

## Joseph & His Amazing Coat

### Be patient – God has a plan!

#### OPENING:

Have you ever been unhappy because a friend or a brother or sister got something you didn't get? It can be a sad thing when someone else gets something we wanted and didn't get. Today's story is about a situation just like that.

- A long time ago there was a man named Joseph. Joseph had 11 brothers, but Joseph's dad favored Joseph over the others. He shouldn't have done this, but he did and because he favored Joseph, his brothers didn't like him very much.

Let's read the story in the bible about Joseph and his brothers:

#### Read:

Genesis 37:1-36

*Jacob lived in the land of Canaan, where his father had lived. <sup>2</sup> This is the family history of Jacob.*

*Joseph was a young man, 17 years old. He and his brothers cared for the flocks. His brothers were the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives. Joseph gave his father bad reports about his brothers. <sup>3</sup> Joseph was born when his father Israel, also called Jacob, was old. So Israel loved Joseph more than his other sons. He made Joseph a special robe with long sleeves. <sup>4</sup> Joseph's brothers saw that their father loved Joseph more than he loved them. So they hated their brother and could not speak to him politely.*

*<sup>5</sup> One time Joseph had a dream. When he told his brothers about it, they hated him even more. <sup>6</sup> Joseph said, "Listen to the dream I had. <sup>7</sup> We were in the field tying bundles of wheat together. My bundle stood up, and your bundles of wheat gathered around mine. Your bundles bowed down to mine."*

*<sup>8</sup> His brothers said, "Do you really think you will be king over us? Do you truly think you will rule over us?" His brothers hated him even more now. They hated him because of his dreams and what he had said.*

<sup>9</sup> Then Joseph had another dream. He told his brothers about it also. He said, "Listen, I had another dream. I saw the sun, moon and 11 stars bowing down to me."

<sup>10</sup> Joseph also told his father about this dream. But his father scolded him, saying, "What kind of dream is this? Do you really believe that your mother, your brothers and I will bow down to you?" <sup>11</sup> Joseph's brothers were jealous of him. But his father thought about what all these things could mean.

<sup>12</sup> One day Joseph's brothers went to Shechem to herd their father's sheep. <sup>13</sup> Jacob said to Joseph, "Go to Shechem. Your brothers are there herding the sheep."

Joseph answered, "I will go."

<sup>14</sup> His father said, "Go and see if your brothers and the sheep are all right. Then come back and tell me." So Joseph's father sent him from the Valley of Hebron.

When Joseph came to Shechem, <sup>15</sup> a man found him wandering in the field. He asked Joseph, "What are you looking for?"

<sup>16</sup> Joseph answered, "I am looking for my brothers. Can you tell me where they are herding the sheep?"

<sup>17</sup> The man said, "They have already gone. I heard them say they were going to Dothan." So Joseph went to look for his brothers and found them in Dothan.

*Joseph Sold into Slavery*

<sup>18</sup> Joseph's brothers saw him coming from far away. Before he reached them, they made a plan to kill him. <sup>19</sup> They said to each other, "Here comes that dreamer. <sup>20</sup> Let's kill him and throw his body into one of the wells. We can tell our father that a wild animal killed him. Then we will see what will become of his dreams."

<sup>21</sup> But Reuben heard their plan and saved Joseph. He said, "Let's not kill him. <sup>22</sup> Don't spill any blood. Throw him into this well here in the desert. But don't hurt him!" Reuben planned to save Joseph later and send him back to his father. <sup>23</sup> So when Joseph came to his brothers, they pulled off his robe with long sleeves. <sup>24</sup> Then they threw him into the well. It was empty. There was no water in it.

<sup>25</sup> While Joseph was in the well, the brothers sat down to eat. When they looked up, they saw a group of Ishmaelites. They were traveling from Gilead to Egypt. Their camels were carrying spices, balm and myrrh.

<sup>26</sup> Then Judah said to his brothers, "What will we gain if we kill our brother and hide his death? <sup>27</sup> Let's sell him to these Ishmaelites. Then we will not be guilty of killing our own brother. After all, he is our brother, our own flesh and blood." And the other brothers agreed. <sup>28</sup> So when the Midianite traders came by, the brothers took Joseph out of the well. They sold him to the Ishmaelites for eight ounces of silver. And the Ishmaelites took him to Egypt.

<sup>29</sup> Reuben was not with his brothers when they sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites. When Reuben came back to the well, Joseph was not there. Reuben tore his clothes to show he was sad. <sup>30</sup> Then he went back to his brothers and said, "The boy is not there! What will I do?" <sup>31</sup> The brothers killed a goat and dipped Joseph's long-sleeved robe in its blood. <sup>32</sup> Then they brought the robe to their father. They said, "We found this robe. Look it over carefully. See if it is your son's robe."

<sup>33</sup> Jacob looked it over and said, "It is my son's robe! Some savage animal has eaten him. My son Joseph has been torn to pieces!" <sup>34</sup> Then Jacob tore his clothes and put on rough cloth to show that he was sad. He continued to be sad about his son for a long time. <sup>35</sup> All of Jacob's sons and daughters tried to comfort him. But he could not be comforted. Jacob said, "I will be sad about my son until the day I die." So Jacob cried for his son Joseph.

<sup>36</sup> Meanwhile the Midianites who had bought Joseph had taken him to Egypt. There they sold him to Potiphar. Potiphar was an officer to the king of Egypt and captain of the palace guard.

### **Genesis 39: 1-2**

<sup>1</sup> Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. An Egyptian named Potiphar was an officer to the king of Egypt. He was the captain of the palace guard. He bought Joseph from the Ishmaelites who had brought him down there. <sup>2</sup> The Lord was with Joseph, and he became a successful man. He lived in the house of his master, Potiphar the Egyptian.

## Discussion:

Eventually his brothers actually took Joseph and sold him as a slave and then told their dad that he was dead! Can you believe that?!?

- **That's what jealousy and anger can lead to.** When we get angry or jealous because someone else gets something we didn't get, we are walking down the wrong path and we are making God very unhappy.

We don't always know what God is up to, but He has a plan for all of us.

Sometimes in His plan God will give something to someone else and not us. When that happens we should be happy for them and trust that God knows what He is doing, even if we don't understand. We shouldn't be angered by blessings others receive.

God may choose to give just you something someday. When He does, others should be happy for you.

I hope the next time you see someone else get something you didn't get, you'll remember that God has a plan we can't always see. We need to trust that He knows what He is doing and will provide each of us with all we need, even if it's not all we want.

## Watch Video Stories:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VnlqKPIZQzI> – Joseph & his Coat

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0SCAXrEmRRA> – Joseph in Egypt

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j1-AVyvFa1A> – Joseph in the Promised Land

**Prayer:**

Dear God,  
Thank you for your many promises and for always having a plan for us, even when we don't know what it is.

**Memory Verse:**

*We know that in everything God works for the good of those who love him. Romans 8:28*

**Crafts: Joseph & His Coat puppet**



## Story to go along with coloring of Coat:

Jacob wanted to show Joseph how much he loved him so he had a very special coat made for him.

(Tape a white paper coat on top of the Joseph figure or draw one over the figure.)

This coat was very colorful, and whenever Joseph wore it all his brothers were green with envy. (Color part of the coat green.)

They didn't think that it was fair that Joseph got such a beautiful coat and they got nothing.

Sometimes Joseph would see his brothers doing things that he knew his father wouldn't like and he would run home and tell on them. This made his brothers more angry. Their hearts began to turn black with bad feelings toward their little brother.

(Add some black stripes to the coat.)

One day Joseph was sent out into the fields to go check up on his brothers who were watching the sheep. His brothers saw him coming from a long way away because of his very colorful coat and they began to talk bad about him and plan what they could do to him because they hated him so much. When Joseph got close they grabbed him and pulled off his beautiful coat. They threw him into a deep dark well. Joseph was very scared. All he could see was blackness all around.

(Add some more black stripes.)

Soon Joseph's brothers saw a bunch of men passing by who were on their way to Egypt. The brothers pulled Joseph out of the deep dark well and sold him to the men who took him to Egypt as their slave.

The brothers couldn't go back home without a plan. They decided to kill a goat and smeared the red blood all over Joseph's beautiful coat.

(Add red to the coat.)

They took it home and told their father that Joseph had been attacked by a wild animal and his coat was all that was left. This made Joseph's father blue. He thought his beloved son was gone forever.

(Add blue to the coat.)

He cried and grieved for his lost son for a very long time.

But this isn't the end of our story. God was with Joseph and kept him safe. God had a plan for Joseph's life. God was watching over him. Joseph wasn't the perfect child. He was probably spoiled and conceited (thought too highly of himself) and was a tattler. His brothers were jealous and did a very bad thing. But we will learn next week how God took a very bad situation and made something good out of it. We will see how God can make bad things good again.

Sometimes you have bad things happen in your life that you think just aren't fair. Maybe you have people that pick on you or call you names. Or maybe someone is sick in your family or doesn't have a job. God wants you to know that he is always with you no matter what happens. He is watching over you and your family. He is with you wherever you go, and no matter what you do. He can take something bad, and turn it into something good so when you have a problem, or bad things are happening, just remember that God is with you. When you pray to him, God is there to listen to your troubles.

Feel free to take a picture of their art work or share how your activity went! Post it on our Facebook page or share it on GroupMe. Have a Blessed Day & Week! Until we can meet again

~ *Teacher Chrissy*

Thank you to <https://sundayschoolzone.com/> for their curriculum  
And <https://www.daniellesplace.com/> for great craft ideas and help.

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# Joseph

