

Joseph Sold by His Brothers

Card 5

Teacher Background

Review Card Set

Scripture: Genesis 37-50

Theme: God's presence

2 Read Aloud

Genesis 50:20

1 Review Activity

3 Storytelling

Pass out Card 5. Share the story.

- One of Israel's (Jacob's) twelve sons was called Joseph. Israel gave Joseph a beautiful coat, but he didn't give beautiful coats to his other sons. Joseph's brothers hated him because of this.
- Joseph dreamed that his brothers and his parents were bowing down to him. He told his brothers about the dream, and they hated him more than ever.
- Joseph's brothers planned to kill him and threw him down a well.
- But one of Joseph's brothers, Judah, convinced his brothers to sell Joseph as a slave to some men who were going to Egypt.
- Joseph worked hard in Egypt and was rewarded for his work. But someone lied about him, and he was thrown in prison.
- Pharaoh (the leader of all of Egypt) had a dream that troubled him. In prison, God gave Joseph the meaning of the dream to share with Pharaoh.
- Because Joseph helped Pharaoh with his dream, Pharaoh released Joseph from prison and put him in charge of all the land.
- During a famine (a time when there is little food), Joseph's brothers came to Egypt to get grain. Joseph recognised his brothers, but they didn't recognise him. Joseph revealed himself to his brothers, forgave them, and told them, "You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of many people."
- Joseph brought his entire family to Egypt to save them from the famine even though his brothers hated him.
- Many bad things happened to Joseph. But God was always with him and used the bad in his life to do a lot of good. God never left Joseph, and his presence was always with Joseph. Many years after Joseph lived, God sent his perfect Son, Jesus, to die so that we can have a relationship with God. Now we can live for God and not be afraid, because He is always with us.

4 Discussion Questions

1. What bad things happened to Joseph? (slavery, prison)
2. How did Joseph reconcile with his brothers? (he forgave them)
3. Why do we not have to be afraid? (When we trust in Jesus, He is always with us.)

5 Memory Verse

Genesis 50:20

You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of many people.

6 Activity: Treasure Revealed

Select a small item in advance such as a small cuddly toy or a book. Begin by telling the children you have a mystery item, but you'd like them to try to guess if it's "treasure" (something worth keeping) or "rubbish" (something that's not). Purposefully but honestly describe the item in ways to make it seem like rubbish such as "filled with scraps or fluff" (stuffing inside a toy) or "ripped and tattered" (well-loved pages in a book). After multiple children have guessed, reveal the special item and explain how all your statements were true, but misunderstood.

7 Learning Point

You may feel alone because you have experienced hard things in your life. When bad things happen to us, we might think that God is not with us. However, we can choose to see our situation through God's eyes. God loves us, and he can take what has been intended to harm us and use it for good.

God has shown his love to us and now we can show love to others. And just like Joseph, God has a plan for us, even through difficult situations. Next time you experience something difficult in your life, pray to God and ask him to show you that he is there for you. Ask for the peace of his presence. And always remember that God loves you and has a plan for you.

8 Review Card Set

