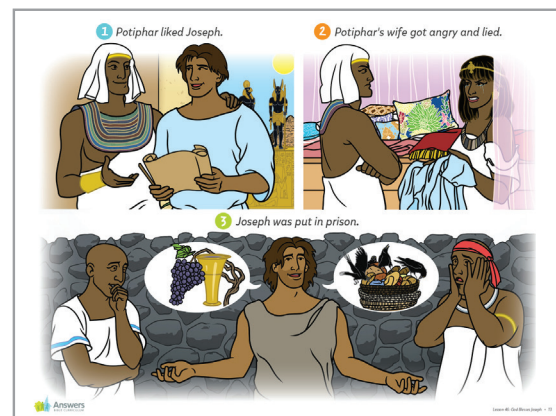


# Lesson 46

## God Blesses Joseph

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



### K-I<sup>st</sup> Lesson

#### Review

- Refer to the Genesis Timeline. 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.

- 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. 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!

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.



1 Potiphar liked Joseph.



2 Potiphar's wife got angry and lied.



3 Joseph was put in prison.

