FROM THE PIT TO THE PALACE

JOSEPH.



PRAY BEFORE YOU DO YOUR LESSON

- 1. Pray God would help you understand His Word.
- 2. Pray God would do heart transformation as you read His Word.
- 3. Pray that you would love God more.
- 4. Pray that God helps you apply His Word to your life.
- 5. Pray that God helps you desire to study His Word & spend time with Him daily.
- 6. Pray that the lesson would be heart work and not homework.

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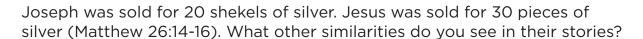
1/15/25	Introduction	Welcome to Women's	
1/22/25	Lesson 1	Joseph's Dreams	Genesis 37
1/29/25	Lesson 2	Judah & Tamar	Genesis 38
2/5/25	Lesson 3	Joseph in Potiphar's Household	Genesis 39
2/12/25	Lesson 4	Joseph in Prison	Genesis 40
2/19/25		Mid Winter Break	
2/26/25	Lesson 5	Joseph Interprets Pharaoh's Dreams	Genesis 41
3/5/25	Lesson 6	Joseph's Brothers go to Egypt	Genesis 42
3/12/25	Lesson 7	Joseph's Brothers return to Egypt	Genesis 43
3/19/25	Lesson 8	Joseph's Silver Cup	Genesis 44
3/26/25	Lesson 9	Joseph Makes Himself Known	Genesis 45
4/2/25	Lesson 10	Jacob Goes to Egypt	Genesis 46:1-47:12
4/9/25	Lesson 11	Joseph & the Famine	Genesis 47:13-31
4/16/25		Spring Break	
4/23/25		Spring Break	
4/30/25	Lesson 12	Jacob Blesses His Sons	Genesis 48 & 49
5/7/25	Lesson 13	The Deaths of Jacob & Joseph	Genesis 49:29-50:26
5/14/25		End of Season Celebration	



1.	Background: How many sons did Jacob/Israel have? What are their names and the names of their mothers? (See Genesis 29:14-30:24 and 35:16-18)
2.	What special gift did Jacob/Israel make for his son Joseph and how did Joseph's brothers react to it? Have you ever shown or been shown this kind of favoritism in your family? What were the results?
3.	Joseph had two dreams. Describe the dreams in your own words. Why do you think God gave him these dreams? Who else in the Scriptures had God-given dreams? How does God speak to us today?
4.	Do you think that Joseph was wise or foolish to tell his brothers and father about these dreams? Why? (There are differing opinions on this.)

5.	In verse 12 Jacob sent Joseph to check on his brothers near Shechem. What do you think Jacob was concerned about? (Read Genesis 34)
6.	In what way did Joseph literally "go the extra mile?" How have you gone the "extra mile" for someone? What does Jesus say about going the extra mile?
7.	What happened when Joseph's brothers saw him coming? How did Reuben step in? As the eldest brother, do you think he did enough to try to rescue his younger brother? Why or why not? (Vs. 21-22 & vs. 29-30)
8.	What was Judah's part in the plan? (Vs. 26-27) How did the brothers' casual attitude of vs. 25 add to their cruelty? What was Joseph doing while they were eating? (Genesis 42:21)





How did the brothers explain to their father that Joseph was gone? In what ways did their deceit remind you of what Rebekah and Jacob did to Isaac? (Genesis 27).

Memory Verse - Hebrews 1:1-2

"Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world."





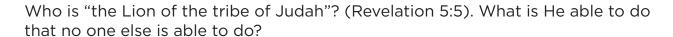


1.	Why do you think this story is inserted in the middle of Joseph's story? What makes the story of Judah so significant? (See Genesis 49:9-10 & Matthew 1)
2.	Judah had three sons. What happened to his first two sons? Why did Judah send Tamar away to live as a widow in her father's household?
3.	What did Tamar decide to do when she saw that Shelah was grown up and had not been given to her as a husband? What did you think of her plan? What kind of risk was she taking and why do you think she took this kind of risk?
4.	Tamar asked for a pledge. What is the significance of Judah's seal and its cord and his staff? (You may want to use a study Bible or commentary for help.)



5.	What did Judah do when he found out that his daughter-in-law, Tamar, was pregnant? And what message did Tamar send back to her father-in-law?
6.	Have you ever judged someone without knowing all the facts or the motives behind their actions? What does the Lord Jesus say about judging others? (Matthew 7:1-5)
7.	How did Judah humble himself and take responsibility for his actions? Have you ever had to humble yourself in this way? What were the results?
8.	Tamar gave birth to twin boys. Which of her sons went on to be part of the genealogy of Jesus Christ (Matthew 1)? Do you remember another set of twins in Genesis? Which of those twins is included in Christ's lineage?





What does it mean to you to be part of the household of faith, a child of God by faith in Jesus Christ? How would you explain it to an unbeliever?

Memory Verse - Matthew 1:1-3

"The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar."

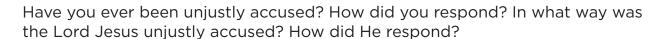




1.	Imagine being 17 years old, taken captive and brought to a foreign country where you do not speak the language or know the customs. What do you think Joseph was feeling and thinking? Have you ever been in a desperate situation like this?
2.	How many times do you read that the LORD was with Joseph in this chapter's How was this evident to everyone in Potiphar's household? In what way is your relationship with the LORD evident to others?
3.	How did Potiphar benefit from the blessing of the LORD upon Joseph?
4.	Potiphar's wife tried to seduce Joseph. Why did Joseph refuse her? What did he say to her? What do you say when "sin" comes knocking on your door?

LESSON 3 JOSEPH IN POTIPHAR'S HOUSEHOLD

5.	How did Potiphar's wife finally "get even" with Joseph for his refusal to sleep with her? What did she tell her husband? Do you think that Potiphar believed his wife's story? Why or why not?
6.	Potiphar was "captain of the guard" (37:36). What kind of position would that be? (You may need to use a study Bible for help.)
7.	When Joseph was put in prison, what did the LORD do for him? What has the LORD done for you when you have been in a difficult place?
8.	How did the warden of the prison also benefit from the blessing of the LORD upon Joseph? How have you benefited from others who were blessed by the LORD?



How does this lesson challenge or comfort you? How will you change your thinking or actions this week in order to be a blessing to others?

Memory Verse - Isaiah 53:7

"He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; Like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth."



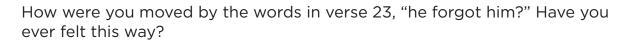




1.	What kind of responsibilities was Joseph given while he was in prison? Why? What kind of responsibilities has the Lord given to you?
2.	Who were the two men put in prison with Joseph, and what positions did they hold in Pharaoh's court?
3.	In verse 6 we read that Joseph saw that these two men were troubled or dejected. Do you take note of others in this way? What do you do when you notice someone looks troubled or sad?
4.	The two officials each had a dream. Describe their dreams in your own words.

5.	What interpretation did Joseph give to the chief cupbearer? And what did Joseph ask him to do for him when he got out of prison?
6.	What interpretation did Joseph give to the chief baker? How was it fulfilled?
7.	How could Joseph have predicted the future so accurately? What attribute of God is clearly revealed in these accurate predictions?
8.	What kind of power did Pharaoh have in Egypt? How would you compare that to God's power?





What are some promises from Scripture that you cling to when you feel lonely or forgotten? (Hebrews 13:5; Isaiah 41:10; 49:14-16; Zephaniah 3:17)

Memory Verse - Isaiah 55:8-9

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your way and my thoughts than your thoughts."





LESSON 5 JOSEPH INTERPRETS PHARAOH'S DREAMS

1.	How much additional time did Joseph languish in prison after the chief cupbearer was restored to his position? How much time had passed since Joseph was sold by his brothers? (Hint: 41:46). Why do you think God allowed Joseph to suffer for so long?
2.	Pharaoh (King of Egypt) had two troubling dreams. Describe the dreams in your own words.
3.	When the magicians and wise men were unable to interpret Pharaoh's dreams how did the chief cupbearer come to the rescue? (Vs. 9-13)
4.	What did Joseph tell Pharaoh (a pagan king) about dream interpretations? Do you have this kind of boldness for the Lord? What was Joseph risking?

LESSON 5 JOSEPH INTERPRETS PHARAOH'S DREAMS

5.	What details did Pharaoh add when he described his dreams to Joseph? What was Joseph's interpretation?
6.	How did Pharaoh receive Joseph's recommendations for surviving the famine warned about in the dreams? What did he see in Joseph that set him apart?
7.	Joseph went from the dungeon to the palace. What responsibilities were given to him? How did Joseph handle all of this new responsibility?
8.	When Pharaoh was troubled, who did he look to for answers? Where do you go when you are troubled? Is your first inclination to call a friend or a family member or is it to go to God in prayer? What are some verses that comfort you when you are troubled?

LESSON 5 JOSEPH INTERPRETS PHARAOH'S DREAMS

Challenge Questions

What is the significance of verse 57, "all the world came to Egypt?"

How did Joseph give glory to God in the naming of his two sons? In what ways have you given glory to God this week?

Memory Verse - Psalm 96:3-4

"Declare his glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples! For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised: He is to be feared above all gods."

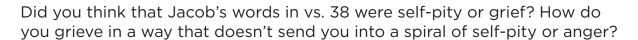




1.	Jacob sent his sons down to Egypt to buy grain. What was the reason that Jacob sent only 10 of his sons?
2.	Why do you think Joseph's brothers did not recognize him when they saw him? In what way did you see a fulfillment of Joseph's dream?
3.	Did you think that Joseph was harsh in his questioning? Why or why not? What did he learn about his family from his questions?
4.	In what way were the brothers' consciences pricked by the punishment they received? Why do you think that Joseph wept (vs. 24)?

LESSON 6 JOSEPH'S BROTHERS GO TO EGYPT

5.	Simeon was taken and bound when the rest of the brothers were let go. Why do you think that Joseph singled out Simeon for imprisonment? (Read Genesis 34 and 49:5-7)
6.	What did one of the brothers find when he looked in his sack when they had stopped for the night? Why do you think they were all trembling and afraid at this discovery?
7.	How did the brothers explain to their father the events that took place in Egypt? How did Jacob react to the news?
8.	What promise did Reuben make to his father to assure him of Benjamin's safe return? What did you think of his offer?



Where do you see God in this chapter? What do you think He was doing behind the scenes?

Memory Verse - Lamentations 3:22-23

"The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; They are new every morning; Great is your faithfulness."

LESSON 6 MESSAGE NOTES

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LESSON 7 JOSEPH'S BROTHERS RETURN TO EGYPT

1.	How many years of famine were predicted in Pharaoh's dreams? What did Joseph's brothers do as the famine continued?
2.	Compare Judah's guarantee for Benjamin's safe return to his brother Reuben's in Genesis 42. How did Jacob/Israel respond to Judah's appeal?
3.	What gifts did Jacob insist that Judah and his brothers take with them to Egypt? What was the purpose of these gifts?
4.	Why do you think Joseph prepared a feast for his brothers? Why were his brothers frightened when they were taken to his house?

LESSON 7 JOSEPH'S BROTHERS RETURN TO EGYPT

5.	What did Joseph's steward say to them to explain the way that the money was returned to their sacks on their first trip to Egypt. (Vs. 23)
6.	How did the brothers act in Joseph's presence again fulfilling Joseph's dream? Do you think these God-given dreams were an encouragement to Joseph through his trials? How has God encouraged you in your trials?
7.	Why did Joseph eat by himself rather than eating with his brothers?
8.	Why do you think Benjamin was given five times as much food as his brothers?

LESSON 7 JOSEPH'S BROTHERS RETURN TO EGYPT

Challenge Questions

When were you last deeply moved at the sight of someone you hadn't seen in a long time as Joseph was when he saw his brother, Benjamin? What do you think about when you think about the reunion of all the saints in heaven?

How did the brothers react to the fact that they were seated in birth order? Can you recite their birth order from our first lesson?

Memory Verse - John 14:2-3

"In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself that where I am you may be also.





LESSON 8 JOSEPH'S SILVER CUP

Read Genesis 44

1.	Joseph gave instructions to place his silver cup in the mouth of Benjamin's sack. Why do you think he did this?
2.	What were Joseph's instructions to his men when he sent them after his brothers?
3.	What did Joseph's servants say would happen to the one who was found to have the cup in his sack? What do you remember about what Joseph's brothers did to him when he was 17?
4.	How did the brothers react when the cup was found in Benjamin's sack?

LESSON 8 JOSEPH'S SILVER CUP

5.	Describe the brothers' defense in vs. 14-16.
6.	Why is it significant that Judah offered to take his brother's place? What had happened in his heart since his words and actions in Genesis 37? What changes have taken place in your heart since you started studying the life of Joseph?
7.	In what way did Jesus Christ take our place (doctrine of substitution)? Find verses that support your answer.
8.	What does it mean that Jacob's life was closely bound up with Benjamin's life? (vs. 30)

LESSON 8 JOSEPH'S SILVER CUP

Challenge Questions



What is the difference between forgiveness and reconciliation? What are you willing to do to be reconciled to someone? What was Jesus willing to do?

Memory Verse - 2 Corinthians 5:21

"For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

LESSON 8 MESSAGE NOTES

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Read Genesis 45

1.	How did Joseph's brothers react to Joseph's revelation, "I am Joseph!"?
2.	What did Joseph say to calm their fears? What does the LORD say to us in th Scriptures to calm our fears? How many places in the Bible do you find the words, "Do not fear" or "Do not be afraid?"
3.	Joseph said that God had sent him ahead. What attributes of God do you see in Joseph's words? How did God use Joseph during the famine?
4.	What was Joseph's most urgent concern after he revealed himself to his brothers? How would he help his family survive the next five years of famine?

LESSON 9 JOSEPH MAKES HIMSELF KNOWN

5.	What message were the brothers to bring to their father, Jacob?
6.	Pharaoh heard that Joseph's brothers had come to Egypt. What provisions did Pharaoh make for their move from Canaan to Egypt?
7.	What admonishment did Joseph give to his brothers as they were leaving? (vs. 24) Have you ever received or needed this same admonishment?
8.	What was Jacob's response when he heard that Joseph was still alive and ruler of all Egypt? What convinced him that his sons were telling the truth?

Challenge Questions

How long had it been since Jacob had last seen his son Joseph? Have you ever been separated from a loved one for months or even years? What do you think Jacob was feeling?

Joseph was sent to provide a great deliverance (vs. 7 NIV). How will you praise God this week for His mighty deliverance in your life?

Memory Verse - Isaiah 41:10

"Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."





Read Genesis 46:1-47:12

1.	When was Jacob given the name Israel? Why do you think the account of Jacob/Israel goes back and forth between his two names?
2.	How long had it been since Jacob had received a vision from God? Review Jacob's life in Genesis and list all of the occasions where God spoke to him.
3.	What did God say to Jacob/Israel in the vision of Genesis 46? How does God speak to us today? (Hebrews 1:1-3)
4.	Which of the patriarchs of Genesis never left Canaan (the Promised Land)?

LESSON 10 JACOB GOES TO EGYPT

5.	Have you ever moved across the country or to another country? How did God direct your path?
6.	When Jacob met with Pharaoh, what did he say about his life? Why do you think it was Jacob who blessed Pharaoh and not the other way around? (Hebrews 7:4-10)
7.	Describe the reunion of Joseph and his father. Have you ever had a reunion like this that brought you to tears? Share with your group.
8.	What instructions did Joseph give his brothers as they were about to meet Pharaoh?

Challenge Questions

What stands out to you in the genealogy in verses 8-24? Why do you think God includes so many genealogies in the Bible? Do you usually skip over them? (Be honest)

Why do you think God wanted Jacob and his family to move to Egypt? (Read Psalm 105 and Acts 7 to help you)

Memory Verse - Deuteronomy 7:6

"For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth."



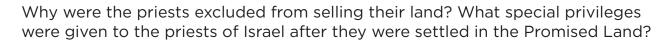


Read Genesis 47:13-31

1.	How was it that Egypt continued to have grain while the rest of the region did not?
2.	When the people could no longer buy grain, what did Joseph agree to take in exchange for food?
3.	What did the people offer to do the following year (vs. 18-19)? Did you think this was reasonable?
4.	How did the people respond to their new condition (vs. 25)? How do you think you would have responded?

5.	What form of taxation did Joseph establish in vs. 26?
6.	What was happening to the Israelites while the Egyptians were selling their land and selling themselves into bondage to Pharaoh?
7.	How long did Jacob live in Egypt? How long did he live? How many years was he separated from his son Joseph?
8.	What instructions did Jacob give about his burial? Why do you think he was so specific?

Challenge Questions



What do you think it means that "Israel worshipped as he leaned on the top of his staff" in verse 31? (See Hebrews 11:21)

Memory Verse - John 11:25-26

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"





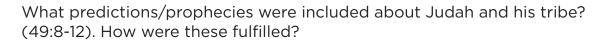
Read Genesis 48-49:28

1.	Look up the meaning of the names of Joseph's two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim. What does the naming of his sons say about Joseph's faith?
2.	Why do you think Joseph's two sons were singled out to be counted as Jacob's own?
3.	Who was Rachel (48:7) and why was Jacob's sorrow so great at her loss? (See Genesis 29 and 30)
4.	What did Jacob/Israel do in the blessing of Joseph's sons that Joseph tried to "correct"? Where else do you see a younger brother given preeminence over an older brother in Genesis?

5.	What specific blessing did Jacob give to his son Joseph in 48:15-16? How has God blessed you as you look back on your life?
6.	How did Jacob praise and glorify God as he recounted his life? What will you do this week to praise and glorify God for the blessings in your life?
7.	Why did Reuben lose the double blessing of the firstborn? What else do you remember about Reuben's character from previous lessons?
8.	What stood out to you in 49:13-21 as Jacob blessed these six sons?

9.	Describe Jacob's blessing of his son Joseph in your own words. (49:22-26) What event do you think Jacob was referring to when he spoke poetically of Joseph being attacked and shot at with hostility?
10.	What is the significance of Jacob's words in vs. 18? How will you make this your prayer this week? (Memory verse)
W	hat promises did "God Almighty" give to Jacob at Luz in the land of naan? (Genesis 28) How were those promises fulfilled?
Нс	cob predicted that Simeon and Levi would be dispersed in Israel. (49:7) www.as this fulfilled in Israel's history? Was it a blessing or a curse? (You may ant to use a study Bible or commentary for your answer.)

Challenge Questions Continued



List the attributes of God that you see in Jacob's blessing of Joseph (49:22-26). Which of these attributes have been especially meaningful to you this week?

Memory Verse - Genesis 49:18

"I will wait for your salvation, O LORD."





Read Genesis 49:29-50:26

1.	What specific instructions did Jacob give to his sons about his burial?
2.	Jacob recounted that his wife Leah was buried with Abraham and Sarah. What additional privilege was given to Leah? (Read Matthew 1)
3.	Why do you think the Egyptians mourned for Jacob? How long was the mourning period? How long do we expect people to mourn for a loved on today? Do you think our expectations are reasonable?
4.	What kind of funeral was held for Jacob? Who accompanied Joseph to Canaan for the burial? How long did the Egyptians weep for Jacob/Israel? Why is this significant?

5.	What concerns did Joseph's brothers have now that their father had died? Do you think their concerns were justified?
6.	What age was Joseph when he died? He specifically requested that his bones be carried up when God came to their aid. When was Joseph's request fulfilled? (Joshua 24:32) What did you think about the very last words of Genesis?
7.	Verse 20 is the theme of Joseph's life. In this verse, how did Joseph alleviate his brothers' fears and give glory to God?
8.	In what ways does Joseph's life and death teach us how to grieve and how to die in faith? How did Joseph express his profound faith in God and His plan for His people in his last request?

LESSON 13 THE DEATHS OF JACOB & JOSEPH

Challenge Questions

Jacob/Israel and Joseph were both embalmed. How long did it take the Egyptians to embalm a body? (You may want to do a little research on this process.)

Why do you think that Joseph wept when he received the message from his brothers (50:17)? Why did Jesus weep over the city of Jerusalem? (Luke 19:40-44). What other similarities do you see in the life of Joseph and the life of Jesus?

Memory Verse - Genesis 50:20

"You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives."

Memory Verse - Matthew 1:21

"She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."





JOSEPH PRAISES & PRAYER REQUESTS

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