised faces.

As you teach, refer often to the Lesson Flip Chart (PDF) to keep the children engaged.

Refer to the Flip Chart. Potiphar's wife was really mad at Joseph because he ran away from her. She was so angry that when Potiphar came home, she lied and said Joseph tried to hurt her.

How do you think that made Potiphar feel? Allow guesses.

Show face card #5, the "Angry" face. Potiphar was furious about the whole thing.

## Joseph in Prison

Genesis 39:20

Let's read Genesis 39:20 to find out what Potiphar did. Read the verse.

So, what did Potiphar do to punish Joseph? Put him in prison.

Show face card #6, the "Sad" face. Joseph was thrown into prison—even though he did the RIGHT thing! This must have been a really sad time for Joseph.

What do you look like when you're sad? Have students make sad faces.

But God caused the jailer to be kind to Joseph. And he put Joseph in charge of the prison! Wow! God was still with Joseph, even in prison.

One day, Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, got angry with two of his servants: the chief baker, who baked his bread, and the chief cupbearer, who poured and served his drinks. Pharaoh threw these men into the prison where Joseph was in charge.

Refer to the Flip Chart. One day, Joseph noticed they were very sad. They said that they both had strange dreams that they didn't understand. Joseph knew God could help him explain what their dreams meant.

The cupbearer told Joseph that he dreamed about a grape vine. He picked the grapes and squeezed the juice into Pharaoh's cup and gave it to Pharaoh. Joseph said that his dream meant that Pharaoh would forgive the cupbearer and give him back his job serving drinks. Joseph asked the cupbearer to remember him and help him get out of prison, too.

Show #1, the "Happy" face again. Things sounded pretty good for the cupbearer, didn't they? He was probably very happy. Will you show me your happy faces again? Have students make happy faces.

Refer to the Flip Chart. The baker also shared his dream with Joseph. He dreamed that he had three baskets, and the one on top had all kinds of yummy baked things for Pharaoh. But the birds came and ate them all! Joseph explained that this dream meant Pharaoh was still angry with the baker!

Show #7, the "Oh no!" face. Oh no! The baker must have been very afraid of what would happen to him. Can you make a scared face like this picture? Have students make scared faces.

Sure enough, three days later, the cupbearer got his job back, serving Pharaoh his drinks. But Pharaoh was still angry with the baker and ordered him to be killed. Everything happened just like Joseph said it would. But guess what? The cupbearer forgot about Joseph and didn't help him—so Joseph was left in prison.

Show #2, the “Trusting” face again. Poor Joseph! He didn’t understand why all these things were happening to him. But Joseph trusted God. He was with Joseph through all that happened—the good things and the bad things. God had a plan for Joseph’s life, and he was in control of everything. We’ll learn more about God’s plan for Joseph in our next lesson.

Continue with the Lesson Review Game below.

## **K-1st Lesson**

Don’t forget! Review the Optional Supplements and determine where you can use them.

## **Review**

Refer to the Genesis . We’ve been talking about Jacob and his family. How many sons did he have? 12.

Refer to Lesson 45 Flip Chart. In the last lesson, we talked about Jacob’s favorite son. What was his name? Joseph.

What did Joseph's father give him that made his brothers jealous? A coat of many colors.

Then Joseph had two dreams about his family. In one dream, his brothers’ sheaves of grain bowed to his sheaf. In the other dream, the sun, moon, and stars bowed to him.

What did his father and brothers think these dreams meant? They would one day bow down to him. Joseph would rule over them.

These dreams made his brothers even more angry and jealous. They finally decided to get rid of Joseph and threw him into a deep pit. They wanted to kill him but decided to sell him to some traders who bought Joseph and took him to Egypt as a slave. Joseph was sold to a man named Potiphar. Suddenly, Joseph went from being a favorite son to being a slave in a land far from home.

## **Joseph in Potiphar’s House**

Today we’re going to talk about Joseph’s life in Egypt. Imagine what it would be like to move to a new country where everything was different. Joseph would have to get used to eating new kinds of food, wearing different clothes, speaking a new language, and living in a different house with other people instead of his family.

Show face card #1, “Happy” face. What kind of face is this? Happy. Can you show me what you look like when you’re happy? Have students make happy faces.

It would be hard for Joseph. But he didn’t sit around and mope, feeling sorry for himself. No. Joseph was happy to do his best at his new job,

serving Potiphar. And God was with him.

Reread the verses as necessary so the students can hear the answers straight from God's Word!

Let's read about Joseph's new job. Who has the Bible? Please bring it up. Have the student bring the Bible and open it to the sticky note.

Genesis 39:4

Joseph worked hard, and God blessed him. Listen to this. Read Genesis 39:4.

Show the Lesson Flip Chart (PDF). Potiphar liked Joseph and gave him a special job. What was it? He made him what? Overseer of his house. What's an overseer? Allow guesses.

An overseer is like a boss over other people. He makes sure everyone does their job right.

Show face card #2, "Trusting" face. Potiphar trusted Joseph and didn't have to worry about anything. He put Joseph in charge of all his servants to make sure that all the work in the house and in the fields was done right. That was a big responsibility! Even though Joseph was a slave in Egypt, God watched over him. He blessed Joseph and helped him do his job really well. But things were about to change.

Show face card #3, "In Love" face. The Bible says that Joseph was handsome, and Potiphar's wife noticed this. She thought she was in love with Joseph. She kept trying to get Joseph alone with her—day after day! But Joseph knew she was married, so he knew it wasn't right for him to be with her.

Show face card #4, the "Uh oh!" face. One day when everyone else was out of the house, she grabbed on to Joseph's clothes and tried to make him stay with her. Uh oh!

What does your "Uh oh" face look like? Allow students to make shocked/surprised faces.

Joseph told Potiphar's wife "no." He would not stay with her, and he ran away. Joseph knew he just had to get out of there—fast!

As you teach, refer often to the Lesson Flip Chart (PDF) to keep the children engaged.

Refer to the Flip Chart. This made Potiphar's wife really mad. She was so angry that when Potiphar came home, she lied and said Joseph tried to hurt her.

How do you think that made Potiphar feel? Allow guesses.

Show face card #5, the "Angry" face. Potiphar was furious about the whole thing.

## Joseph in Prison

Genesis 39:20

Let's read Genesis 39:20 to find out what Potiphar did. Read the verse.

So, what did Potiphar do to punish Joseph? Put him in prison. Show face card #6, the "Sad" face. This must have been a really sad time for Joseph. What do you look like when you're sad? Have students make sad faces.

Joseph was thrown into prison—even though he did the RIGHT thing! But God still had a plan for Joseph.

Genesis 39:21

Listen to what God did for Joseph while he was in prison. Read Genesis 39:21.

Who was with Joseph in prison? The Lord. God gave Joseph favor with someone. Who was it? The keeper of the prison.

God caused the keeper of the prison, or the jailer, to be kind to Joseph. And the jailer put Joseph in charge of the prison! Wow! Remember how God helped Joseph when he worked for Potiphar? Well, now God blessed Joseph again, working for the jailer in the prison.

One day, Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, got angry with two of his servants: the chief baker, who baked his bread, and the chief cupbearer, who poured and served his drinks. Pharaoh threw these men into the prison where Joseph was in charge.

Refer to the Flip Chart. When Joseph checked on them, he noticed they looked really sad. They told Joseph that they both had strange dreams but didn't know what the dreams meant. Joseph asked to hear their dreams because he knew God could help him explain their meanings.

The cupbearer said he dreamed about a grape vine. He picked the grapes and squeezed the juice into Pharaoh's cup and gave it to Pharaoh. God helped Joseph understand that his dream meant Pharaoh would forgive the cupbearer and give him back his job serving drinks.

Show #1, the "Happy" face again. Things sounded pretty good for the cupbearer, didn't they? He was probably very happy. Will you show me your happy faces again? Have students make happy faces.

Joseph knew the cupbearer would be leaving the prison to go back to his job, so he asked the cupbearer to remember him and help him get out of prison, too.

Refer to the Flip Chart. The baker also shared his dream with Joseph. He dreamed that he had three baskets, and the one on top had all kinds of yummy baked things for Pharaoh. But the birds came and ate them all! Joseph understood that this dream meant that in three days, Pharaoh would still be angry with the baker!



Show #7, the “Oh no!” face. Oh no! I’m sure that wasn’t what the baker wanted to hear. He must have been very afraid of what would happen to him. Can you make a scared face like this picture? Have students make a scared face.

Sure enough, three days later, the cupbearer got his job back, serving Pharaoh his drinks. But Pharaoh was still angry with the baker and ordered him to be killed. Everything happened just like Joseph said it would. But guess what? The cupbearer forgot about Joseph—so Joseph was left in prison.

Poor Joseph! He didn’t understand why all these things were happening to him. But how do you think Joseph handled it? Did he get mad at God? Did he say, “I’m going to escape on my own”? Or did he trust God? Allow discussion.

Show #2, the “Trusting” face again. Joseph trusted God through all of it, even though he didn’t know what God was doing. God was with Joseph through all that happened—the good things and the bad things. God had a plan for Joseph’s life, and he was in control of everything. We’ll learn more about God’s plan for Joseph in our next lesson.

Continue with the Lesson Review Game.

## **Lesson Review**

We all learn best with review and repetition! We encourage you to review the lesson with a lesson review game.

## **Basket Toss**

Students give the correct answer and toss the beanbags to see how many points they can collect for their team. Each basket has greater points.

### **Materials**

Review Questions  
Two beanbags  
Three laundry baskets or boxes  
Masking tape

### **Instructions**

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Use masking tape to make a tossing line. Bring in three laundry baskets or boxes. Set the baskets in a line, making each one a little farther away from the tossing line. Label the baskets with 5, 10, and 25 points so the farther away it is the higher the score.

Divide the class into two or more teams depending on size. Have the teams line up at the tossing line. Take turns asking the first students in line from each team a review question. When a student answers correctly, he will have a

chance to toss a beanbag into a basket then go to the end of the line. If the beanbag misses, there are no points scored. If someone does not answer correctly, he may ask his teammates for help. Keep track of the scores for each team on the board. Continue until all the questions have been answered. Repeat questions if necessary.

## **Board Game**

Teams will answer questions and make their way to the finish on the Game Board.

### **Materials**

- Review Questions
- Game Board (provided in the Teacher Kit)
- Dice, numbered cards, or spinner
- Buttons or other small items as game pieces for each team

### **Instructions**

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Divide the class into teams.

Team members will take turns answering the review questions. If they answer correctly, they will roll the dice, spin, or draw a numbered card and move that number of spaces on the Game Board. Follow the directions on the spaces to move ahead, fall back, or switch places with another team. If someone does not know or does not answer correctly, he may ask his teammates for help. Alternate between teams as long as time permits, repeating questions if necessary. The first team to make it all the way to the Finish wins.

## **Bible Baseball**

Students will answer questions and run the bases!

### **Materials**

- Review Questions
- Three chairs set out for bases
- Optional: gift wrap tube and a large balloon

### **Instructions**

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Set out chairs as bases. Have the students line up by the home base area facing you (at the pitcher's mound). Each student up to "bat" will have a chance to answer a review question. If he can answer it correctly, let him run the bases. If he can't answer correctly, give the answer and ask him to go to the end of the line and try again.

You may want the students to sit on the chair at each base while they wait to run to the next base or have them run all the way around and return to the line. Repeat the questions until all the students have run around the bases.

For some added fun, you can use a gift wrap tube as a bat and toss a large balloon for students to hit after they answer each question.

## **Bowling**

What do you do with extra water bottles and softballs? Go bowling, of course. Students will answer questions then bowl for points.

### **Materials**

- Review Questions
- Six to ten empty water bottles
- Softball or other small playground ball
- Masking tape
- Optional: dried corn or beans

### **Instructions**

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. If available, pour a small amount of dried corn or beans into the bottom of each water bottle (to add weight) and tighten the lid. Set out the bottles on one end of the room. Use masking tape to form a "lane" from the bottles to where the students will line up across the room.

Divide students into teams. Have students line up. Ask the first student a review question. If he answers correctly, let him roll the ball down the lane toward the bottles. Each bottle that is knocked down is worth 1 point. A strike (knocking down all the bottles) is worth 20 points. Take turns asking questions of each team. If a student gives an incorrect answer or does not know the answer, he can ask his teammates for help. Keep track of scores.

## **Goofy Golf**

Hit the sock with the noodle? Teams must work together to answer the questions and putt to get a hole-in-one in this crazy golf game!

### **Materials**

- Review Questions
- Swimming noodles or rolled up newspapers
- Rolled up socks
- Masking tape
- Ten sheets of paper
- Markers

### **Instructions**

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Use the markers to number sheets of paper 1–10 (use more or less depending on class size and time). Tape down the sheets of paper around the room in a random pattern to form a golf course. You may want to add chairs as obstacles in the path.

Divide the class into teams. Give each team a rolled up sock and a swimming noodle. Ask the first student a review question from the lesson. If he answers correctly, allow him to use the noodle to drive the rolled up sock toward the first sheet of paper labeled #1. Continue with the next team. Take turns allowing team members to answer questions and continue putting the socks along the course to each hole, continuing from where the last teammate left off. The sock must touch or roll over the sheet of paper to consider it in the hole. The first team to reach the tenth hole wins.

## **Toss for It**

How many points? Toss for it! Students answer the questions and toss the beanbag to earn points for their team.

### **Materials**

Review Questions

A deck of numbered cards, or numbers and “wild” written on index cards

One beanbag

Masking tape

Two baskets or containers for cards

### **Instructions**

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Place several rows of numbered cards facedown with a few inches between them to form a grid pattern (make sure to put several wild cards or Jokers down, too). Use the masking tape to make a tossing line several feet from the cards.

Divide students into teams and have them line up behind the tossing line. Ask the first student a review question. If he gives the correct answer, have him toss the beanbag onto a card. Turn the card over to reveal the points he receives for his team. Face cards or word cards are 10 points each. Wild or Jokers are also 10—plus another turn. All other cards are face value.

Have the student pick up his card and put it in the team’s basket to be counted at the end of the game. Next team’s turn. If a student gives an incorrect answer, he should go to the end of the line. Give the answer and repeat that question later. Continue taking turns until all the questions have been answered. Add more cards to the grid if necessary.

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